

Sunday, September 27, 2026 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to worship at Shepherd of the Bay. If you are visiting today, Hello! We are so glad you are here. Whether you are here for a week, a month, or the whole summer season, we hope you will find this community a warm and welcoming spiritual home while you're in Door County. If you have questions, please ask. If you are interested in a formal affiliation with Shepherd of the Bay, contact Pastor Honig.

Enter to worship. As the prelude begins, worshippers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare to enter into the experience of worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers today are in celebration of the wedding of Sheila Lundquist & Ingemar Kask.

(Congregation recites **bold** print responses.)

The assembly stands

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,† one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,

in whom there is no condemnation,

but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.

Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

HYMN 531 The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

GREETING

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

Let us pray: God of love, giver of life,

you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated

CHOIR *I'm Gonna Sing All the Way to Heaven* Pepper Choplin (1999 Glory Sound)

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

...

P: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

PSALM REFRAIN

The piano will play the refrain once, then the choir will sing the refrain then the assembly will sing the refrain once and where indicated by the "R".



Psalm 25:6

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

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PSALM 25:1-9

1 To | you, O Lord,

I lift | up my soul.

**2 My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

3 Let none who look to you be | put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

**4 Show me your | ways, O Lord,
and teach | me your paths. R**

5 Lead me in your | truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

**6 Remember, O Lord, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

7 Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;

remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O Lord.

**8 You are gracious and up- | right, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

9 You lead the low- | ly in justice

and teach the low- | ly your way. **R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

...

P: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL : Matthew 21:23-32

C: Glory to you, O Lord

...

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

HYMN 772 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

The assembly stands.

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

Congregational response to

P. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need. We remember especially those whom we name aloud... **Linda** Anderson, **Aidan** Newsom, **Carenna** Reisen, **Braden** Sitte, **Barbara** Zilavy, and all whom we remember in our hearts and lift before you... (*silence for reflection*) ... Grant us your salvation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

Amen.

COMMUNION DIALOG

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

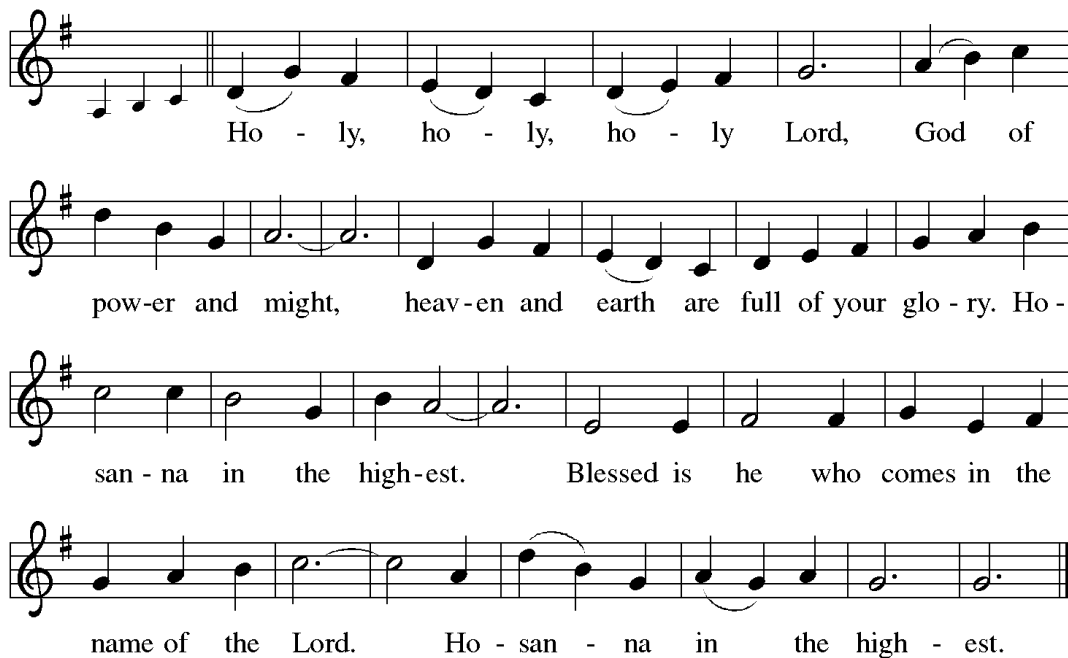
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

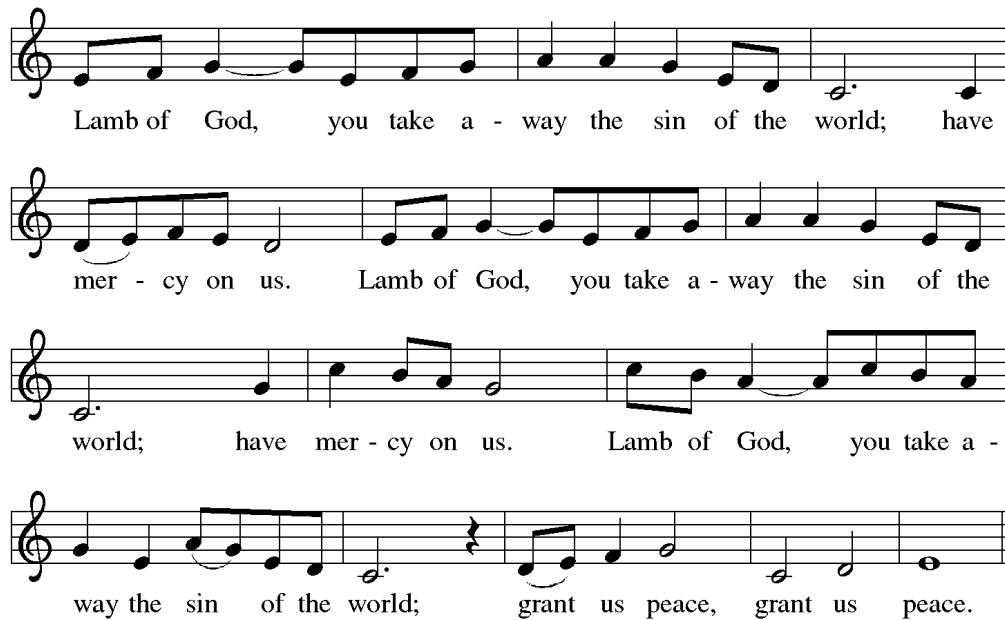
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.
 All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
 And everybody, everybody, everybody is welcome here.

***About Communion:** This is Christ's table and meal of grace! All are welcome! Ushers will guide you forward. Receive the bread (gluten free available); wine or white grape juice is received from a cup from the gold tray. If you have difficulty coming forward for the distribution, please let one of the ushers know and they will ask the pastor to bring you communion in the pew. Children may come forward for a blessing*

The assembly is seated.

LAMB OF GOD



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.

COMMUNION HYMN

HYMN 447 O Blessed Spring

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

Gloria Serkland

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

HYMN 538 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

DEPART TO SERVE

POSTLUDE