

CHURCH @ HOME SERVICE ORDER

**Sunday, 27 September 2026
Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Lord,
without you we are not able to please you.
Direct our hearts by the working of your mercy.
We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

*Friends in Christ:
The Lord says:
'Rid yourselves of all the offences you have committed,
and get a new heart and a new spirit.
Why will you die, O house of Israel?
For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone,
declares the Sovereign Lord.
Repent and live!'
(Ezek 18:31,32)*

*Therefore let us come to God our Father to confess our sins,
asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

INVOCATION

*In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

**When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most, I
sacrifice them to His blood.**

**See from His head, His hands, His feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, may all.**

Isaac Watts

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CONFESSION OF SINS

*Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins,
and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to You all my sins,
and repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased You and deserve Your
punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask You, for the
sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be
gracious and merciful to me. Amen.**

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to
die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He
has given the right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit.
Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.*

Peace be with you.

Amen

PASSING OF THE PEACE

LORD HAVE MERCY

(spoken)

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

YOU ARE GLORIOUS

You are glorious.

**Ev'ry knee shall bow to one victorious,
now exalted to the highest place of all,
Every tongue confess that you are Lord of all,
Lord of all.**

**And we belong to you,
we love your name,
the name above all other names
and Your glory is upon us now
as we worship you,
King of Kings.**

You are glorious.

**Ev'ry knee shall bow to one victorious,
now exalted to the highest place of all,
Every tongue confess that you are Lord of all.
Lord of all.**

Sharny Russel

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The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray for humility.

[silence]

**Merciful God,
give us the same attitude as Jesus,
who emptied himself
and was obedient to you
all the way to his death on the cross.
Make us eager to put others before ourselves,
and their needs before our own.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

PSALM 25:1-9

In you, Lord my God,

I put my trust.

I trust in you;

**do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

No one who hopes in you

will ever be put to shame,

but shame will come on those

who are treacherous without cause.

Show me your ways, Lord,

teach me your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me,

for you are God my Saviour,

and my hope is in you all day long.

Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love,

for they are from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth

and my rebellious ways;

according to your love remember me,

for you, Lord, are good.

*Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.
He guides the humble in what is right
and teaches them his way.*

**Glory to the Father and the Son
and the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever.
Amen.**

BIBLE READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32: Individual responsibility for sin

The word of the Lord came to me: ‘What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: “‘The parents eat sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child – both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die. ‘Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is not just.” Hear, you Israelites: is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. Because they consider all the offences they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. Yet the Israelites say, “The way of the Lord is not just.” Are my ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust? ‘Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent! Turn away from all your offences; then sin will not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all the offences you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

Philippians 2:1-13: The humility and exaltation of Christ

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,

then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfil his good purpose.

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

Matthew 21:23-32: Which son obeyed his father?

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. ‘By what authority are you doing these things?’ they asked. ‘And who gave you this authority?’ Jesus replied, ‘I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John’s baptism – where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?’ They discussed it among themselves and said, ‘If we say, “From heaven”, he will ask, “Then why didn’t you believe him?” But if we say, “Of human origin” – we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.’ So they answered Jesus, ‘We don’t know.’ Then he said, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ‘What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, “Son, go and work today in the vineyard.” “I will not,” he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. ‘Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, “I will, sir,” but he did not go. ‘Which of the two did what his father wanted?’ ‘The first,’ they answered. Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the

way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

After the reading
This is the gospel of the LORD.
Praise be to You, O Christ.

ONLY A HOLY GOD

**Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?
Only a Holy God!**

**What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendour outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
Only a Holy God!**

**Come and behold Him –
the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy;
forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God!**

**What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God!**

**Come and behold Him –
the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy;
forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God!**

**Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God! Only my Holy God!**

**Come and behold Him –
the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy;
forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God!
Come and worship the Holy God!**

Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Dustin Smith, Rich Thompson
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MESSAGE

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon.
For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))
For LCA Worship Resources ([click here](#))

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

MIGHTY TO SAVE

**Everyone needs compassion,
a love that's never failing:
let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness,
the kindness of a Saviour:
the hope of nations.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains,
my God is mighty to save,
He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of Salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave,
Jesus conquered the grave.**

**So take me as You find me,
all my fears and failures;
fill my life again.
I give my life to follow
everything that I believe in;
now I surrender.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains,
my God is mighty to save,
He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of Salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave,
Jesus conquered the grave.**

**Shine Your light
and let the whole world see
we're singing for the glory
of the risen king.
Jesus, shine Your light
and let the whole world see
we're singing for the glory
of the risen king Jesus.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains,
my God is mighty to save,
He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of Salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave,
Jesus conquered the grave.**

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OFFERING PRAYER

Thank you, Lord, for all you have given us,
especially the gift of your Son.
Help us to accept his authority,
trust in him, and obey him.
Teach us to live our lives in service to you.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Since God has called us to adopt the servant attitude of Jesus Christ, let us pray for others as Jesus prayed for us.

Thank you, Lord, for all you have given us, especially the gift of your Son. Help us to accept his authority and to trust in him. Expose our unbelief and sin, so that we may enjoy your forgiveness and healing.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord, you provide all that we need on your people's journey through this life. Please help your church take the form of a servant for the mission of your Word, so that it may go out to the whole earth. Bless the work of the Board for Mission, Finke River Mission and Lutheran Media Ministry.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Inspire all people in public office to be servants of the community. Guide our federal government in its foreign policy, and protect and give success to our forces serving overseas.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord, you provided water in the desert for your people, Israel. So provide food and drink, clothing and shelter to all who have been displaced from their homes for whatever reason. Ease the suffering of those affected by natural disasters, and help all those who have lost property and possessions.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Bring relief and comfort to all who are burdened by illness. Show your mercy to those who live with disabilities and bring them the support they need. Strengthen all whose health is failing as they age. Give them courage in their trials, and meet the needs of all those known to us in special situations and whom we now name in our hearts... *(brief silence)*.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for God's guidance and blessings for all members and friends of our congregation. Today we pray for Desley; Lorraine; Kirsty, Stuart, Douglas & Johanna; Bob & Jenny; June. Please keep them strong in faith, active in love, and hopeful in all things. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Father, we deserve nothing from you, but hear our prayer and satisfy the desires of our hearts, as we pray in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come,
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours
now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING TO SHARE

May God free you from sin and make your heart new
May God free you from sin and make your heart new
Amen

BLESSED ASSURANCE

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood**

**This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long**

**This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long**

Perfect submission, perfect delight,

**Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

**This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long
This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.**

**This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long
This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long**

**Fanny Jane Crosby, Phoebe Palmer Knapp
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