

C: and also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed our duty, our joy and our delight to give thanks and praise to you our heavenly Father who sent your Son into the world to live for us and to set an example of how to live for and to serve other people. We give you thanks for the life that Jesus lived. We also give you thanks for Jesus’ willingness to go to the cross for us to forgive us of those times when we fail to live as you have called us to live. We know that Jesus did not stay in the grave. He rose from the dead to overcome every enemy of this life. Through his resurrection, we are ensured that one day we will live in your presence. Trusting in this promise, we join in this meal that gives us a foretaste of the great feast to come.

Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer:
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.

Invitation to Communion:
P: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymn: *Rock of Ages* **ELW #623**

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer:
P: Let us pray.
C: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Blessing
P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen
P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.
C: Amen
P: The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* **ELW #632**

Dismissal
P: Go out in joy. Share the Good News of Jesus with everyone you meet!
C: Thanks be to God.

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Welcome! We are glad you are with us today!
“If you do not have a church home, you are welcome here. If you would like to Become a member, contact any member, or the church office.”

Sunday, October 4th, 2026; 9:30 am **Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness
P: We come before our God as children who have been named and claimed in the waters of baptism in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
P: We come as broken people. We are wounded. We are hurting. God promises to give us full forgiveness and restoration through his Son. Trusting in this promise, we confess our sins to God.
(Silence for self-reflection)

P: Merciful God,
C: We have not lived the lives you have created and called us to live. When other people have been hurting, we have ignored their cries for help. When other people need love, we have judged them just as harshly as anyone else in the world has judged them. When other people have needed us, we have turned our backs hoping someone else would reach out to give them what we need. We ask you to forgive our failures. We ask you to forgive our sins. We ask you to help us to live the lives you have created and called us to live. We do not ask this on our own. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.
P: God has heard your cry for mercy and forgiveness. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, your sins have been completely forgiven. You are washed clean and made new every day through the waters of baptism. Live in this good news!
C: Amen.

Opening Hymn: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* **ELW #756**

Blessing:
P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.

Call to Worship **Psalm 80:7-15**
P: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
C: You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.
P: You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.
C: The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;
P: it sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.

C: Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

P: The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

C: Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see; have regard for this vine,

P: the stock that your right hand planted.

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray.

C: God of salvation, you rescued the Israelites at the edge of the Red Sea. Rescue us from the things of this world that threaten our lives and livelihoods, so that we might forever place our trust in you. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

First Reading:

Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29

Kenny Muller

⁵ When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the minds of Pharaoh and his officials were changed toward the people, and they said, “What have we done, letting Israel leave our service?” ⁶ So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him; ⁷ he took six hundred elite chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them. ¹⁰ As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. ¹¹ They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” ¹³ But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today, for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. ¹⁴ The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.” ²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the Lord, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He clogged^[a] their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.” ²⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Second Reading:

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by

becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation:

Change My Heart, O God

ELW #801

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 2:13-15

(After the reading is announced: C: Glory to you, O Lord.)

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

(After the reading, P: The Gospel of the *Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.*)

Children’s Message

Pastor Josh Schunk

Sermon

Pastor Josh Schunk

Hymn of the Day:

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ELW #338

Nicene Creed:
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Offering

Offering Hymn:

We Praise You, O God

ELW #870

Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Generous God, you shower us with blessings every single day of our lives. When we think we are in need, you give us more than we could ever expect or desire. Help us to be as generous as you in sharing what you have given to us with the church and with the world in order to give praise and glory to you. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Service of Holy Communion:

P: The Lord be with you.