

15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026
8:30am Worship



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, OR 97403
www.welcometocentral.org



CENTRAL LUTHERAN MISSION



Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

Central Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love.

We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people, regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, economic circumstance, and we firmly commit to racial equity. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, education, fellowship, and service.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN STAFF

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GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE

Trumpet Dialogue

Clerambault

WELCOME

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 the forgiveness of sins and the promise of new life. Receive freely this healing gift of mercy and grace. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN #840 Now thank We All Our God



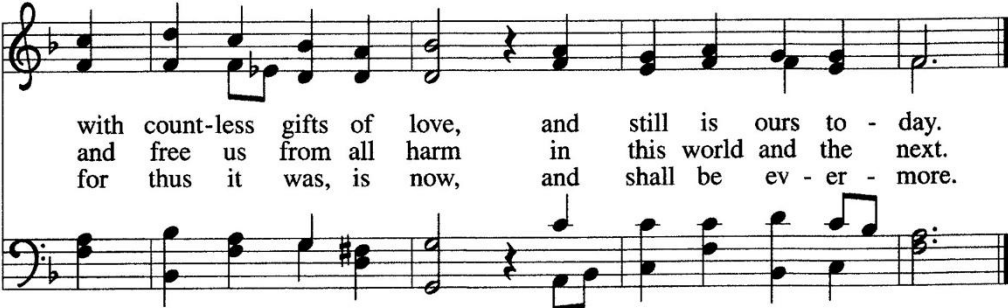
1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
 2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

REETING

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

<i>Cantor</i> Lord, have mer - cy.	<i>Assembly</i> Lord, have mer - cy.	<i>Plainsong</i>
<i>Cantor</i> Christ, have mer - cy.	<i>Assembly</i> Christ, have mer - cy.	
<i>Cantor</i> Lord, have mer - cy.	<i>Assembly</i> Lord, have mer - cy.	

GLORIA

1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth. 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love. 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;	Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:	we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift_ high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to_ save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.
Saints and an - gels bow be-fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!		

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, **enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.** (*you may be seated*)

WORD

FIRST LESSON **Ezekiel 33:7-11**

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

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? The word of the Lord. **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 be- | holding 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 judg- | ments are good.

**Behold, I long for | your commandments;
by your righteousness en- | liven me.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the | Son, and to the | Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is | now, and will be fore- | ver. Amen.

ANTHEM

For by Grace - Kari Tikki

Cantors

SECOND LESSON Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

[Paul writes] 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. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

During the Gospel Acclamation our children are invited to join Pastor Laurie in the Chapel for a special message. We will return during the Sharing of the Peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand as you are able)*



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 Matthew 18:15-20

The gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter. **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.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

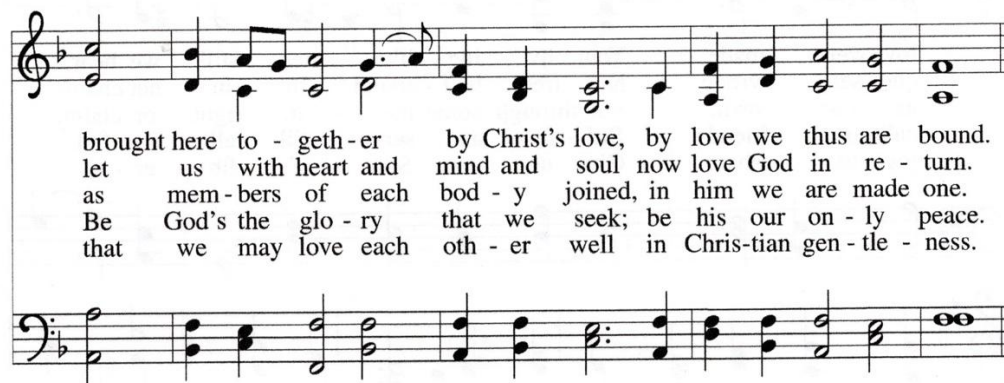
SERMON

Joel Timmons

HYMN #359 Where Charity and Love (*please stand*)



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us profess our Christian faith using the words of the 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. (*please be seated*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

HYMN Come, Labor on



1 Come, la - bor on. Who dares stand i - dle on the har - vest plain,
2 Come, la - bor on. The en - e - my is watch - ing night and day,
3 Come, la - bor on. A - way with gloom - y doubts and faith - less fear!
4 Come, la - bor on. Claim the high call - ing an - gels can - not share
5 Come, la - bor on. No time for rest, till glows the west - ern sky,

while all a - round us waves the gold - en grain? And to each ser - vant
to sow the tares. to snatch the seed a - way; while we in sleep our
No arm so weak but may do serv - ice here: by feeb - lest a - gents
to young and old the Gos - pel glad - ness bear: re - deem the time; its
till the long sha - dows o'er our path - way lie, and a glad sound comes

does the Mas - ter say "Go work to - day."
du - ty have for - got, he slum - bered — not.
may our God ful - fill the right - eous — will.
hours too swift - ly fly. The night draws nigh.
with the set - ting sun, "Ser - vants, well — done."

Music: Ora Labora

Thomas Tertius Noble (1813-1897)

Text: Jane Borthwick (1813-1897)

OFFERTORY 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.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(please stand as you're able)*

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.

PROPER PREFACE

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 Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death, and on this day as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples, and so also upon us. At this the whole earth exalts in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord most ho - ly, God of pow'r and God of might:
heav'n and earth re - veal your glo - ry. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!
Bless - ed be the ris - en Sav - ior. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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. *(please be seated)*

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & 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.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

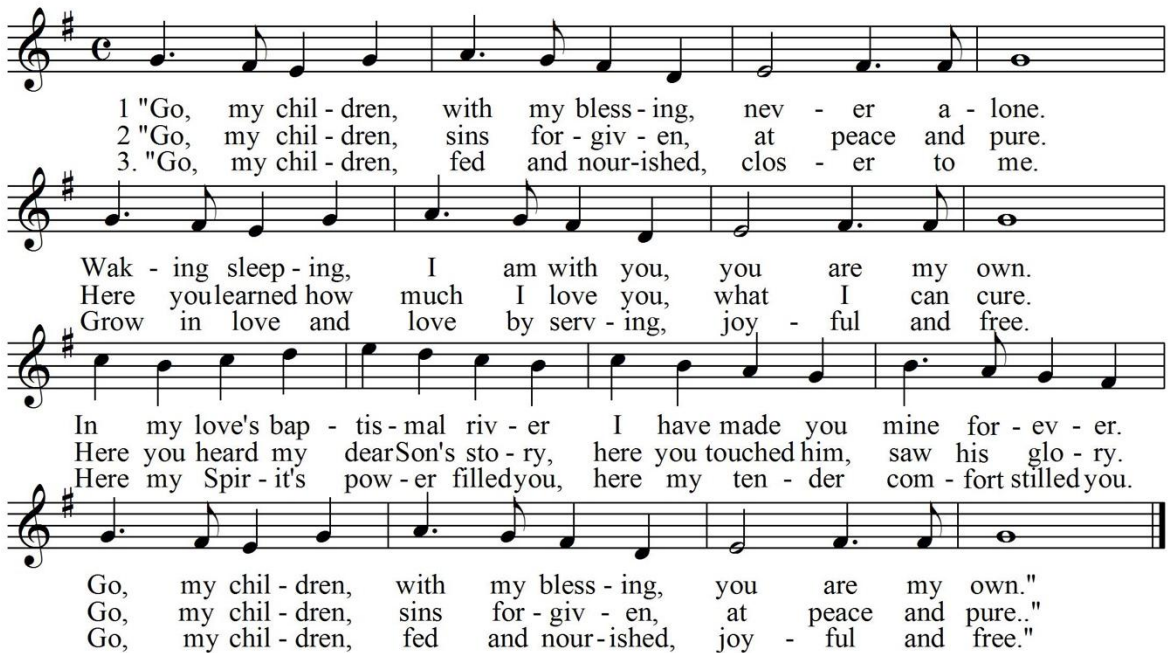
Let us pray. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION *(please stand)*

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. The God of grace ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #543 Go, My Children



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.

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.

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 my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

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."

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

We invite you to remain seated through the voluntary; however, if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Præludium in E Minor* Nikolaus Bruhns

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Today's Cantors: Taylor Huett & Alyse Jamieson



*St. Cecília Music Endowment Fund
presents
Central Lutheran Pocket Concert*

*Featuring Zichao Liu, Trumpet
Thomas Janssen, Euphonium
Dr. Da-Sol Um, Piano*



*September 8th from noon-1pm
in the Sanctuary
All are welcome!*

Mark your calendars...
Our Fall Program Year Kicks Off This Week:

- Wednesday, Sept 9th Chorale rehearsals resume at 7pm
- Saturday, Sept 12th Children's Choir & Junior Cantors Retreat
9am-4pm at Central (newcomers welcome: Kindergarten – 8th grade)
- Sunday, Sept 13th Back to School Blessing at both services
- Monday, Sept 14th Book Club meets at 7pm via Zoom
- Tuesday, Sept 15th Together Tuesday resumes with meal at 5:15pm;
followed by Music Together class at 5:45pm; Children's Choir &
Junior Cantors rehearsal at 5:45pm; and Adult Education at 6pm
- Sunday, Sept 20th Confirmation Mentor & Mentee Munch & Mini-
golf at 12:30pm (Meet at Roaring Rapids Pizza followed by mini-golf
at Camp Putt Golf Park)
- Wednesday, Sept 23rd Confirmation Students & Parents Orientation
with meal at United starting at 5:30pm
- Sunday, September 27th Brombaugh 50th Anniversary kick-off with
Friends Organ Concert at 4pm in the Sanctuary

Our 11am worship service continues through September 27th at the Garden (2345 Laura St. Springfield) before returning to the Sanctuary on October 4th.

For additional information on weekly and upcoming events visit our website welcometocentral.org.

Let us know if you'd like to be added to our email listserv by emailing churchoffice@welcometocentral.org.