

# Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 1, 2023





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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

**Prelude:** "We Gather Together to Thank" - Lynette Maynard

Lois Theesfield, piano

## Welcome

## Gathering Song: "God is Here Today" ACS #993



*Dios es - tá a - quí, tan*  
God is here to - day; as

*cier-to co-mo el ai - re que res - pi - ro, tan*  
cer - tain as the air I breathe, as

*cier-to co-mo la ma - ña - na se le - van - ta, tan*  
cer - tain as the morn-ing sun that ris - es, as

*cier-to co-mo que le can - to y me pue-de o - ír.*  
cer - tain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Text: Javier Gacías Mateo, b. 1956; tr. C. Michael Hawn, b. 1948

Music: DIOS ESTÁ AQUÍ, Javier Gacías Mateo

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## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
+ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.  
**Amen.**

Let us come before God in humility,  
confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.**  
**We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.**  
**We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.**  
**For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.**  
**For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.**  
**For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**  
**Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

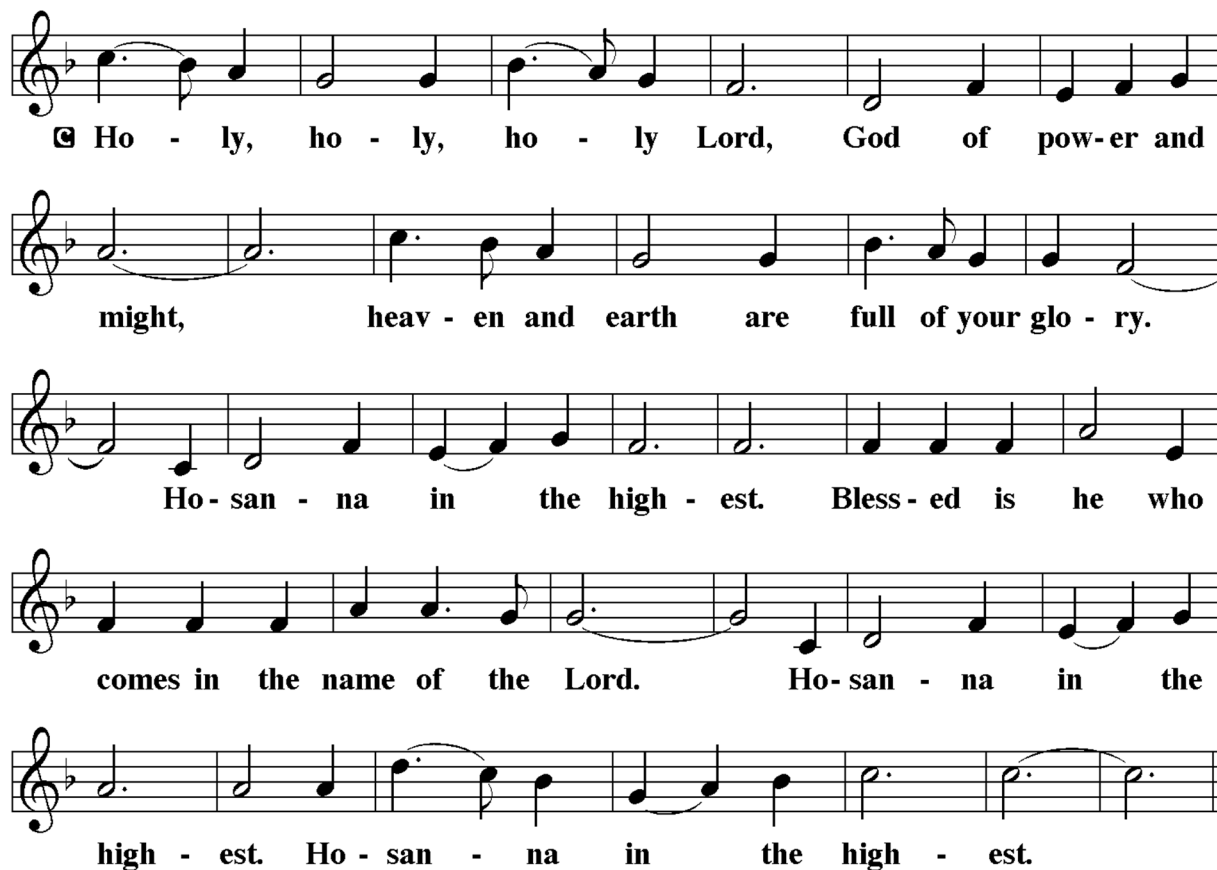
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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.**

## Eucharistic Prayer

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en 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.

## 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 the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites you to this table.  
Come, eat and live.

## Hymns during Communion

"Lamb of God" WOV setting 5

"O Blessed Spring" ELW #446

**Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on**

**us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have**

**mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the**

**sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## Prayer after Communion

Blessed be your name, O God,  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

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.**

## First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

*Lector: Jerry Eilers*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>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"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>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 that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>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? <sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>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?

<sup>30</sup>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.

<sup>31</sup>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? <sup>32</sup>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.**

## **Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13**

*Lector: Jerry Eilers*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>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.**

## Children at Heart Sermon

### Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia.

### Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:23-32

The Gospel according to Matthew  
**Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>23</sup>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?" <sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>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?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>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.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>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



## Hymn of the Day: "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" ACS #1084



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,  
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

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## 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**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### **Offering**

**Music Voluntary:** *"We Are an Offering"* - Lynette Maynard

*Lois Theesfield, piano*

### **Offering Prayer**

God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.

Form us into the body of your

Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior,  
and move us to be reminders and signs  
of your generosity in this world.

**Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

The God of glory,  
+ Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn:** *"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"* ELW #538

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *"God Be With You"* - J. Bert Carlson

*Lois Theesfield, piano*

## Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email [pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org](mailto:pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org) or [emily@mlcnevada.org](mailto:emily@mlcnevada.org), or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

*Please keep Nancy Christian and family in your prayers  
following the death of her husband, +Larry Christian*

*Please keep Norma Jean Smith and family in your prayers  
following the death of her son, +Darrel Smith*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +Tina Palmisano following her death  
(sister-in-law of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch)*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +Georgiann Grant following her death*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +David Blumer following his death*

Ron Parker  
*brother of Larry Parker*

Larry & Connie Krupp

Helen Johnson

Andrea & John Snyder

Wayne Kinyon

Kathy Lynn Johnson

Christina King

Sherry Kluever

Dick Settle

Kim Elliott

Jenny Adelmund

Marsha Kane

Pr. Marcia Kisner

Marlene Waddell

*friend of Virginia Palmisano-  
Goettsch*

Sandy Muesburger  
*friend of Virginia Palmisano-  
Goettsch*

John Bass  
*son-in-law of Ron & Gloria  
Jacobson*

Carol Vincent

Cassie Harrell

Jean Smith

Annette Dalthorp

Ellie Lynch

Ernie Ruhde

Sierra Parr  
*cousin of Kim Stieler*

Janet Jacques

Easton Farrington

Janice Hartz

Jackie Byers  
*daughter of Shellie Black*

Donna See

Norma Dannan  
*friend of Betty Runge*

Jami Tharp

Fred Samuelson

Jaylee Bartleson

Sheila Collingwood  
*mother of Lyndsey  
De Vos*

Judy Coverdale

George Forsyth

Janeen Driscoll

Lynn Harris

Julie Sutherland

Jan Cook

**Hospitalizations.** *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

## Announcements

### **TODAY: Nevada's CROP Walk for Hunger**

Come join us at Score Park as we fight hunger locally and globally! We're excited to turn this year's walk into a "color" walk/run\*. Grab your family and/or a friend to come join you in the fight against hunger.



12:30 - Walking tacos available in the Pavilion

1:00 - Walk send-off

- *The color walk part of the event is entirely optional! If you'd like to participate in this fun part of the day, wear a shirt that you would like to get "colored" at the event!*

Want to walk with us? Join our team: "Memorial Lutheran Church - Nevada, IA", register as an individual, start your own team, or make a donation by visiting <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/event/nevadaia> or by using the QR code.

### **Beer & Theology: NEW location for October#**

Our Beer & Theology event is trying out a new location this month: bring a friend and join us at Cubbies on Main (1220 6th St., Nevada) at 6:30 PM on Thursday, October 5.

### **Blessing of the Animals#**

All God's creatures are welcome to join us in MLC's courtyard at 10:00am on Saturday, October 7, for a brief time of blessing. Please leash or crate your pets for everyone's comfort and safety.

### **Choir for a Sunday**

Join Memorial Choir on Sunday, October 8 singing the beautiful anthem "Lord of All Hopefulness" by Nancy Grundahl with piano and violin accompaniment. This is an opportunity to sing in an SATB setting for just one Sunday. Many cannot schedule weekly rehearsals into their busy lives, but meeting on a Sunday morning at 8:00 for rehearsal and then singing for worship may fit perfectly for you! Music and practice videos are available in preparation. Please contact Lois Theesfield if you are interested.

### **Community Trunk-or-Treat at Memorial**

Trunk-or-Treat returns! Bring your family and friends to Memorial's parking lot Saturday, October 28 between 5:00 and 6:00pm for trick-or-treating around decorated vehicles. Walking tacos will be available with free-will donations benefitting Nevada's Good Samaritan Fund. There will also be a "Best Decorated Trunk" contest with a prize for the winner! Want to bring your decorated vehicle and hand out candy? Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/3L8eoDH> use the QR code, or contact the church office.



## **Attention Youth and Families: Join us at *Wednesday Night Live!* #**

Calling kids and youth of all ages of Memorial Lutheran! **You're invited!** This year we are starting something new... We want to invite you to bring a friend and join us for *Wednesday Night Live!* Come and engage with God, Scripture, and other young people each Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30 PM. To sign up, grab a registration form at church or you can fill out the online form here: <https://bit.ly/459i0xu> or by visiting [mlcnevada.org](https://mlcnevada.org). *Can't wait to see you at Wednesday Night Live!*

## **Check out our important website calendar and photo updates!**

If you haven't visited [mlcnevada.org](https://mlcnevada.org) lately, be sure to take a look: our calendar has been revamped and updated, and will continue to be updated as new events and meetings are planned, so please check back often to keep up-to-date with Memorial happenings and announcements. In addition, a new "Review in Photos" page under the "About" drop-down in the top menu has been created with many recent photos from events, ministries, and more across our congregation. This page will be updated each month with new photos. We give a *huge* thank you to Steve Jungst for all of his work in updating and creating these pages and for taking photos!

## **Important Reminder Regarding Giving to Special Projects**

We so appreciate gifts received for special projects such as "A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place" (heating and cooling) and "Drive for the Drive" (pavement). If you would like to support these projects, please make sure to specify the project name with your gift. This ensures that your gift goes directly to the project and helps us keep an accurate record of funds received / still needed. Thank you for your support!

## ***"Created to be: Good Neighbors" - An Event for Iowa Youth***

God created us to be just who we are-- and calls us to love our neighbors with the gifts God gave us. 8th-12th Graders, especially those interested in the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering are invited to join in on this evening of fun, faith, and fellowship.

We're hoping to form a group from Memorial to carpool down to Ankeny. Please let Pastor Kathleen know if you would be interested in joining!

**What:** Dinner & interactive worship for 8th-12th graders

**When:** October 14, 5-8pm

**Where:** Resurrection Lutheran, 914 NW Ash Dr., Ankeny, IA

## **Online Giving with Tithe.ly**

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know? In Tithe.ly, you can select to give to the General Fund, A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place (heating and cooling project), or the Drive for the Drive pavement project!***



## *Save the Date*

### **TODAY: Nevada CROP Walk for Hunger**

When: Sunday, October 1

### **Wednesday Night Live**

When: Wednesday, October 4, 6:30—7:30pm

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

When: Thursday, October 5, 8:30—9:30 am

Where: MLC Chapel

### **Beer & Theology (first Thursday of every month) - Note the new location!**

When: Thursday, October 5, 6:30 pm

Where: Cubbies on Main

### **Blessing of the Animals**

When: Saturday, October 7

### **Community Trunk-or-Treat at Memorial**

When: Saturday, October 28

### **Rite of Confirmation**

When: Sunday, October 29 during 9:00 worship

### **Ministry Endowment Fund Reception**

When: Thursday, November 9



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