

*10:45am Celebration Worship  
Service & Fall Kick-Off  
Church Picnic*



*Evangelical Lutheran Church  
September 7, 2025*



Welcome to all, especially visitors! It is no accident that you are here! We've been praying for you. We believe God has brought you here and wants to touch your life. You are among friends.



If you are visiting, please sign in on our guest sign in sheet in the Narthex Hallway.



***At our 10:45 AM service:*** words for the hymns are projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.



***For the hearing impaired:*** hearing devices are available in the Narthex outside the sanctuary.



***Restrooms:*** To locate a restroom, exit the back of the worship area. Take two rights and proceed down the hallway. At the stairs, go left. The Women's Room is on the left, the Men's Room is straight ahead.



***Holy Communion at ELC:*** We welcome to the Lord's Table all the baptized people of God. Gluten free options and grape juice are available.



***Nursery:*** We have a fully staffed nursery for infants through children six years of age or children of any age with special needs. The nursery opens at 10:15 AM on Sunday morning for our 10:45 AM worship service. The nursery is equipped with a pager system to help parents feel at ease. There is also a private nursing room for those who wish you use it.



***Photo Release Form:*** Our 10:45am AM service is live-streamed to our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. All children coming to the front for the Children's Message or Holy Communion will be visible on the live-feed. If you do not want your child's image online, please do not send them up to the front. If you are ok with it, please fill out a Photo Release Form located on the sign-up table in the Narthex and put it in the offering box.



***Reserved Seating:*** Please keep the reserved seats open for people with disabilities and their family members. Thank you!



***Background Checks:*** Mandatory background checks have been completed for all of our Nursery & Children's Ministry Volunteers.

***September 7, 2025***

***The 16th Sunday after Pentecost***

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

## **GATHERING MUSIC**

## **WELCOME**

## **TEMPLE TALK**

Sunday School Teachers

*Please stand*

## **GATHERING HYMN**

*Come Now is the Time to Worship*

## **GREETING**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** You are the treasured people of the Lord,

**C: a people holy to the Lord our God.**

**P:** Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

**P:** One does not live by bread alone,

**C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray. Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## FIRST READING

## Philemon 1-21

*Onesimus, a new Christian and a man enslaved by Philemon, has helped Paul, who is in prison. Paul writes this letter to his friend Philemon to encourage him to receive Onesimus, upon his return, as a sibling in Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, <sup>2</sup> to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. <sup>7</sup> I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. <sup>8</sup> For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, <sup>9</sup> yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup> I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup> Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. <sup>12</sup> I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup> I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. <sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

**L:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

*Please Stand*

## GOSPEL

**Luke 14:25-33**

*Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.*

**P:** The holy gospel according to Luke the 14th Chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please Be Seated*

## SERMON

Pastor D & Donkey

*Please Stand*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Abide with Me*

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

**P:** In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C:** **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

**P:** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**P:** Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**C:** **pray in the Holy Spirit.**

**P:** Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C:** **look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**P:** If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C:** **Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

**P:** God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P:** Gracious God,

**C:** **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**C:** **Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



**Members of Our Congregation:** Jeff Cecco, Don Cool, Bill Hine, Fred Kahl, Karla Oller, Betty Petrie, Carolyn & Lamar Sease, Pauline Stoops, Marjorie Tressler and Nancy & Harry Watson.

**Friends of the Congregation:** Anna Batson, Rosanna Biesecker, Kevin Carey, Annette Fillmore, Elijah Ford, Jim Gleason, Quinton Hicks, Juli Miller, Dan Rovelstad, Susan Sees, Spahnolgtli family, Sherry Toomey, Lubomira Uhliarova, and Joe Vance.

*(Names will be posted for a month.  
If you would like to have them on longer, please contact the church office.)*

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P:** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C:** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

## CLOSING HYMN

*Shout to the Lord*

## DISMISSAL

**P:** Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

<b>Acolyte</b>	Annabel Erwin
<b>Altar Guild</b>	David Hollinger & Wayne Caouette
<b>Audio / Visual</b>	Rich Luquette & Ethan McDonald
<b>Children's Message</b>	Donkey
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Andy & Maggie Rovelstad
<b>Greeters</b>	Emily Lego (W) & Shirley Clapsaddle (C)
<b>Ushers</b>	Team B



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*In memory of Ralph's birthday,  
by Bette Gartzke & family*



### Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff:

Rev. Drahus Oslik: Pastor  
 Deborah L. Zacher: Director of Music and Organist  
 Karen Walker: Contemporary Worship Team Leader  
 Becky McDonald : Business Manager  
 Andy Rovelstad: Treasurer  
 Hayley Martz: Office Secretary  
 Cathy Robinson: Housekeeper  
 Emily Cordell: Nursery Caretaker  
 Open: Children's Ministry Coordinator