

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 19, 2025



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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October 19, 2025

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: *"Jesus Still Lead On"* - arr. Paul Manz

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: “Day by Day” ELW #790

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 Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, “Let me go, for the day is breaking.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” ²⁷ So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” ²⁸ Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed.” ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved.” ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

**2 My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

3 The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**4 Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

5 the LORD watches over you;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

**6 the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

7 The LORD will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

**8 The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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 18:1-8

The Gospel according to Luke

Glory to You, O Lord

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: *"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"*

- ELW #769

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: *"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"*

- arr. Paul Manz

Lois Theesfield, organ

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.

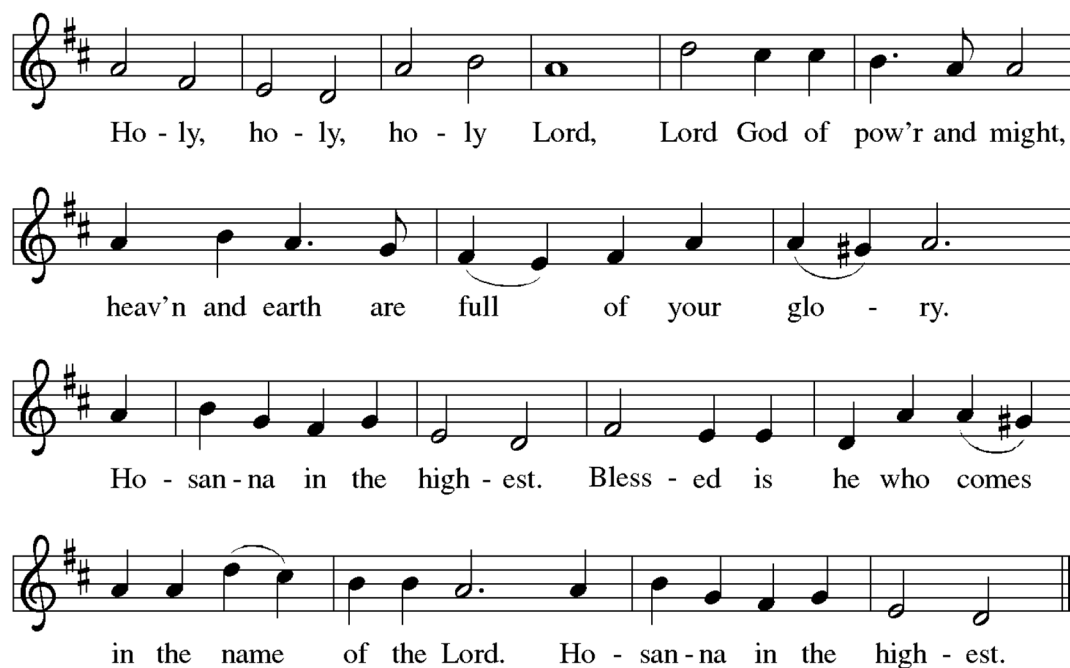
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

"Jesus, Still Lead On" - ELW #624

Lamb of God - ELW Setting 4

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: *"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"* ELW #517

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

- arr. Michael Burkhardt

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.

Prayers for Cindy and Kendall Bartleson, Brandon and Kelli Bartleson, and the entire Bartleson family following the death of their son and brother Taylor

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

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

Community Trunk-or-Treat at Memorial - We Need Trunks!

Trunk-or-Treat returns! Bring your family and friends to Memorial's parking lot Sunday, October 26 between 4:30 and 6:00pm for trick-or-treating around decorated vehicles. All are welcome to tour the decorated trunks and collect some fun treats, and / or enjoy a light dinner with free-will donations benefitting the Good Samaritan Fund. **Want to bring your decorated vehicle and hand out candy? Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/2025MLCTrunkOrTreat>, use the QR code, or contact the church office.**



Special Music for Reformation / Confirmation Sunday

Memorial Choir along with guest trumpeter, Craig Swartz, will add special music for this festival service. Singing two anthems, the first underscoring the Reformation theme and the second offering a prayer for our confirmands, the choir is excited to highlight this memorable Sunday. Craig, former DSM Symphony member, will offer celebratory pieces along with a glorious "A Mighty Fortress" descant. Come worship with us next Sunday!

All Saints Sunday November 2

We have records of the names of Memorial members who have joined the Church Triumphant in the last year. Their names will be read during a special time of prayer on All Saints Sunday (November 2). We are mindful that many of you may have lost others who are dear to you in this past year. If you would like their name to be read, please see the sign up sheet in the Narthex or contact the church office at emily@mlcnevada.org or 515-382-6509.\

Spirit, Open Our Hearts-Afternoon with Bishop Current

Join Bishop Current for an afternoon of fellowship, conversation, and worship on Sunday, November 9 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at St. John Lutheran Church in Des Moines. Bishop Current will share stories of the impact of mission support over the last year with words of gratitude. This gathering is for anyone interested in gathering with people from other area congregations and hearing more about the ministry we do together as the Southeastern Iowa Synod and beyond.

General Fund Spending Plan Forums November 2 and 5

As the Finance Team and Council finalizes Memorial's General Fund Spending Plan (budget) for 2026, we will be holding two Spending Plan Forums: Sunday, November 2 in the Lounge following worship and Wednesday, November 5 at 6:30 PM also in the Lounge. This is your opportunity to hear more about the upcoming Spending Plan, Memorial's financial structure, and to ask any questions you may have.

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!*



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!

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!*



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.



Pastor on Call

If you need to reach the pastor outside of office hours, on weekends, or on holidays for emergencies, please call 515-382-6509 and leave a message with your name and phone number. The pastor will return your call as soon as they are able.

Save the Date

CROP Walk Meeting

When: Tuesday, October 21, 11:15 AM

Weekly Bible Study

When: Tuesday, October 21, 2:00 PM

Stewardship Committee Meeting

When: Tuesday, October 21, 7:00 PM

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, October 22, 6:30 PM

Reformation Sunday / Confirmation Sunday

When: Sunday, October 26

Trunk-or-Treat @ Memorial - We need trunks! Sign up here >

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



Weekly Bible Study

When: Tuesday, October 28, 2:00 PM

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, October 29, 6:30 PM

General Fund Spending Plan Forum

When: Sunday, November 2 following worship

Where: Lounge

MLC at Harmony Clothing Closet - volunteers needed!

When: Monday, November 3, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Weekly Bible Study

When: Tuesday, November 4, 2:00 PM

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, November 5, 6:30 PM

General Fund Spending Plan Forum

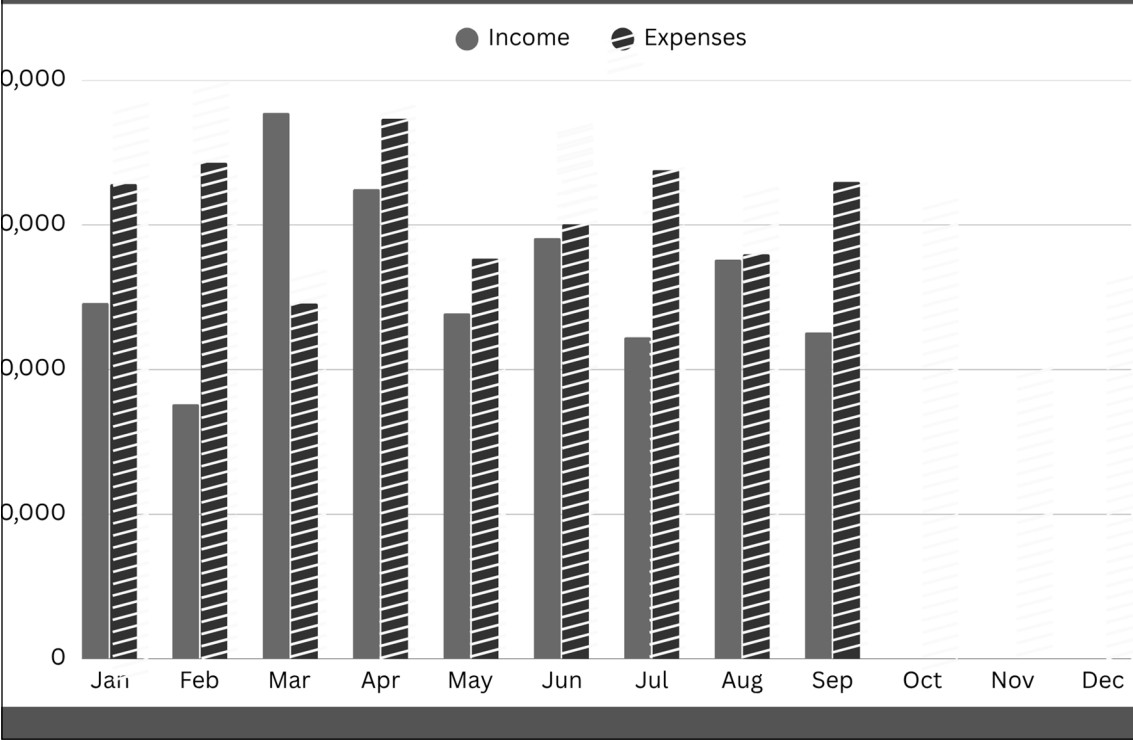
When: Wednesday, November 5, 6:30 PM

Where: Lounge

General Fund 2025

Cumulative Income vs Expenses as of September 30, 2025

Income: \$237,898 Expenses: (\$281,541) Current Deficit: (\$43,643)



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, October 20 - Sunday, October 26

20 Monday Church Office Closed	21 Tuesday 11:15 AM CROP Walk Meeting 2:00 PM Bible Study in Chapel 6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal	22 Wednesday 6:30 - 7:30 PM Wednesday Night Live and Youth Group 6:30 - 7:30 PM Confirmation
23 Thursday 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.	24 Friday	25 Saturday
		26 Sunday 9:00 AM Reformation / Confirmation Sunday 4:30 - 6:00 Trunk-or-Treat 

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

We need trunks!
 Sign up here to bring your decorated vehicle and hand out candy

Memorial Lutheran Church
 701 11th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
 Phone 515-382-6509
pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org
emily@mlcnevada.org
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