

Sunday, September 20, 2026
The Seventeenth Sunday
after Pentecost

Trinity Lutheran Church
10:00am: Meadowlawn
1801 62nd Ave N
727-822-3307



 WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

 PRELUDE

 CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Justified by God's grace through faith,
let us acknowledge our sin.

We take time to consider our actions and choices.

Compassionate God,

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

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.

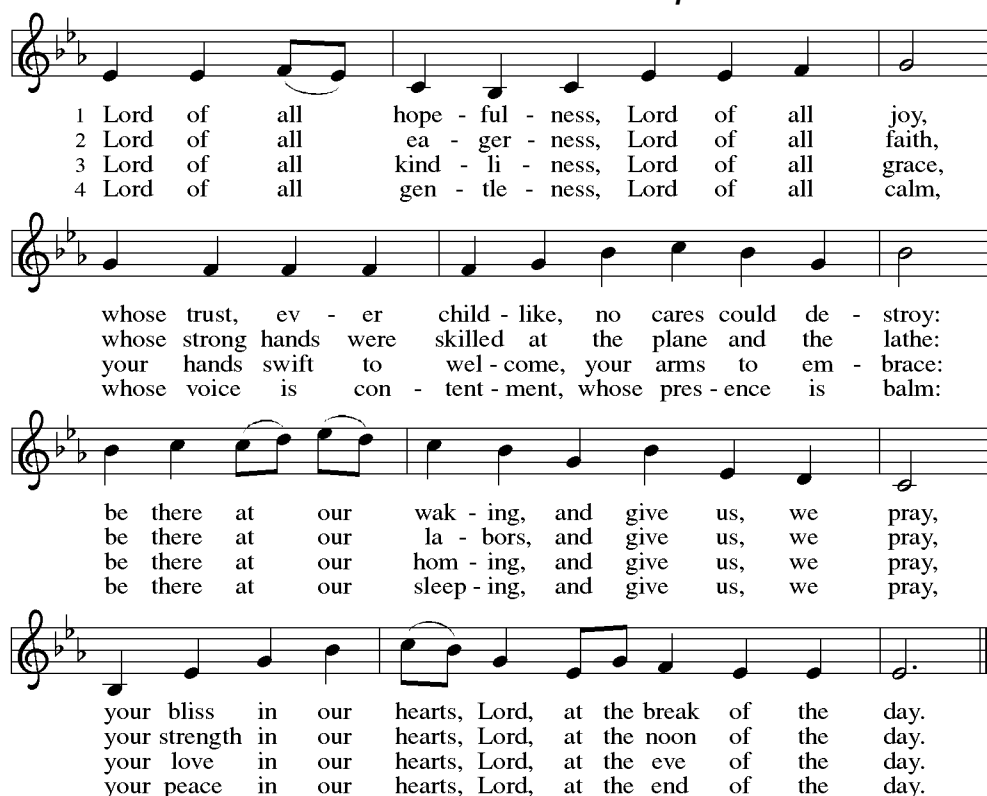
We have peace with God through Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness ✠ and the promise of eternal life.

Amen.



GATHERING HYMN *Lord of All Hopefulness*

ELW 765



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

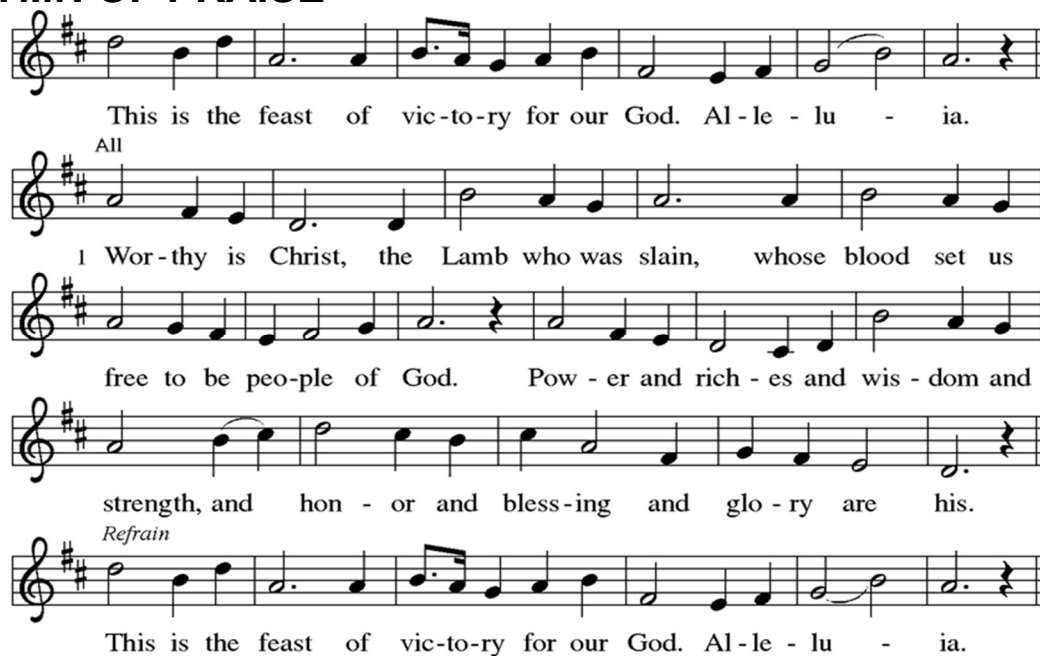


GREETING

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.



HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
 free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and
 strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, you show steadfast love to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



INTRODUCTION TO READINGS



FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10—4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it. ^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and

asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM: Psalm 103:6-13

The accompanist will play the refrain once as introduction and then all will join in singing; and will repeat the sung refrain when indicated by "R"



¹ *I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.*

² *Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.*

³ *Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness. R*

⁴ *One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.*

⁵ *I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.*

⁶ *They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness. R*

⁷ *They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.*

⁸ *The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. R*



SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Choir: Open our hearts, O Lord, to give heed to what is said by your Son.
 Congregation repeats "Alleluia"



GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

The good news of God's love according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.



SERMON

A brief period for silent meditation will follow at the conclusion of the sermon.



HYMN OF THE DAY *All Who Love and Serve Your City*

ELW 724



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
2 In your day of loss and sor - row, in your
3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
5 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for peace and
day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and love re -
work and wast - ed play, call to mind the word of
Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a world that
cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our judge, our



jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless,
treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life,
Je - sus, "You must work while it is day,"
spurns him, of - f'ring peace from Cal - v'ry's hill.
glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

Text: Erik Routley, 1917-1982

Music: NEW ORLEANS, Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

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THE 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.**



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident of being heard.

After each petition:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Hear our prayers, and grant whatever else you see we need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**



THE SHARING OF PEACE

Instead of putting a donation in the offering plate during the anthem, you can use the QR code to make a contribution on the church website; or you can mail an offering to the church.



ELW 401



OFFERTORY HYMN *Gracious Spirit* (verses 1-3)



- 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead-ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
- 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
- 3 Guide our think-ing and our speak-ing done in your ho - ly name.



It's your lead - ing that we're need-ing, help us to fol - low you.
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour-ish, strength-ened by grace un - priced.
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek-ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.



Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation,

all blessings are from you;

make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service for you and in love to our neighbors.

Amen.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



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

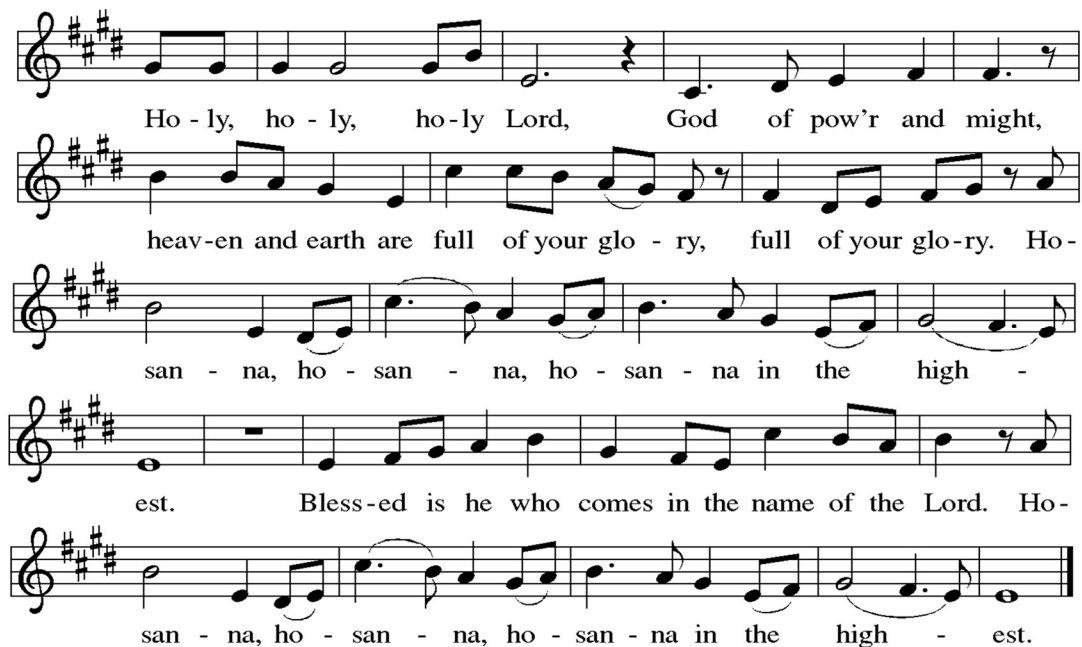


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

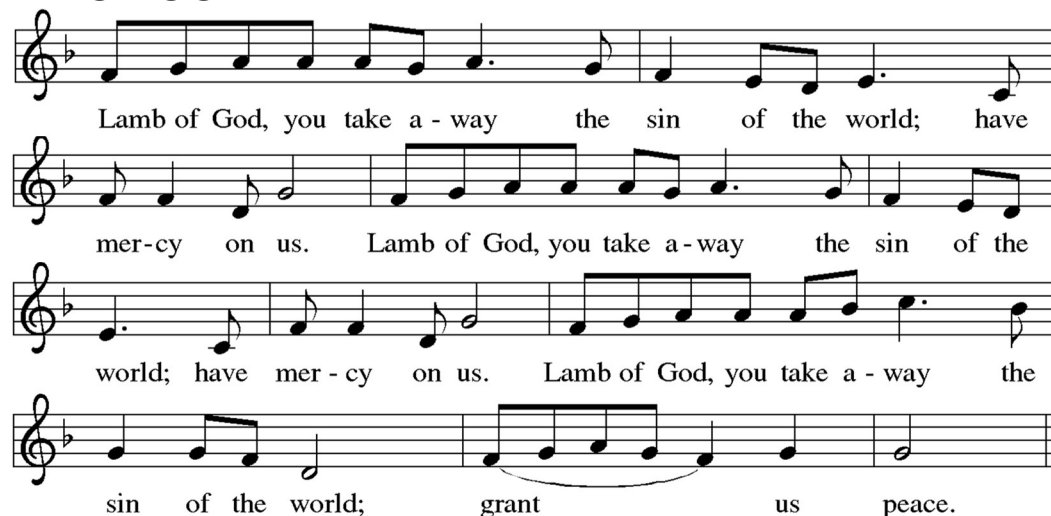
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites us to his table.

Amen.

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.

COMMUNION HYMN *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

ELW 659



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953
Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

BLESSING

May the God of love, hope, and grace draw you closer together in the body of Christ, grant you strength and joy through the Holy Spirit, and bless you
✠ now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Take My Life That I May Be

ELW 583



Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect them use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own;
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love.
Thanks be to God. We will!

POSTLUDE [Livestream ends]

 Please join us for a time of fellowship immediately after worship.

Thank you to those serving this month: (MLC) = Meadowlawn Campus (DTC) = Downtown Campus

Date	Loc	Time	Lector	Communion Assistants	Flower Sponsor	Dedication
09/06/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Marty Snapp	Margarita Rodriguez, Gary Bartelt	In anticipation of the arrival of JJ & Tyler's baby boy	
09/13/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Terri Craig	Phil Rearick, Aimée Fox	In Celebration of Adair's First Communion	
09/20/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Phil Rearick	Frances Guido, Marty Snapp	The Bartelts	All the family's birthdays
09/27/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Betty Herzhauser	Violet Prepost, Margarita Rodriguez	F. Guido	For the Glory of God

Birthdays this week:

09/21 - Lisa Johnson 09/26 - Trudy Daniels
 09/25 - Helen Mowrer 09/26 - Justin Fitzpatrick

Anniversaries this week:

– None –

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today (09/20)

9:00am – City Church Worship (DTC Sanctuary)
 10:00am – Trinity Worship (MLC Sanctuary)
 11:00pm – Fellowship Hour (MLC CommUNITY Rm)
 11:30pm – Education Hour (MLC CommUNITY Rm)
 7:00pm – St. Augustine Group (MLC Library)

Monday (09/21)

Bulletin Items Due

Tuesday (09/22)

10:30am – Ship Builders' Mtg (DTC 1st Floor)
 1:00pm – Staff Meeting (MLC Library)
 7:00pm - Meadowlawn Assoc. (MLC CommUNITY Rm)

Wednesday (09/23)

11:30am – Community Meal (DTC 3rd Floor)
 1:00pm – Grace & Games (DTC 2nd Floor)
 6:00pm – Conscience & Conversation (Comm Rm)
 7:30pm – Conscience & Conversation (Zoom Meeting)

Thursday (09/24)

6:30pm – Vocal Choir Practice (MLC Sanctuary)
 6:45pm – City Church Women's Bible Study (DTC 2nd Fl)

Friday (09/25)

7:30am – DTC Parking Lot Reserved (St Pete College)
 9:30am – TLC Pantry (DTC 1st Floor)
 9:30am – Dolores Food Pantry (MLC CommUNITY Rm)

Saturday (09/26)

9:00am – Hope Chest (MLC Thrift Store)

Prayer List:

For those suffering from cancer:

Jim Tallon
 Whitney & Greg Corrigan
 Rick Jackson
 Frank Durilla
 Rev. Ernest Knoche
 Ron Oughton
 Bob Sockrider
 Frances Guido
 Susan Herzhauser

For those homebound:

Lorna Holder
 Shirley Taylor
 Betty Aker
 Judy Milanese
 Petra Young
 Sally Evans

Note: These prayer requests are active for 3 months unless a shorter timeframe is requested.

For those needing strength or healing:

Mike Lederhouse	Shakira
Maureen Morris	Jill Boos Martin
O'cerion Johnson Jr.	Linda Gascon
Janet Crim	Pr. Tom Snapp
Paula Smith	Will Diefel
Vickie Clark	Serenity Baker
Luke Mendenhall	Willie Rodriguez
Guy Smith	Eliza Walker
Joyce Dare	Margarita Rodriguez
Linda Miles	Gretchen Frederick
Bob & Irma Kay	Jerry Barnard
Corinne	Rodger Nelson
Leonard	Jennifer Rhoads
Robert & Brenda Meredith	Duane Bork
Brian Schutzbach	

For those grieving the loss of a loved one:

The family & friends of Pete Regan
 The family & friends of Barbara Hann
 The family & friends of Cecil Miles
 The family and Friends of Pastor Joe Conner



	Curr Month (as of 09/15/26)	YTD Actual (as of 09/15/26)	YTD Budget (through 09/30/26)
Income	25,360.91	292,545.72	213,479.43
Expenses	(25068.07)	(358,075.49)	(341,285.27)
Net	292.84	(65,529.77)	(127,805.84)
Cash available in Bank Accounts:			95,023.58
Balance in Investment Accounts:			738,852.80

Welcome, visitors! Please tell us something about yourself.

Fill out the form below or scan the provided QR Code to contact us digitally.



Today's Date:
09/20/26

Name and Address
Email
Phone
Home church, city, and state

Questions, Comments, Prayer Requests:

- ☐ I'm visiting: ☐ First time ☐ Repeat
☐ I just moved here
☐ Please add me to your email list(s)
 ☐ Pastor's weekly announcements, etc.
 ☐ Office's Monthly Newsletter, etc.

Digital Contact Card:

