

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

- Welcome to worship! Welcome to all those joining us via our Live Stream, welcome to those joining us through our Listen to Church service.
- If you are joining us from home, I invite you to gather some bread and wine/juice so you can join us in celebrating Holy Communion this morning.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have caused our neighbors harm.

In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN*For the Beauty of the Earth* (879)

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|--|--|
| <p>1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:</p> <p><i>Refrain</i>
Christ, our God, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.</p> <p>2 For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
sun and moon and stars of light: <i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>3 For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight: <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>4 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above;
for all gentle thoughts and mild: <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>5 For each perfect gift of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine,
to our world so freely giv'n: <i>Refrain</i></p> |
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Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

And also with you.

Let us pray,

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD**FIRST READING****Psalm 8**

Our first reading is Psalm 8. We read it together responsively by whole verse.

- ¹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
- ²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**
- ³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
- ⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**
- ⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
- ⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle,
 even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
 and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
⁹O LORD our Lord,
 how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

Mark 10:2-16

The holy Gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little

children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Sarah Miller

HYMN OF THE DAY

God, When Human Bonds are Broken (603)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 God, when human bonds are broken
 and we lack the love or skill
 to restore the hope of healing,
 give us grace and make us still.</p> | <p>from the pain of earlier living;
 set us free and grant us peace.</p> |
| <p>2 Through that stillness, with your Spirit
 come into our world of stress,
 for the sake of Christ forgiving
 all the failures we confess.</p> | <p>4 Send us, God of new beginnings,
 humbly hopeful into life.
 Use us as a means of blessing:
 make us stronger, give us faith.</p> |
| <p>3 You in us are bruised and broken:
 hear us as we seek release</p> | <p>5 Give us faith to be more faithful,
 give us hope to be more true,
 give us love to go on learning:
 God, encourage and renew!</p> |

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

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BLESSING OF THE QUILTS AND KITS

Today we are celebrating the ministry of making quilts and kits – school kits, baby kits, and personal care kits. Over this past year, the Women in Action have made 212 quilts and 171 care kits. 40 of these quilts have been distributed through the Kaleidoscope Center and Cairn House here in Menomonie. The rest of the quilts and all of the care kits will be shipped out in the next couple of weeks through Lutheran World Relief to places here in the United States and around the world. I invite those of you who have participated in these ministries to stand.

Through baptism we are called to love God and serve our neighbor and we rejoice and celebrate today with all those who have lived out their baptismal vocation by participating in these ministries. Please join me in thanking them. I invite the rest of the congregation to stand as you are able as we offer a blessing upon these quilts and kits.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, thank you for blessing us with hands and minds that can create such beauty. Especially we give thanks for those who have sewn and assembled these quilts and kits. Bless these ministries and all those who share their time and talent and renew in us **all** the commitment to use our gifts in the service of others, especially of those in need. Bless now these quilts and kits that they may be tangible reminders of your love and **our** concern and care. May those who receive them

find dignity in their use. To you, O God, be glory and honor, in your church and in the world now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

God of our ancestors, we give thanks for the church in all times. May we listen for the prophets of this age who bear messages that stir the church toward renewal and justice.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Creator of the earth, hear our cry for mercy in the wake of Hurricane Helene. Reveal your presence and ease the suffering and grief of those that have been impacted by this disaster. Empower aid organizations, especially Lutheran Disaster Relief, as they work to help families and communities rebuild their lives.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, we give thanks that you are mindful and benevolent to even us, mere mortals.

Accompany us when hardness of heart gets in the way of justice between people and nations. Endow leaders with minds for justice and hearts for compassion.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Restoring Lord, grant healing and wholeness to those who are sick and suffering *especially Char Ovren, Deb Johnson, Charles Freeman, Kelly Shull, Tim Lutz, Rich Ebbinga, Ardelle McAlpine and Erica Peterson*. Work through medical professionals to diagnose, ease pain, and give life to all who seek their wisdom and experience.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Unifying God, humans were created for relationship with the earth, its creatures, and one another.

Forgive us when division threatens companionship, mutual support, and unity among us. May your love inspire us to build supportive communities of faith where all are cherished.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of resurrection, you prepare a place in the kingdom through Christ's death and resurrection. We give thanks for the saints who have taken their place at your heavenly banquet.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

BRIEFING THE MINISTERS

- Join Pr. Sarah for an opportunity to learn about the apostle Paul and hear about her trip to Greece.
- Bible study on the Gospel according to Mark begins this Wednesday night at 6pm in the conference room. Contact Katie Benson for more information
- On October 18-19 we will be painting the downstairs dining hall. If you are able to help with this project, please contact Joy Bergstrand

MEAL

OFFERING

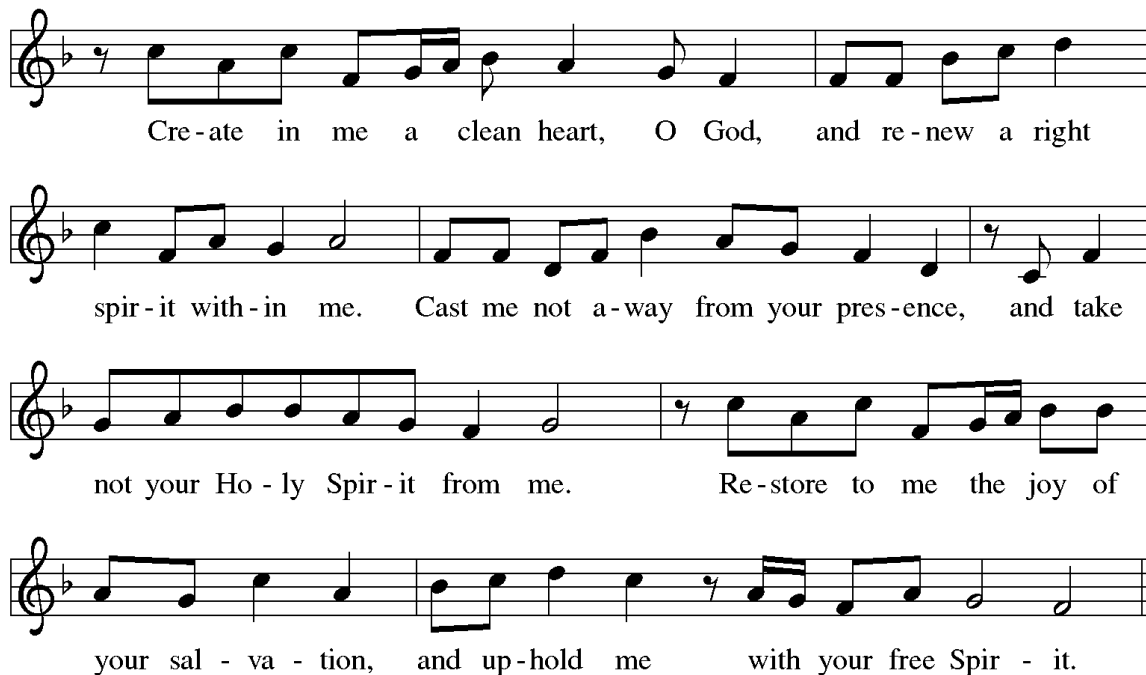
The Gift of Love

OSL Choir

- Little Free Church – collections to Lutheran Disaster Relief for Hurricane Helene relief

OFFERTORY

Create in Me (186)



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

COMMUNION MILESTONE

Denise: Here at this table Jesus makes a place for everyone. Through this sacrament of Holy Communion we are connected to each other and to the whole church throughout the world as we

share the same meal and receive Christ's gifts of love and grace. Today we celebrate with some of our young members who have completed a communion class and had a chance to learn about these gifts. Students have decorated a special chalice that they will use today and have made the communion bread for all of us to share.

Denise: At this time, I invite *Max and Gracie Bloom* and their family to stand. Family members I invite you to lay a hand on your children in blessing. Now I invite the rest of the congregation to stand as well.

Sarah:

Let us pray:

Gracious God, thank you for making a place for us at your table. Thank you for the gifts of your love and grace and forgiveness made real for us in the bread and wine. Thank you for surrounding us with a community of faith that loves and supports us. Bind us together in communion with you and bless us with food for our journey of life and faith, in your holy name we pray. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Gathered around this table, we remember that ...

*In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Pour our upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *Lamb of God*

- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



- you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds (656)

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|--|--|
| <p>1 Blest be the tie that binds
 our hearts in Christian love;
 the unity of heart and mind
 is like to that above.</p> | <p>3 We share our mutual woes,
 our mutual burdens bear,
 and often for each other flows
 the sympathizing tear.</p> |
| <p>2 Before our Father's throne
 we pour our ardent prayers;
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
 our comforts and our cares.</p> | <p>4 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
 and sin we shall be free;
 and perfect love and friendship reign
 through all eternity.</p> |

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

As the Grains of Wheat (465)*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scattered on
 the hill
 were gathered into one to become our
 bread;
 so may all your people from all the ends of
 earth
 be gathered into one in you.

- 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within
 our midst,
 may we share the presence of your love.
Refrain
- 2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
 when all creation shares this feast with
 you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

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

Let us pray, Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING**BENEDICTION**

God all mighty,
 God most merciful
 † bless you, keep you,
 and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN**Jesus Loves Me!** (595)

1 Jesus loves me! this I know,
 for the Bible tells me so;
 little ones to him belong,
 they are weak, but he is strong.

2 Jesus loves me! he who died
 heaven's gates to open wide;
 he will wash away my sin,
 let his little child come in. *Refrain*

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me,
 yes, Jesus loves me,
 yes, Jesus loves me,
 the Bible tells me so.

3 Jesus loves me! he will stay
 close beside me all the way;
 when at last I come to die,
 he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE**Why Me Lord** (*Kris Kristofferson tribute*)*Chorus:*

Lord help me Jesus, I've wasted it so
 Help me Jesus I know what I am
 Now that I know that I've need you so
 Help me Jesus, my soul's in your hand.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Char Ovren, Deb Johnson, Charles Freeman (Kim Holten's father), Tim Lutz, Rich Ebbinga, Ardelle McAlpine (Donna Lark's sister), Erica Peterson (Cheryl Merrill's granddaughter)

IN SUPPORT

Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, missionaries in Japan

Kasungu Central, Our Malawi Sister Parish

Thank you to Barbara Solsaa for presiding during worship this morning!

Congratulations to Max & Gracie Bloom who completed the Communion Instruction Class!

Little Free Pantry Meeting

The LFP volunteer team will meet on Monday, Oct. 7, from 5-6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in becoming involved or learning more about the LFP is welcome to attend. Questions? Contact Beth Mason.

In the Footsteps of Paul

Join Pr. Sarah for a 3-week study to learn about Paul and her sabbatical trip to Greece. Meets in the Friendship room on October 6, 13, and 20th during the education/fellowship hour.

Life Lessons from the Gospel of Mark by Max Lucado

A new Bible Study begins Wednesday, Oct. 9th, for six weeks. Gathering, fellowship, dinner (bring-your-own) at 5:30pm. Study begins at 6:00pm. A Google Meet option will be available to attend remotely. Email Katie Benson at benska01@gmail.com with your RSVP or if you have any questions. (RVSPs appreciated but not required.)

To support the work and ministry of OSL, select one of the options below:

[GIVE ONLINE](#)

Use the QR code for giving:



THIS WEEK AT OSL

Oct. 6, Sun	Worship, 9am Coffee Fellowship, 10:15am Sunday school, 10:15am Adult Education Class, 10:15am
Oct. 7, Mon	Little Free Pantry meeting, 5pm
Oct. 9, Wed	Adult Bible Study, 5:30pm Confirmation, 6pm Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm
Oct. 10, Thurs	Bell Angels rehearsal, 6:30pm

Painters Needed

On October 18 & 19 (Friday & Saturday) we will be painting the downstairs dining room walls. If you can help paint, please contact Joy Bergstrand at 715-235-6038.

Music that Makes Community

Do you love music? Join folks from around the Synod to learn and experience how music makes community. The event will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chippewa Falls on Friday, October 11, from 7-9:30pm. As a sponsoring congregation, OSL-Menomonie folks can attend for free. Contact Pastor Sarah if you would like to attend.

Visitation Ministry Team

OSL has 9 dedicated volunteers who are visiting members who are homebound, in assisted living or nursing homes. We currently have 10 members receiving monthly visits. In addition, the visitation team assists with church services at NODC.

The visitation team would love to have blank handmade cards to deliver to members during visits. Cards can be turned into the office. Please contact the office or one of the pastors if you know of someone who could benefit from a visit.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

	Mar - Aug	AUGUST
Income	\$176,728.50	\$29,353.03
Expenses	\$182,221.49	\$37,170.40
Over/short	(\$5,492.99)	(\$7,817.37)