

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 28, 2025



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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: *"Gather Us In"* - 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: “Gather Us In” ELW #532

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

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

^{1a}Woe to those who are at ease in Zion
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.

⁴Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall,

⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David improvise on instruments of music,

⁶who drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

2 I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

3 Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

**4 When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

5 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

**6 who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

7 who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those
who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

**8 The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those
who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

9 The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of
the wicked.

10 The LORD shall reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment,

⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out
of it, ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.

⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by
many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and
destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in
their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and
pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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 16:19-31

The Gospel according to Luke
Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house ²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “*The Church of Christ, In Every Age*” - ELW #729

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: *"How Can I Keep From Singing"* - Karen Buckwalter
Memorial Handbells; Pastor Kathleen, cello

Listen closely, and you will not only hear the beloved tune "How Can I Keep from Singing" but phrases from as many as thirteen other hymns scattered throughout this piece. Before, between, and ending the primary verses, see how many other hymns you can identify. Ten or more is genius!

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.

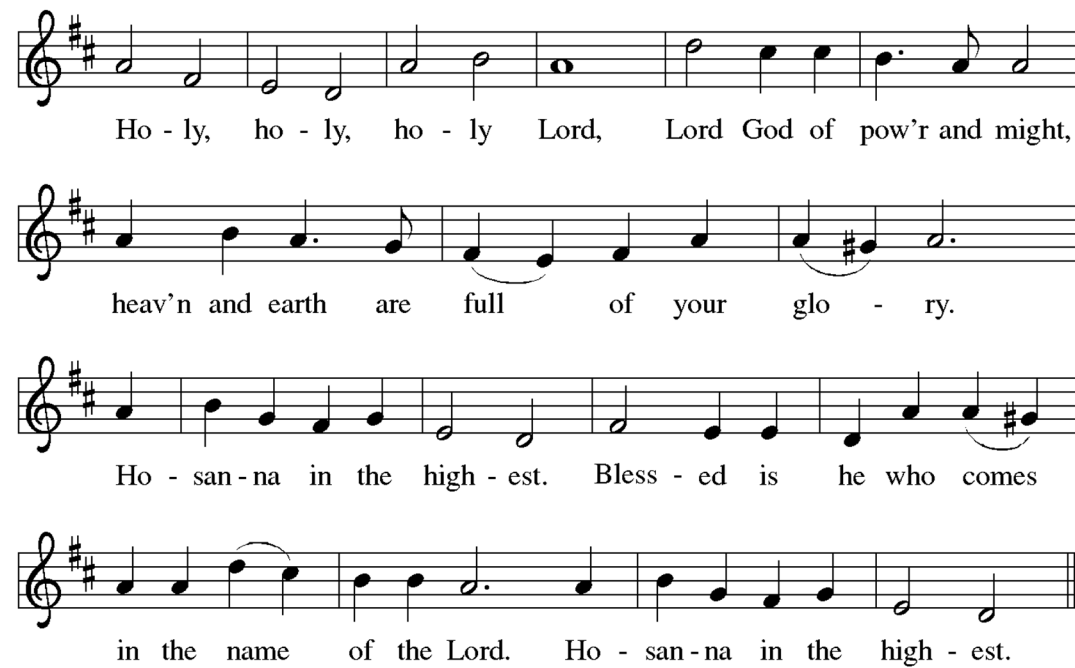
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" - ELW #659

Lamb of God - ELW Setting 4



Lamb of God

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: "To Be Your Presence" ELW #546

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *"Agincourt Hymn: - John Dunstable*
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.

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

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

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.

Meal Train for Julie & Craig Sutherland

In the time leading up to Craig's surgery and then after, it would be very helpful for Julie and Craig to have some meals delivered to their home. Please use the QR code to sign up, and contact the church office for their address and any other questions. *Thank you!*



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 Iowa 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!

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

TODAY: Ministry Partner Conversation

When: Sunday, September 28 following worship

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, October 1, 6:30 PM

Weekly Bible Study - *Note adjusted date/time this week*

When: Thursday, October 2, 2:00 PM in Chapel

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

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, October 8, 6:30 PM

Weekly Bible Study - *Note adjusted date/time this week*

When: Thursday, October 9, 2:00 PM in Chapel

Lutheran World Relief Quilts Dedication

When: Sunday, October 12 during worship

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, October 15, 6:30 PM

Weekly Bible Study - *Note adjusted date/time this week*

When: Thursday, October 16, 2:00 PM in Chapel

Trunk-or-Treat @ Memorial

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

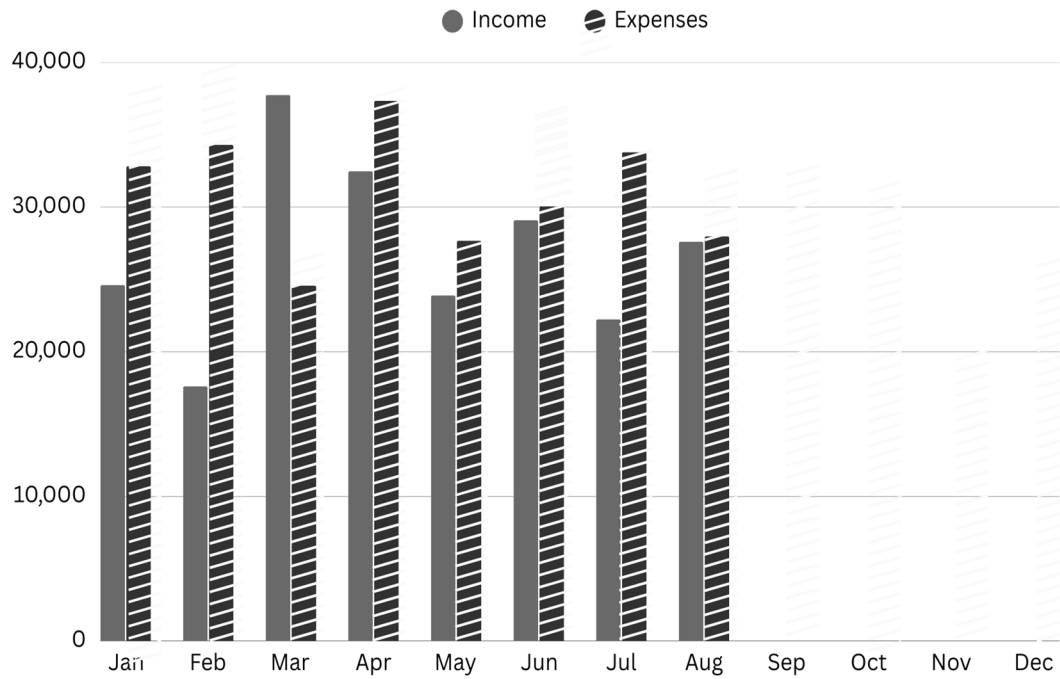
General Fund 2025

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 29 - Sunday, October 5

<p>29 Monday</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>30 Tuesday</p> <p>6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>1 Wednesday</p> <p>6:30 - 7:30 PM Wednesday Night Live and Youth Group</p> <p>6:30 - 7:30 PM Confirmation</p>	<p>2 Thursday</p> <p>2:00 PM Bible Study in Chapel</p> <p>6:30 PM Beer & Theology @ Cubbies on Main</p>
<p>3 Friday</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>4 Saturday</p>	<p>5 Sunday</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship at Memorial and online</p> <p>1:00 PM Nevada CROP Hunger Walk send-off; come early for lunch and live music!</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  <p>Want to walk with us or support the walkers?</p> </div>	

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM*

**Call 515-382-6509 for appointments outside of office hours*

Memorial Lutheran Church
 701 11th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
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www.mlcnevada.org

@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