



Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



We Welcome you to Worship!

September 21, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

The People of Covenant are called to:

Gather, Grow and Go Serve

...With God's Love!

Welcome Thank you for joining us for Worship today!

WORSHIP ORDER – Sunday, September 21, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

*Congregation participation in **bold** in bulletin*

ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship 'red' Hymn Book,

NTF=Now the Feast by Marty Haugen

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Land Acknowledgment

Covenant Lutheran Church acknowledges and honors the Indigenous Peoples and their ancestral homelands on which we gather. We stand on stolen ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and the many other Indigenous Nations that have been historical occupants here. We respect Native Americans as caretakers of this land and Mother Earth. We strive to emulate the stewardship they first demonstrated. We embrace Indigenous People in love and gratitude. May we always seek a greater understanding of the Native community and their history as a whole as we aspire to work in meaningful partnership.

Welcome

Call to Worship

Our choices reveal our values.

We become who we are by the choices we make.

We become like the ones we serve.

If we serve idols, false gods, we become like them

Money can be an idol.

Idols are works of silver and gold, the work of human hands.

They have mouths but do not speak, eyes but do not see

They have ears but do not hear, noses but do not smell.

They have hands but do not feel, feet but do not walk, and make no sounds in their throats. (Psalm 115:4-5)

But we choose today to serve the living God.

godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Verse

NFC pg. 8

Gospel

Luke 16:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in

much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.” The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

Hymn of the Day

Let Streams of Living Justice

ELW 710

Prayers of Intercession

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones especially (See Prayer Insert). < full 5 second pause >. May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and

sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

Exchange of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.

Announcements

Special Anthem Music *Cantad al Señor* Covenant Bell Choir

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.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of Holy Communion

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.

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

NFC pg. 11-12

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath. **We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. **We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. **We thank you, O God.**

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God

NFC pg. 14

Take My Life That I May Be

ELW 583

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

ELW 814

Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

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.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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

Rise up, O Saints of God

ELW 669

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

Announcements:

- ✝ Thank you for being at Worship! More events and Worship opportunities at Covluth.org
- ✝ **Family Centered Worship** 2nd Sunday of each month come at 9:15am to learn church tasks
- ✝ **Hospitality NEEDS our help!** The Team is looking for those interested in serving this way
- ✝ **Join Bible Study Sept 24 in Gateway Room** – in person or by zoom with link on web page
- ✝ **Stewardship Drive coming up in October-** you are invited to work with this Covenant team.
- ✝ **Lunch Bunch- 1st Wed at 11:30am- Oct 1** for location info contact Ann Nelson or the office
- ✝ **Bible Study Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 in Gateway Room** – in person or by zoom with link on web
- ✝ **Covenant Book Group- Oct 9 at 1pm-** for information email bookgroup@covluth.org
- ✝ **Feeding the Hungry-** 2nd Fri of the month- **Oct 10** 10:30a-1:30p at St. Marks in Madison
- ✝ **Social Action Team** meets Monday **Oct 20 at 630pm** in the Gateway Room- You're Invited
- ✝ **Blood Drive with Red Cross Oct 20 1-6pm** in the Youth room, sign up online or walk in!



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 (Electronic donations from a debit/credit card now accepted.)



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WORSHIP NOTES

Pastor: *Wendy Moen*; **Acolyte:** *Gavin Schumacher*;
Greeter/s: *Karen Hanson-Cook and Bill Cook*;
Assistant Minister: *Kathy Andrusz*; **Lector:** *Laurie Judd*
Communion Assistant: *Kathy Andrusz, Laurie and Larry Judd*;
Ushers: *Norm and Jean Sime, Tom Christian, Carol Pritchard*;
Altar Guild: *Karen Hanson-Cook*; **Communion Prep:** *Karen Hanson-Cook*;
Organist/Pianist: *Meghann Proper*; **Sound/projection:** *Jude Surrell*;
Altar Flowers: *Celebrating Jack and Helga Cope's 57th anniversary!*

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