St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 13, 2026
9:30 PM

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

St. Timothy Lutheran joyfully welcomes all people of any race, national origin, age, gender, ability, relationship status, political affiliation or sexual orientation, whether you are a believer, doubter or seeker. We welcome all because God welcomes all. Sharing and learning from our different experiences and ideas about life and faith, we live the love of Christ together.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Please stand if you are able.

OPENING LITANY

L: As we live in community with God and one another
C: **May our hands be instruments of peace and love.**
L: For those who are in need of warmth and prayer
C: **May our hands prepare shawls of prayer.**
L: When a stranger is in our midst
C: **May our hands extend a friendly welcome.**
L: For the teaching and instruction of all people
C: **May our hands open the Word of God.**
L: When injustice is in the world and in our communities
C: **May our hands write letters and peacefully join others.**
L: In times of sorrow, sickness and great suffering
C: **May our hands be a healing embrace.**
L: For those overlooked, whose dignity is not honored
C: May our hands meet in the shared image of God.
L: For those who are longing for basic needs
C: **May our hands build homes, schools, and wells.**
L: God, may we be reminded that whatever the need, large or small, you are at work in our hands. May we serve generously, lovingly, and faithfully.
C: Amen

GATHERING HYMN..... .....**"Ten Thousand Reasons"**

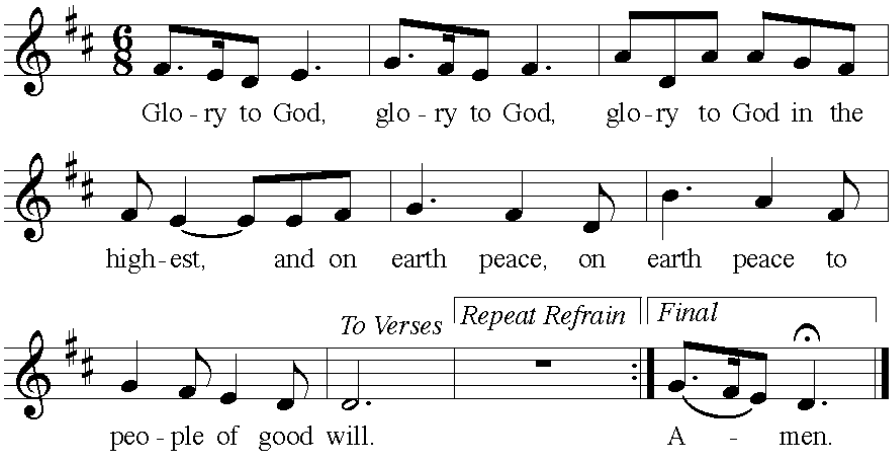
GREETING

The grace of our lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

And also with you.

GLORY TO GOD

Choir sings verses, congregation sings refrain



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy One, you stretch wide your shelter like a teepee that welcomes all, and in Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a wounded world in need. Help us to reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S ACCLAMATION

Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Please be seated.

FIRST READING ..... *Genesis 50:15-21*

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also wept,
fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." 19 But Joseph
said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 20 Even though
you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to
preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. 21 So have no fear; I
myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured
them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING ..... *Romans 14:1-12*

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling
over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only
vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those
who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has
welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is
before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the
Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the
Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment
seat of God. 11 For it is written,

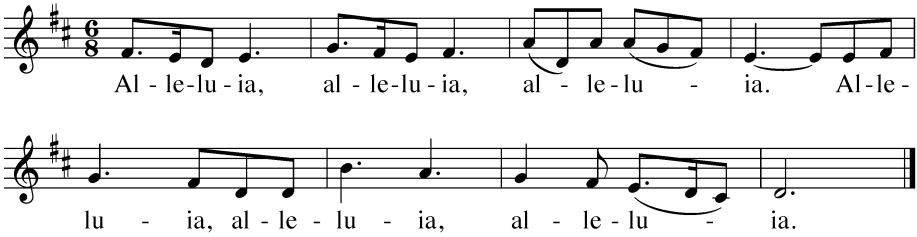
"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the eighteenth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING .....*Matthew 18:21-35*

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred
denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 Then
his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me,
and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into
prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had
happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their
lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to
him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded
with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had
mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until
he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every
one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON .....*Deacon Tracy Katschke-Goss*

Please stand if you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY……**"When We Are Living"**..... **#639**

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The pastor will end each petition with:

Lord, in your mercy,

The congregation is invited to respond with:

Receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY ..... "We Are Called" .....*Haas*

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy…we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Trusting in his promise to be among us whenever we gather in his name, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

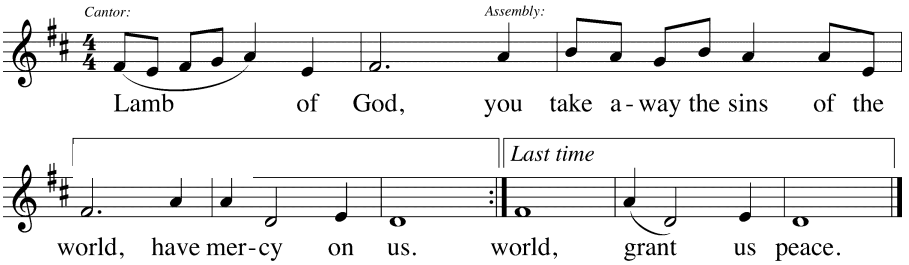
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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;
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.

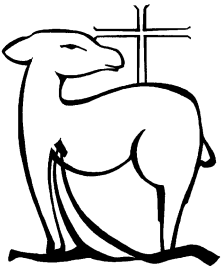
Distribution of Communion

All people are invited to the Lord's table of grace. We offer Holy Communion by individual glass, ***the red glasses are filled with wine and the white glasses are grape juice****.* ***Gluten free*** *wafers are available from a pastor upon request. If you prefer to receive communion at your pew, just let the usher know. Children who have not yet received Holy Communion instruction are invited forward to receive a blessing as well as anyone who doesn't want to receive communion.*

LAMB OF GOD



Repeat 3 times



COMMUNION HYMN ..... **"Lead Me, Guide Me"** ..... **#768**

Please stand if you are able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy Jesus, in this meal you have fed and nourished us to work in your beloved world. Send us now, filled with yourself and strengthened by your Spirit to live your love for others. **Amen**.

BLESSING

God who sets forth the law of love,
Jesus who fulfills the law for you,
and the Spirit through whom you are called to love,
✢ bless you this day,
that you may be God's hands and heart and voice
at work in the world.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN..... ..... **“God’s Work Our Hands”**

DISMISSAL

People of God, what are we called to do? **Live the love of Christ!**
In that love, go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

If you are a visitor, we welcome you as siblings in Christ as together we "Live the love of Christ." We are happy you are here, and we would like to get to know you. As you leave the sanctuary, we invite you to introduce yourself to the pastors and complete a yellow "Visitor Card". You may give the card to one of the pastors or drop it in the offering plate.

If you wish to request prayers for yourself, family members or friends, please email them to prayerline@sttimothylutheran.com. Our Prayer Line members will join you in praying for anyone who needs your prayers.

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Pastors:	Jason Anderson, Lead Pastor Sarah Swindall, Associate Pastor
Staff:	Christina Maki, Children's Ministry Coordinator Derek Howell, AV Tech Coordinator Joe Menard, Organist / Choir & Bell Director Kirsten Holzhauer, Keyboardist / Accompanist Nicole Goodfellow, Ministries Coordinator Susie Merrihew, Licensed Clinical Social Worker Susan Moraski, Office Administrator

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