



*Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost*  
Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service

September 6, 2026      10:00 a.m.

Live streaming on Facebook at [HopeLutheranChurchCbus](https://www.facebook.com/HopeLutheranChurchCbus)

Zoom info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87022443010?pwd=Vb20CctLVvbwCWNabXQoU9d1ebbgip.1>

Meeting ID: 870 2244 3010

Passcode: 681468

Tel: +1-309-205-3325

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## WELCOME

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate God,

C: We confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

## OPENING HYMN

"We Have Come into This House"

*(TFF 136)*

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## We Have Come into This House



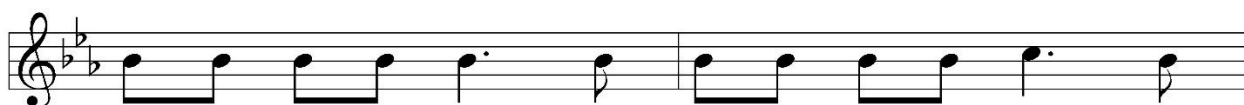
1 We have come in - to this house and gath - ered in his name to  
 2 So for - get a - bout your - self and con - cen - trate on him and  
 3 Let us lift up ho - ly hands and mag - ni - fy his name and



wor - ship him. We have come in - to this house and  
 wor - ship him. So for - get a - bout your - self and  
 wor - ship him. Let us lift up ho - ly hands and



gath - ered in his name to wor - ship him. We have  
 con - cen - trate on him and wor - ship him. So for -  
 mag - ni - fy his name and wor - ship him. Let us



come in - to this house and gath - ered in his name to  
 get a - bout your - self and con - cen - trate on him and  
 lift up ho - ly hands and mag - ni - fy his name and



wor - ship Christ, the Lord; wor - ship him, Christ the Lord.

Text: Bruce Ballinger, b. 1945

Music: WORSHIP HIM, Bruce Ballinger, b. 1945

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## 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.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Feast"

*(TFF pg. 48)*

This is the Feast, of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain.

Whose blood set us free, to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the Feast, of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God.

And join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the Feast, of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

For the Lamb, who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia

This is the Feast, of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A. O God,

C. We thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at

your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

R: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 119:33-40

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,  
and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;  
I shall keep it with all my heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments,  
for that is my desire.

Incline my heart to your decrees  
and not to unjust gain.

Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;  
give me life in your way.

Fulfill your promise to your servant,  
which is for those who fear you.

Turn away the reproach that I dread,  
because your judgments are good.

Behold, I long for your commandments;  
by your righteousness enliven me.

#### SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*(TFF pg. 32)*

Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 18:15-20

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector.

Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUNG PEOPLE SERMON

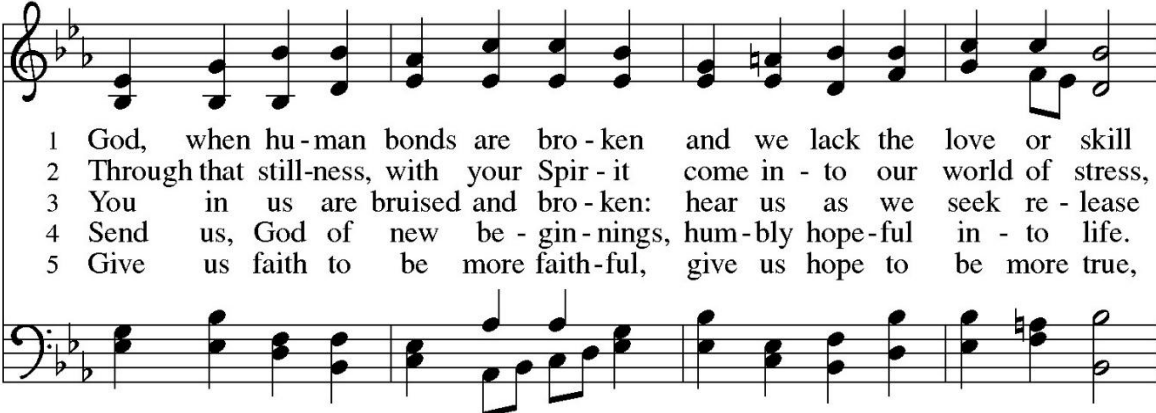
SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

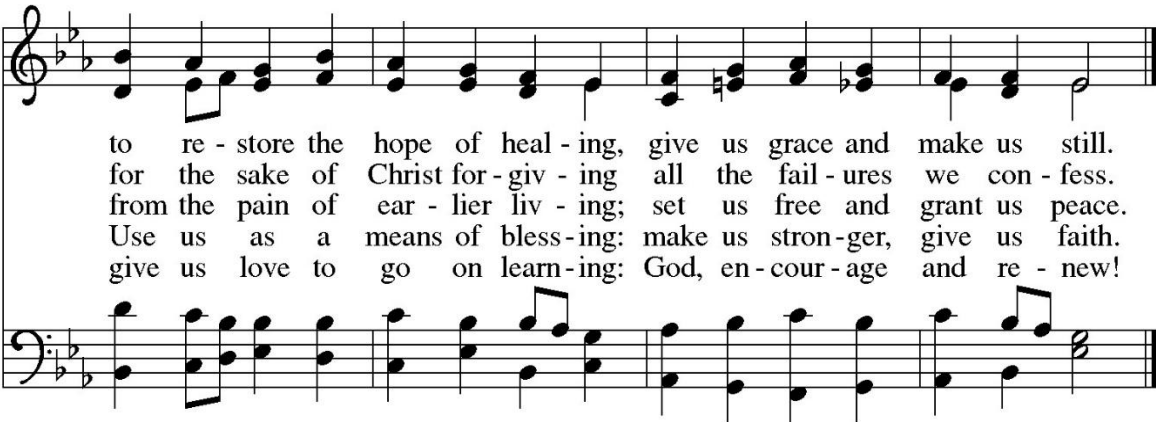
"God, When Human Bonds Are Broken" *(ELW 603)*

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## God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill  
 2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,  
 3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease  
 4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.  
 5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.  
 for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.  
 from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.  
 Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.  
 give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

#### WE SHARE THE PEACE

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### QUIET TIME

#### OFFERTORY

“Let the Vineyards”

(*TFF pg. 36*)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest of seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer.  
Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Loving God,

C: We offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

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 God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

*(TFF pg. 38)*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of power and might.

Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

COMMUNION HYMNS

“O How He Loves You and Me”

*(TFF 82)*

Go to This Far by Faith 82

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

*(ELW 836)*

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## Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
 stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flashing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

## BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE                    “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”                    (TFF pg. 38)

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.  
Send us with your promises, O God and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving,  
with shouts of thanksgiving,  
with shouts of thanksgiving, Alleluia

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

A: Compassionate God,

C: Through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG      “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”      (*TFF 161*)  
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## Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.  
 4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.  
 I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.  
 I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."  
 Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh

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## DISMISSAL

A: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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Worship Participants Today

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Julianne Smeck

Ministers: All worshippers

Bassist: Dan Abell Guitarist: Kurt Keljo Drummer: Seth Daily Pianist: Caitlyn Couch

Reader: Muriel Scruggs

Worship Assistant: Kim Fedrick

Acolyte:

Usher: Florine Castleman

Worship Leaders Next Sunday

Reader: Janet Ligon

Worship Assistant: Lawrence Hendrix

Acolyte:

Usher: Kim Fedrick

## PHONE NUMBERS

Pastor Smeck: (734)972-6126

Office: (614)258-6634

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Beverly Chavis, Peter Elencovf, Shirley Huber, Gloria Jones, Michel Leonhart, Frank Nelson, Monica Price, Morris Scruggs, Francene Travis, Elizabeth Washington, Grace Winfrey, Margaret Belcher, Linda Davis-Stewart, Billy Gilyard, Judy Smeck, and Helen Watson.

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Anthony and Janet Ligon (25) Jim and Kim Fedrick (29)

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mindi Israel (2), Ernest Watts (3), Kristen Keljo (8), Justin Brent (10), Regina Duffy (10), Markayla Banks (11), Isaiah Viney (16), Evie Cansler (17), and Florine Castleman (17)

## OUTDOOR WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 20

We are planning to have an outdoor worship service on Sunday, September 20. We do this as a way of ministering to the neighborhood, enabling them to hear God's powerful word as it is read and proclaimed and the grace of God's love through song. Instead of a meal after the service, we want to provide a coffee hour before, beginning at 9:00 a.m. There will be a sign-up sheet. The hope is that people who would be involved with meal preparation in the kitchen will be free to join the whole congregation in worship.

## WELCA PRESENTS "WOMAN AT THE WELL": A WOMEN'S RETREAT, SEPTEMBER 26

The WELCA "Women at the Well" retreat is set for Saturday, September 26, at 9:00 a.m. at the clubhouse at Homestead at the Preserves, 5100 Morse Road. This retreat begins with an interactive workshop exploring the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan women in John 4:1-26. Lunch will be provided (freewill offering to defray cost) followed by a visit to Lynd Farm. Guests are welcome but must also register. Information has been mailed and is also included on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board. A sign-up sheet is at the rear of the sanctuary.

## PART-TIME SECRETARY NEEDED FOR HOPE

The secretary position is part time with two days in the church office for 2 to 3 hours each day. A complete job description is available. The compensation is \$16 per hour. If you know of someone with office skills and a flexible schedule, please let President Hendrix or Pastor Smeck know.

## BIBLE STUDY: 1 SAMUEL

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. We are studying 1 Samuel. The Zoom link and phone number are on the front page of this bulletin.

## OFFERINGS

Offerings @ 8/30/26

Received: \$94,349

Anticipated: \$95,143

Over / (Short): (\$794)

Capital Improvement: \$3,903

(Includes Mission Possible: \$2,400)

## HOPE CALENDAR

Sept. 8: Council Meeting at Hope 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 9: Quilting

Sept. 10: Paraclete Post Packing 9:30 a.m.

Sept. 15: Livingston Avenue Area Commission 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 17: The Synod's Authentic Diversity, Inclusion, and Justice team planning retreat  
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Sept. 20: Outdoor worship. 10:00 a.m. Coffee and breakfast treats at 9:00 a.m.

Sept. 26: Women's Retreat