

GATHERING

PRELUDE **When Morning Gild the Skies** (Arr. Karen Roth) – OSL Bell Choir
A Festive Rondo (Michael Helman) – OSL Bell Choir

WELCOME

- Welcome to worship! Welcome to all those joining us via our Live Stream and our Listen to Church Service
- Welcome OSL Bells; Welcome OSL Women who are serving in worship leadership roles today in honor of the Women's Thankoffering.
- 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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN **God Is Here** 526:1, 4

1 God is here! As we your people
 meet to offer praise and prayer,
 may we find in fuller measure
 what it is in Christ we share.

Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
 in an age of change and doubt,
 keep us faithful to the gospel;
 help us work your purpose out.

Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray,
God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING Acts 9:36-43 Reader

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer. A reading from Acts.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The word of the Lord.
Praise be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?”

²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Sarah Miller

HYMN OF THE DAY Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service 712:1, 3-4

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Lord, whose love in humble service
 bore the weight of human need,
 who upon the cross, forsaken,
 worked your mercy's perfect deed:
 we, your servants, bring the worship
 not of voice alone, but heart;
 consecrating to your purpose
 ev'ry gift which you impart.</p> <p>3 As we worship, grant us vision,
 till your love's revealing light
 in its height and depth and greatness
 dawns upon our quickened sight,</p> | <p>making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service,
your abundant life to share.</p> <p>4 Called by worship to your service,
 forth in your dear name we go,
 to the child, the youth, the aged,
 love in living deeds to show;
 hope and health, good will and comfort,
 counsel, aid and peace we give,
 that your servants, Lord, in freedom
 may your mercy know and live.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984
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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 over 200 quilts and over 280 kits.

These items will be shipped out in the next couple of weeks through Lutheran World Relief to places around the world. 50 of those quilts have been distributed through the Kaleidoscope organization here in Menomonie. 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. Today we rejoice and celebrate 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 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 *Reader*

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with them as they give bold and faithful witness to your Son.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Guide us to be faithful caretakers, as we pray for creation. Remind us to look to the interests of our non-human neighbors as we make choices that impact the environment. Embolden us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air that all who call this planet home may find what they need to flourish. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Teach us to do justice and love kindness as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts that look to the needs of others and encourage them to seek fair and equitable solutions to the world's challenges. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lean on your mercy, as we pray for those in need. In your compassion, sustain the weary, befriend the lonely, shelter the vulnerable, encourage the downtrodden, and heal the sick (*especially...*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Open our hearts, as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Give us willing and able spirits to say yes to your call in our life and courage to follow where you lead. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We put our hope in you, as we remember and give thanks for all the saints who have come before us and who died secure in the knowledge of your salvation. Keep us fearless in our own faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MINISTRY MATTERS MOMENT Thankoffering – Donna Albrecht

BRIEFING THE MINISTERS

OFFERING The Lord Now Sends Us Forth (Arr. Cathy Moglebust) – OSL Handbells

OFFERTORY As the Grains of Wheat 465:1

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*

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

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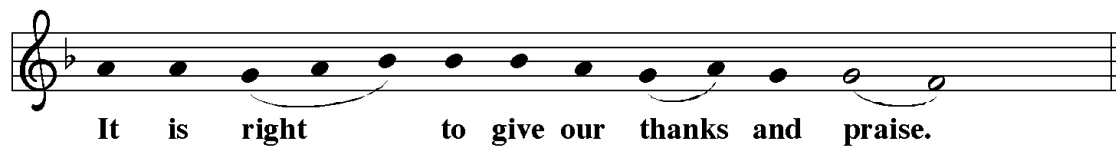
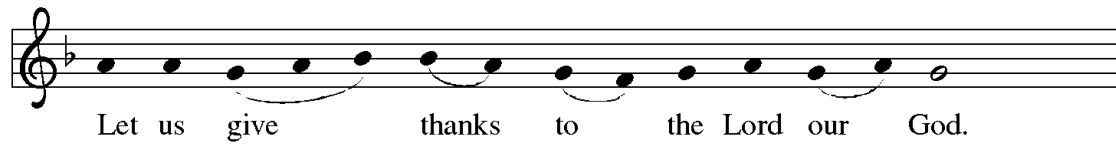
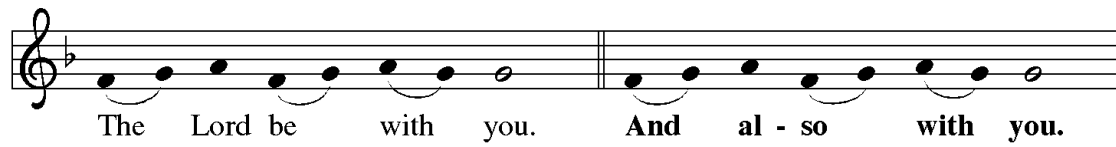
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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



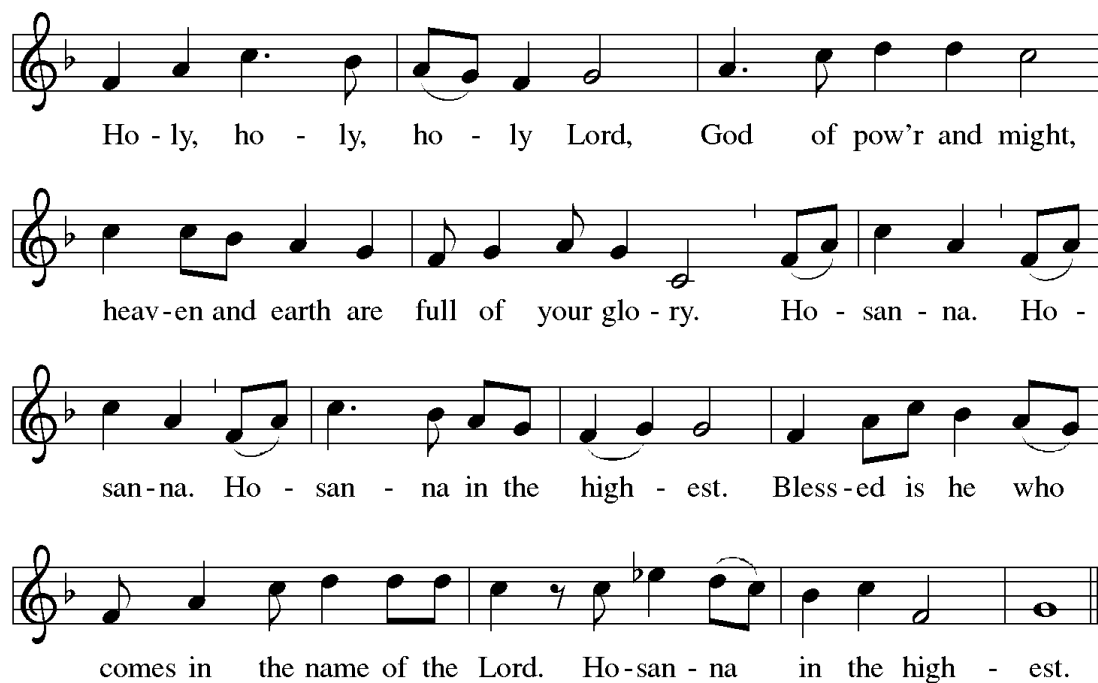
PROPER PREFACE

The musical score is written on ten staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many notes beamed together. The lyrics are: "It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resur - rec - tion opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life. And so, with all the choirs of an - gels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en, we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:"

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you have gathered your people from the ends of the earth, bringing us to your table, and setting an abundant feast before us. We give thanks for the gift of your dear Son, who is at the heart of human life, near to those in need, beside the sinner, among the vulnerable, and with us now.

*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.*

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church without end. Amen.

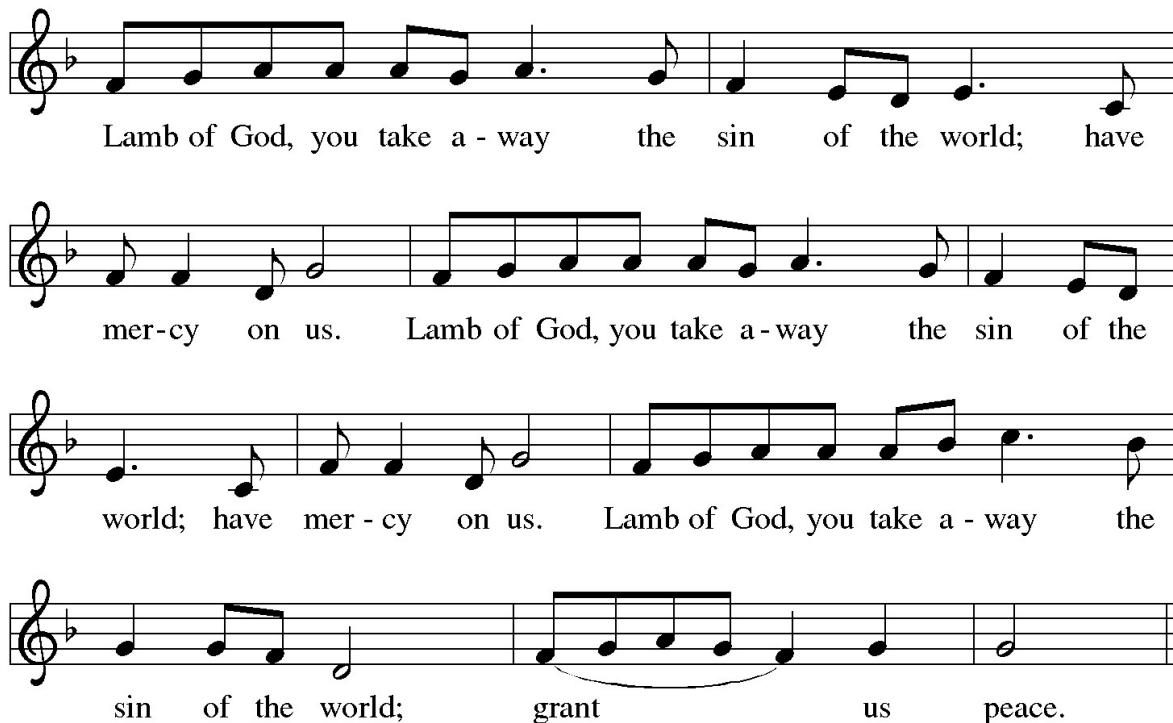
LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered in to one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus has taught us. .

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



O Master, Let Me Walk with You 818

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 O Master, let me walk with you
in lowly paths of service true;
tell me your secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care. | 3 Teach me your patience; share with me
a closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong, |
| 2 Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way. | 4 In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broad'ning way,
in peace that only you can give;
with you, O Master, let me live. |

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word 517

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word;
curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son
and bring to naught all he has done. | defend your holy church, that we
may sing your praise eternally. |
| 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,
for you are Lord of lords alone; | 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
send peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife
and lead us out of death to life. |

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

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,

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.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

God our Parent root you deep in grace.
God our Neighbor stand with you in strength.
God our Advocate sustain you in hope
and bless you ✠ unto everlasting life.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN For All the Faithful Women 419:1-2, last

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 For all the faithful women
who served in days of old,
to you shall thanks be given;
to all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness
in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore witness,
proclaimed your pow'r to save. | we offer glad thanksgiving
and fervent prayer we raise
that, faithful in your service,
our lives may sing your praise. |
| 2 O God, for saints and servants,
those named and those unknown,
in whom through all the ages
your light of glory shone, | L All praise to God the Father!
All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise to God the Spirit,
who binds the church as one!
With saints who went before us,
with saints who witness still,
we sing glad alleluias
and strive to do your will. |

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923–2007

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DISMISSAL

Gathered Ones: Go out in joy. Scatter the love of God.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (Hillert)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Chuck Smith, Al Scheidler, Pat Edwards, Perry Hodgson, and Erica Peterson (Granddaughter of Cheryl Merrill)

IN SUPPORT

Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, missionaries in Japan

Kasungu Central, Our Malawi Sister Parish

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 4k-6 grade, meets downstairs in the Rec Room at 10:15am.

CONFIRMATION, 7-8 grade, meets on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30pm, with dinner at 5:45pm.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY, 9-12 grade, meets on Wednesday nights in the HS youth room from 6:00-7:30pm.

OSL is Hosting Tacos and Apples w/ Caramel for Homecoming Friday, Oct. 2nd

From 3-5pm in the rec room downstairs. Volunteers are needed to work the two shifts. You can sign with QR code or under the skylight. All donations go towards the National Youth Gathering in 2027.



OSL Adult Education in the conference room. Revelation

Join Pr. Dale Freberg this fall as he helps us find the comfort and hope declared by the Lamb to the people of God in all times and places.

Getting to know our Hispanic Neighbors

Led by: Deacon Lidix Montoya

- Sunday, October 4: Neighbor to Neighbor Ministry
- Sunday, October 20: History of Immigration from Latin America
- Sunday, October 25th: Book Study — *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo; copies available in the office for a suggested donation of \$5 to help defray the book cost.

OSL MONEY COUNTING TEAM

We are looking for 6-8 volunteers that would be willing to serve on the OSL Money Counting team. Each Sunday after worship, 2 team members meet to count and deposit the financial gifts received throughout the week. If you would like to learn more or are interested in serving, please reach out to Pr. Sarah.

THIS WEEK AT OSL

Sunday, Sept 27	Worship and Women's Thankoffering, 9:00am Sunday School, 10:15 Adult Education, Revelation, 10:15 Coffee Fellowship, 10:15am Faithful Fiber Friends, 10:15pm Food/Hygiene Drive at Dick's Fresh Market, 10:30am-1:30pm
Monday, Sept 28	Women in Action, 8:00am
Tuesday, Sept 29	
Wednesday, Sept 30	Confirmation, 5:45pm High School, 5:45pm Choir rehearsal, 6:30pm
Thursday, Oct 1	Vibrant Voices, 1:00pm OSL Bell rehearsal, 6:30pm
Friday, Oct 2	Homecoming Tacos and Apples w/ Caramel, 3-5pm
Saturday, Oct 3	

Thank you to the OSL Bells for sharing your gifts and enlivening our worship service today!

HS Parents & youth—Join us today at 10:30am for the National Youth Gathering (NYG) Registration meeting in the HS room.

Please join us immediately after worship today at Dick's Fresh Market for the food/hygiene drive for the Little Free Pantry. We will distribute wish lists for our Little Free Pantry to Dick's patrons as they enter the store; then collect the items purchased when they leave. This event is from 11am-1pm.



Every Monday, the OSL Women in Action *gather* to work and sew. During this past year they have made over 200 quilts and over 280 personal care, baby, and school kits. We give thanks for this ministry which *scatters* our love and care around the world!

Do you know of someone who may benefit from a visit by our OSL visitation team? Please contact the church office to get connected with someone from the team!

The Little Church

The funds collected in the month of September will go to support Monday night meals at Lutheran Campus Ministry.

COUNCIL MEMBER ON DUTY

Beth Mason

READER

Donna Albrecht

POWERPOINT

Joel Seppa

USHERS

Connie Weber

Barnhart

Sue Russo

Laurel Madsen

Marge Kunkel

SOUND SYSTEM

Dale Freberg

CAMERA

Jeff Vick

**COMMUNION
ASSISTANTS**

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Judy Kirk

Kris Lemke

ACOLYTE

Noah Place

Owen Nodolf

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Merlyn Aude, Bell Choir Director

Custodian

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Bonnie Christianson-Contributions

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Terry Mason, Treasurer

terrybethmason@gmail.com

FINANCIAL UPDATE

	Mar-Jul	July
Income	\$167,514.37	\$31,709.62
Expenses	\$144,562.79	\$33,867.25
Over/short	\$22,951.58	(\$2,157.63)

By attending any service you give consent that your image and the image of all of the people in your group may be portrayed in the livestream and recording. We will not use your likeness in any other promotional material.

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