

Hope Lutheran Church

Worship Service

September 20, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday of Pentecost



Our Vision:

**To be known as a Spirit-led
welcoming community of diversity and service.**

Our Mission:

We care, share, and prepare so that all experience the love of Jesus Christ.

Guiding Principles:

Jesus is Lord.

God loves everyone.

All are welcome.

Everyone has a purpose.

Pray before acting.

Step out in faith, believing all is possible.

We are saved by grace.

"Whoever you are who worship here, in whatever household of faith you were born, whatever creed you now profess, whatever your race, nationality, sexual orientation, or condition, if you come to this sanctuary to seek the God in whom you may believe, or rededicate yourself to the God in whom you do believe, you are welcome; for this sanctuary is a house of prayer for all people."

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

Please stand, if able

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the beginning, God made the heavens and the earth.

People: And God saw that it was good!

Leader: Day and night, land and sea, filled with creatures great and small.

People: And God saw that it was good!

Leader: And then God made human beings in the divine image, to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

People: And God saw that it was good!

Leader: Born in beauty, called to make creation more beautiful.

People: Come, let us make something beautiful together!

Leader: Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN

"Beautiful Savior"



The musical score for the hymn "Beautiful Savior" is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,
Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!
Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with You!

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray, almighty and eternal God,

People: you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Please be seated

8:30 SPECIAL MUSIC

Voices of Hope

"How Beautiful"

PSALM

Psalm 145

The psalm will be read responsively. The leader will read the light verses and the congregation will read the bold verses.

¹ I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

² Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

³ Great is the Lord and greatly ¹ to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

⁴ One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.

⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

⁶ They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.

⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of ¹ your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸ The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

READING

A reading from Philippians, chapter 1.

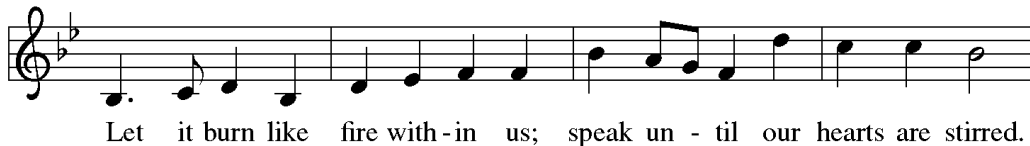
²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Word of God, word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:]

¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to

me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Amy Oehlschlaeger

SERMON

Pastor Amy Oehlschlaeger

Please stand, if able

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lord of All Hopefulness"



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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

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

A brief silence.

Leader: Thank you for the beauty of Hope Lutheran Church's building. Thank you for the stained-glass windows and the colors we see through them. Thank you for the people who have cared for Hope's property, both building and grounds. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Thank you for Hope's faith formation. Thank you for the small groups and for Sunday School. Bless the friendships formed through these groups. May we continue to be welcoming to one another. Hear us, O God

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Give patience, understanding, and kindness to employees and employers. Let cooperation, mutual respect, and goodwill grow in workplaces. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Encourage the unemployed and the underemployed. Take away their stress. Provide for those who have been injured due to their jobs. Hear us, O God

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Give your healing presence to the sick, to the lonely, and to all who are grieving especially those we name now... Bring your comfort and your strength to all who are struggling. Hear us, O God

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Comfort us with the promise of the resurrection as we remember all our loved ones whose desire to be with Jesus is fulfilled. Hear us, O God.

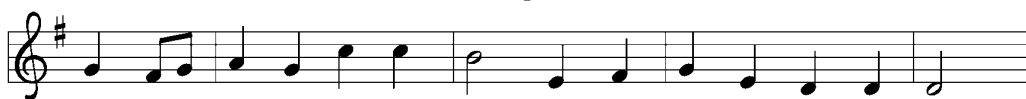
People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

BEAUTY TALK

OFFERING SONG "For the Beauty of the Earth"



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

OFFERTORY "We Are an Offering"



We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our



lives up to you: we are an of - fer - ing. Lord, use our voic - es, Lord, use our



hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of - fer - ing.



All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we



give to you, we give to you.



We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our



lives up to you: we are an of - fer - ing, we are an of - fer - ing.

Please stand, if able

OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray, Creator God, people, plants, animals, food-you made it all. You even made this bread and wine. As we get ready to eat and drink; make us ready to serve you and remind us of the world you love.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: All are welcome at Hope's communion!
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

Please be seated

COMMUNION HYMN

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

"Now the Silence"

Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty hands up - lift - ed

Now the kneel - ing Now the plea Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come

Now the hear - ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing

Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion

Now the wed - ding Now the songs Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing

Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny

Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

The image shows a musical score for a hymn titled "Now the Silence". It consists of seven staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Please stand, if able

Pastor: The Lord's body and blood strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

People: **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: Holy God, thank you for this food and thank you for your love. Help us to love one another. Help us to be your people. Thank you.

People: **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: We are children of God made in the image of God, born in beauty, called to make creation more beautiful; let us love in our words and in our deeds. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless us now and forever. Amen.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con - fess - ing, the
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing, the

peo - ple of our God from his dwell - ing take leave.
tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.

The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed the
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing, em -

fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
brac - ing his chil - dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of his teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in - vite us, his love shall u - nite us to
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing give

work for God's king - dom and an - swer his call.
hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Be thankful. Tell everyone what God has done.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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