

Hope Lutheran Church

Worship Service

September 27, 2026

Eighteenth 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: And so, my friends, whatever is good, whatever is true,
People: Whatever is honorable, whatever is just,
Leader: Whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,
People: If there is any excellence, anything worthy of praise,
Leader: In short, if there is anything beautiful,
People: Turn toward these things!
Leader: Live toward these things!
People: Come, let us worship God

OPENING HYMN

"Come, All You People"



1 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;
1 U - ya - i mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;
2 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;
3 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;



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come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;



come now and wor - ship the Lord.
u - ya - i mo - se Zvi - no.
come now and wor - ship the Lord.
come now and wor - ship the Lord.

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, God of love, giver of life,

People: 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

Please be seated

10:45 SPECIAL MUSIC

Voices of Hope

"Beautiful Things"

READING

A reading from Genesis, chapter 1.

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said,

"Let there be light,"

and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said,

"Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."

⁷ So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said,

"Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear."

And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said,

"Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it."

And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴ And God said,

"Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth."

And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said,

“Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.”

²¹ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them, saying,

“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”

²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴ And God said,

“Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.”

And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind.

And God saw that it was good. ²⁶ Then God said,

“Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Word of God, word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

READING

A reading from Romans, chapter 10.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.”

⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says,

“Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ”

(that is, to bring Christ down)

⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ”

(that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says,

“No one who believes in him will be put to shame.”

¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For

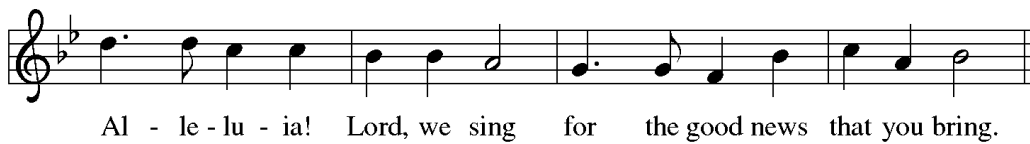
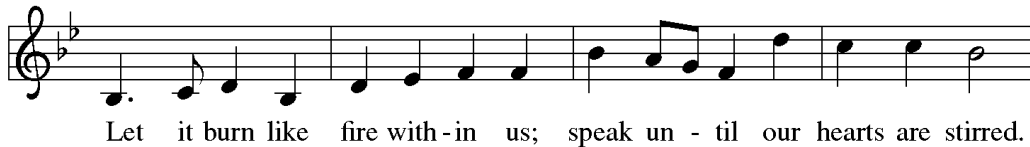
“everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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 22nd chapter.
People: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Please stand, if able

Pastor Amy Oehlschlaeger

Pastor Amy Oehlschlaeger

HYMN OF THE DAY

"To Be Your Presence"

1 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion here, to show com-
2 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your
pas-sion's face and lis-t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer-cy
poor and shel-ter home-less cold, to be your hands of jus-tice,
all the bro-ken and op-pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo-ple is our call and choice, and in this mis-sion we, the
ev-er near,
right up-hold,
love ex-pressed,
church, re-joice,

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's worship servants. Thank you for the musical leadership of Journee, Brad, and Pastor Amy. Thank you for the Bells' choir and the Voices of Hope choir. Thank you for all who sing here. Thank you for hymns and other sacred music. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Thank you for the beauty of creation. Thank you for flowers, trees, birds, rivers. Help us to adopt sustainable practices that provide care for your earth. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Give adequate food, clothing, and shelter to neighbors who are struggling. Protect the most vulnerable in our world. Bless the ministry of Oasis Food Pantry and Sharing meals. Hear us, O God

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Comfort all who are troubled. Give your healing presence to all who are sick in body, mind or spirit especially...Deliver them from pain. Hear us, O God

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: 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.

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

"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

(vs 1 & 2)



1 O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, for am-ber waves of grain,
2 O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved in lib-er-at-ing strife,
3 O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream that sees be-yond the years



for pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties a-bove the fruit-ed plain:
who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer-cy more than life:
thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, un-dimmed by hu-man tears:



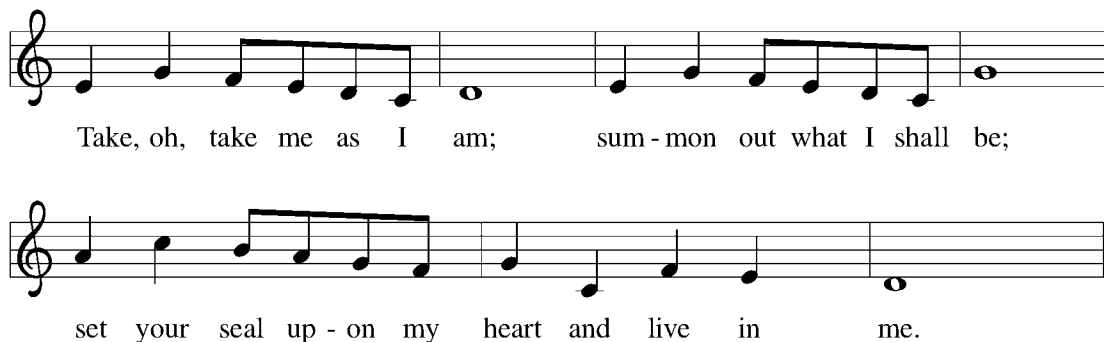
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine,
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth-er-hood from sea to shin-ing sea.
till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness, and ev-'ry gain di-vine.
con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, thy lib-er-ty in law.

OFFERTORY

"Take, Oh, Take Me as I Am"



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;
set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

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.

People: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

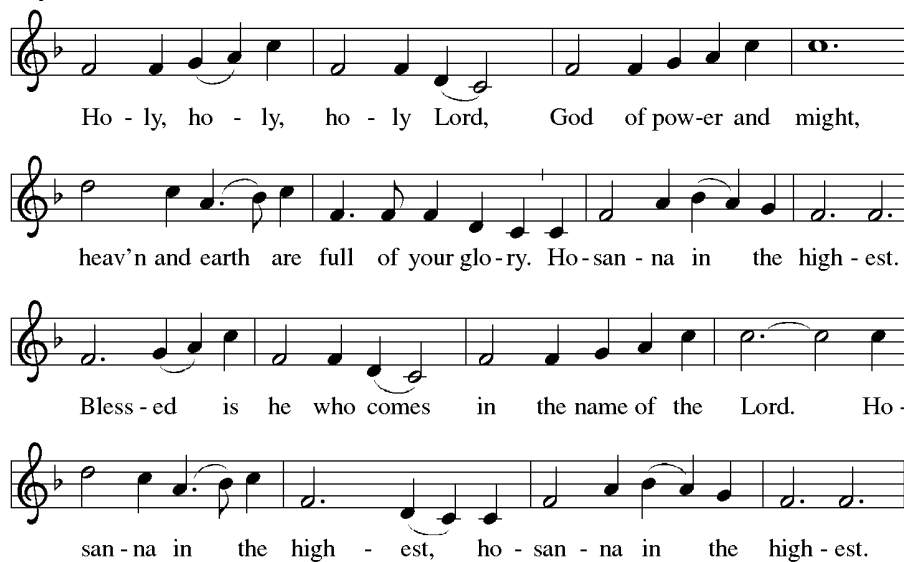
People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

"How Great Thou Art"



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

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.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"This is My Father's World"



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,



na-ture sings, and round me rings the mu-sic of the spheres.
morn-ing light, the lil-y white, de-clare their mak-er's praise.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul-er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won-ders wrought.
rus-tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev'-ry-where.
Lord is king, let the heav-ens ring; God reigns, let the earth be glad!

DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God.

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