

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 21, 2025



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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: *Prelude on THAXTED setting* - John Behnke
Lois Theesfield, organ

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.**

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

Gathering Hymn: “*Let Streams of Living Justice*” ELW #710

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.

Prayer of the Day

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵ saying, “When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶ buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 113

Refrain

The musical score is written for a single melodic part on a treble clef staff. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 and back to 4/4. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the staff, aligned with the corresponding notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

From the ris-ing of the sun to its go - ing down, let the name of the Lord be

praised! From the ris-ing of the sun to its go - ing down, let the name of the Lord be

praised! Hal-le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu

jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - Jah! Hal-le - lu - - - jah!

- 1 Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.**
- 2 Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**
- 3 From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.**
- 4 The LORD is high above all nations;
God's glory above the heavens.**
- 5 Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,**
- 6 but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth? *Refrain***

**7 The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,
8 enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.
9 The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah! Refrain**

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

⁵ For there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,

⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald
and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the
gentiles in faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation - ELW Setting 4

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

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

Gospel Reading: Luke 16:1-13

The Gospel according to Luke
Glory to You, O Lord

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “*Lord Whose Love in Humble Service*”
- ELW #712

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: *"Jesus Loves Me"* - arr. Jannaya Robison
Memorial Choir; Congregation will be invited to join in the final refrain

Offering Prayer

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Meal

This is Christ's table and Christ's meal. All are welcome here. Kids are welcome to commune at the discretion of their parents. If you are unable to come forward please let an usher or the pastor know so that we can bring you Communion at your seat.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

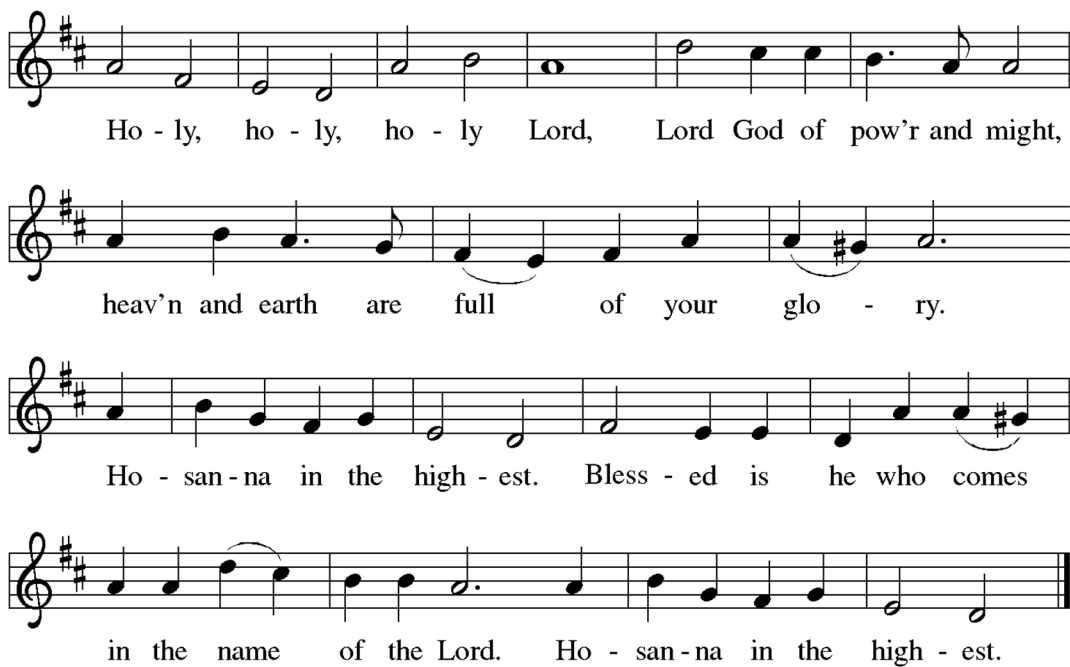
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” - ELW Setting 4



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

Words of Institution

The 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

The kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.

Music during Communion

"Lamb of God" - ELW Setting 4
"Be Thou My Vision" - ELW #793

Lamb of God - ELW Setting 4

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using half notes, quarter notes, and rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

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

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
+ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: *"Take My Life, That I May Be"* ELW #685

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* - arr. Fred Bock
Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

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

Please keep Ardith Forsyth and family in your prayers following the death of her husband, George Forsyth.

Please keep Lou Ann Williams and her family in your prayers following the death of her husband Rob Williams on July 30, 2025.

Craig Sutherland	Ardith Forsyth	Pr. Marcia Kisner
June Copenhaver <i>mother of Diane Martin</i>	Eileen Miller	Marlene Waddell <i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>
Pastor Andrea Myers <i>wife of Pastor Ronald Myers</i>	Karen Anderson	Carol Vincent
Charlie Lloyd	Caleb Roof	Cassie Harrell
Bert Ann Ray	Evelyn Onstot	Jean Smith
Wayne Kinyon	Marty Schuler	Easton Farrington
Loren Bryant <i>brother of Arlys Neal</i>	Katy Beno <i>sister of Sandy Christian</i>	Janice Hartz
Jill Rhodes	Eric Forsyth	Jackie Byers <i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Gloria Jacobson	Crystal Vines	Donna See
Connie Robinson <i>sister of Shirley Klonglan</i>	Katie Bass <i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>	Norma Dannan <i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Barb McDaniel	Wayne Johnson	Fred Samuelson
Ken Huffaker <i>father of Kendra McCauley</i>	Troy Vincent	Jaylee Bartleson
Emma Nelson <i>granddaughter of Steve & Nan Jungst</i>	Johann Thiel	George Forsyth
	Mike Neal	Janeen Driscoll
	Christina King	Julie Sutherland
	Sherry Kluever	Jan Cook
	Kim Elliott	

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

New book study - Accidental Saints by Nadia Bolz-Weber

Beginning Sunday, October 12, join us after worship for a book study of Accidental Saints. You are welcome to order your own book, or if you would like for us to order one for you, please let us know in the office. For more information or to sign up please e-mail PastorKathleen@mlcnevada.org.

Lutheran World Relief Quilts Dedication is Sunday, October 12

Our Lutheran World Relief (LWR) volunteers are preparing quilts and other items for LWR projects. They are most in need of the items below. Supply or monetary donations can be brought to Memorial now through October 12's dedication:

- 4 - 5oz bath soap of any brand in original packaging
- Hand towels
- Bath towels - dark colors, approximately 52" x 27"
- Sturdy combs
- Metal nail clippers with attached nail file
- Fabric yardage (3 yards by 44")
- Thread - 250 - 300 yards, any color

Women's Fall Cluster Gathering

All women are invited to the Women of the ELCA-Southeastern loway Synod Fall Cluster Gathering on Saturday, October 11, 2025 beginning at 9 am. The gathering will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Madrid featuring speakers Reverend Kimberly Belken and Beth Stufflebeam. The theme for the day is "Blessed and Faithful Women". Registration is \$5 per person. Please e-mail PastorKathleen@mlcnevada.org if you would like to attend!

Save the Date: Nevada CROP Hunger Walk October 5, 1:00 PM

Join us in fighting hunger locally and globally! This year's CROP Hunger Walk will include live music and a light lunch at Evergreen Lane as we walk to SCORE Park and back. Whether you join in the walk or come out and support the walkers, grab your family and/or a friend to join in the fight against hunger!



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

When: Sunday, October 5, 1:00 PM walk send-off; come early for lunch and live music!

Where: Evergreen Lane, 1204 H Ave.

Support Lutheran Lakeside's *For Every Season* Campaign

Memorial has had a long history of sending students and families to Lutheran Lakeside Camp for "the best week ever!" where campers are given unique opportunities to try new things, challenge themselves, enjoy creation, make friends, and grow in their faith. We invite you to join us in giving back to this Lutheran Lakeside through their *For Every Season* campaign, which aims to improve all property and facilities to dramatically increase year-round offerings, as they seek to offer a place of belonging for all people to find joy and purpose in God's Creation. Visit lutheranlakeside.com or use the QR code to learn more and to give. *Thank you!*



Volunteers Needed: Ushers/Greeters for Sunday Mornings

We're looking for ushers/greeters to be welcoming faces to those worshipping with us on Sunday mornings. If you can help, please see the sign-up sheet on the main door into the Sanctuary, or contact the church office. Thank you!

Volunteer Opportunity: Drivers Wanted

Would you be willing to offer a lift to members of Memorial that need transportation assistance to and from worship? If so, please contact the office so that we can provide you further information. Thank you so much for your willingness to help!

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 set up one-time or recurring gifts to the General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Drive for the Drive Pavement Project, Sanctuary Screens Fund, Sanctuary Carpet Fund, and more!***



Stay Connected with Memorial

Keep up-to-date with Memorial and community events, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and more; sign up to receive emails and/or periodic texts at bit.ly/memorialconnect or by using the QR code.



Save the Date

Council Nominations Open

Please prayerfully discern the name(s) of those you would like to nominate to serve on Church Council.

When: Sunday, September 21 through close of Wednesday Night Live on September 24

TODAY: Chrismon Planning

When: Sunday, September 21 following worship

Weekly Bible Study

When: Tuesday, September 23, 2:00 PM in Chapel

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, September 24, 6:30 PM

Ministry Partner Conversation

When: Sunday, September 28 following worship

Weekly Bible Study

When: Tuesday, September 30, 2:00 PM in Chapel

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, October 1, 6:30 PM

Beer & Theology

When: Thursday, October 2, 6:30 PM
Where: Cubbies on Main

Nevada CROP Hunger Walk

When: Sunday, October 5, walk begins at 1:00 PM; come early for lunch and live music!
Where: Evergreen Lane, 1204 H Ave.

MLC at Harmony Clothing Closet - Volunteers Needed!

When: Monday, October 6, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Lutheran World Relief Quilts Dedication

When: Sunday, October 12 during worship

Trunk-or-Treat @ Memorial

When: Sunday, October 26, 4:30 - 6:00 PM

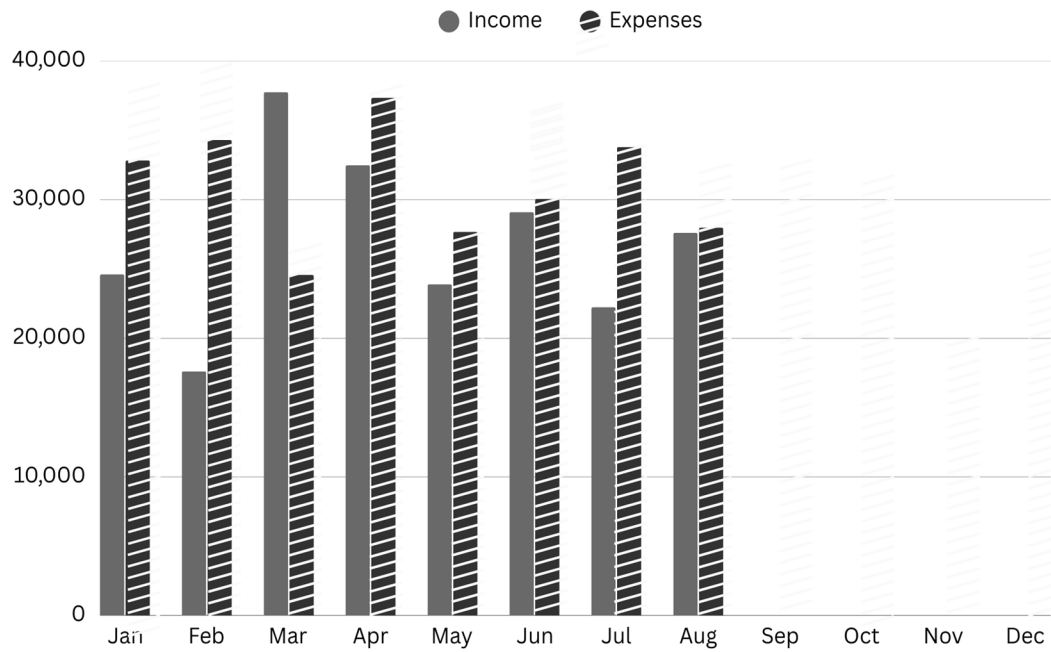
General Fund 2025

Cumulative Income vs Expenses as of August 31, 2025

Income: \$215,318

Expenses: (\$248,561)

Current Deficit: (\$33,243)



Our 2025 Goals

As discussed and approved at the January 2025 council meeting

1. We will gather with Memorial members with an emphasis of creating an environment of belonging, fellowship, and family.
2. We will build on the ongoing ecumenical work.

Our 2025 Council

Steve Lekwa, President

Carl Link

Larry Parker

Wayne Kinyon, Vice President

Connie Kinyon

Lynn Rhodes

Erin Rewerts, Secretary

Denise Rehor

Mike Neal

Hattie Rhodes, Treasurer

Emilia Stage

Steve Jungst

This Week at Memorial

Monday, September 22 - Sunday, September 28

22 Monday Church Office Closed	23 Tuesday 2:00 PM Bible Study in Chapel 6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 Wednesday Council Nominations Close at End of Wed. Night Live 6:30 - 7:30 PM Wednesday Night Live and Youth Group 6:30 - 7:30 PM Confirmation	25 Thursday
26 Friday Have an idea for our monthly newsletter? Perhaps a focus on a ministry or group you're involved with at Memorial or in the community? We would love to hear from you! Please contact emily@mlcnevada.org or call the church office.	27 Saturday	28 Sunday 9:00 AM Worship at Memorial and online	

Office Hours
 Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM*
**Call 515-382-6509 for appointments outside of office hours*

Memorial Lutheran Church
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@memluthnevada

▶ Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
 Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
 Mike Coverdale, Custodian