

September 27th, 2026
18th Sunday after
Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion
Setting Four



PRELUDE/BELLS

GATHERING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congregation Stands*

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)**

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG**

God is Here! (ELW #526)

***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.**

***KYRIE** (ELW p. 147)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE** (ELW p. 148)

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the Lord came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise, iniquity will be your ruin.

³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9

¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling,

¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

BACKPACK BLESSING - FLC

Hobey Mylin Bakken, Nolan Hoffman, Carter Annie Krostue & Sophia Schepers

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*ELW p. 151*)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

***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." **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *God, Bless the Hands (ACS #1022)*

***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**

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

Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us
listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and
dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better
world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their
call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the
gift of humility.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled
hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need. Grant us your salvation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to
courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or
challenging places.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are
at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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.**

MEAL

OFFERING

***OFFERING SONG** *Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW #186)*

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray... **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)

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.

PREFACE (ELW p. 153)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n 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.

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 glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God (ELW p. 154)*

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in His grace.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray... **We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG** *I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me (ELW #860)*

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

BELLS / POSTLUDE

JOYFULLY SERVING

Fisher Bygland Parish Office phone number: 218-891-4632
Pastor: Michael Ozaki
Parish Secretary: Hayley Childress - office@fisherbygland.org
Organist: Jane Traub

Serving at Fisher Lutheran-WG #2

Reed & Sheryl Tinkham

Serving at Bygland Lutheran WG # 1

Randy Moe

Becky Moe

Announcements:

Sunday, October 4th

- 9 AM Worship at Fisher
- 10 AM Coffee Fellowship
- 11AM Worship at Bygland

HUGO'S
• FAMILY MARKETPLACE •

*Good Deals
Bright Futures!* ♥



ONLY
\$10
EACH

Coupon Books FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

Fisher Lutheran Church Youth Group
is selling Hugo's Coupon Books for \$10
to raise funds to support their

Summer 2027 Trip!



GREAT SAVINGS
for you!



**SUPPORT
OUR YOUTH**
in their faith journey!



**HELP MAKE
THE TRIP POSSIBLE!**



FISHER LUTHERAN CHURCH
Youth Group

*Thank you
for your support!* ♥

FAITH • FRIENDSHIP • SERVICE • ADVENTURE

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Photos/video taken during worship & church events at Fisher or Bygland Lutheran Church
will be used in church related publications and/or social media unless members/nonmembers
notify the church office that they prefer not to be included.