



Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



We welcome you to Sunday Worship!

May 17, 2026 at 9:30 AM

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, May 17, 2026 – 9:30 AM

*Congregation participation is given in **bold**.*

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)

NFC = Now the Feast and Celebration Booklet (Back of Hymnal)

GATHERING

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

Prelude

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

Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy!
For God has ascended with shouts of triumph,
and trumpet fanfare!

**Our God is exalted on high,
Sovereign over all the nations,
and Lord of our lives.**

Let us worship together.

Baptismal Hymn

Borning Cry

ELW 732

Children's Time

Order of Holy Baptism of Hayden James & Harper Clare Armbruster

Clare & Danielle Armbruster – Parents

Amanda Engelhart and Joshua Armbruster – Hayden’s Sponsors

John Baumann and Joseph Baumann – Harper’s Sponsors

Presentation for Holy Baptism

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God’s mission for the life of the world.

Hayden’s Sponsors: *We present Hayden James Armbruster for Holy Baptism.*

Harper’s Sponsors: *We present Harper Clare Armbruster for Holy Baptism.*

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your children baptized into Christ?

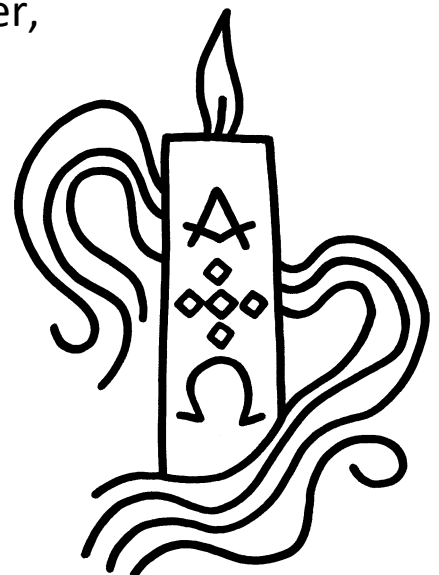
Parents: *We do.*

Parental Responsibilities

As you bring Hayden and Harper to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with them among God's faithful people,
bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed,
and the Ten Commandments,
place in their hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture them in faith and prayer,
so that they may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Hayden and Harper grow in the Christian faith and life? *Parents:* *We do.*



Sponsor Responsibilities

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Hayden and Harper in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: *We do.*

Congregational Responsibilities

People of God, do you promise to support Hayden and Harper and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

We do.

Profession of Faith

I ask you all to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. In the river Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Holy Baptism of Hayden James Armbruster

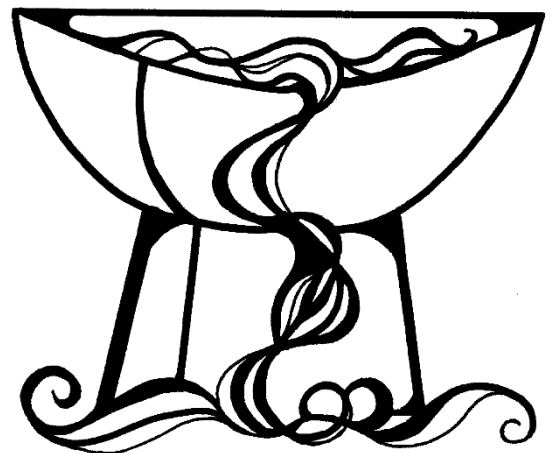
Hayden James Armbruster, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Holy Baptism of Harper Clare Armbruster

Harper Clare Armbruster, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Let us pray: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Hayden and Harper with the gift of your Holy Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

Sign of the Cross

Hayden James Armbruster, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Harper Clare Armbruster, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Welcome

Let your lights so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven!

Let us welcome the newly baptized:

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative
and redeeming word to all the world!**

Hymn of Praise – Now the Feast

NFC p. 4

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles.

Luke writes: ¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A responsive reading of Psalm forty-seven.

¹ Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.

² **For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.**

³ He subdued peoples under us
and nations under our feet.

⁴ **He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

⁵ God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

⁶ **Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

⁷ For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.

⁸ **God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.**

⁹ The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.

For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁴ Jesus said to the eleven and those with them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

Hymn of the Day

ELW 579

Lord, You Give the Great Commission (v. 1-3, 5)

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, your Son Jesus ascended to fill all time and space and is present with all people. By your Holy Spirit, lead your church and its leaders in faith, hope, and love, and in sharing the presence of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Majestic God, your Son Jesus entrusts his ministry to his followers to care for all you have created. Instill in us a commitment to sustainable ecological practices. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, your Son Jesus sits at your right hand and rules the cosmos. Inspire national and local politicians to lead with equity and fairness, raise up advocates and activists for those seeking justice, and cultivate peace throughout the world.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, your Son Jesus carries with him the scars of suffering as our wounded healer. Guide with your wisdom the work of surgeons, pharmacists, midwives, and all medical specialists, and bring your healing touch to all who are sick. Especially...

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, by his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus destroyed death forever. With thanksgiving we remember those who rest from the labors, assured of your promise of everlasting life.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Exchange of Peace

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

Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

Announcements

Offering and Offering Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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.

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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ;
who, enthroned forever at your right hand,
intercedes for us as our great high priest.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the
resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

NFC p. 11

Eucharistic Prayer

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God
Children of the Heavenly Father
I Come with Joy

NFC p. 14
ELW 781
ELW 482

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

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

SENDING

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

Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Thine the Amen (v. 1-3, 5)

ELW 826

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia



*Care to contribute to our congregation and its ministries?
Scan this QR Code to give digitally with Vanco Online Giving.
Or visit www.covluth.org and click 'On-line Giving'!
(Electronic donations from a debit/credit card now accepted.)*



Announcements:

- ✝ **Bible Study** is on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM in Gateway
- ✝ **Spirituality Group** meets tomorrow, May 18, at 9:00 AM in Gateway
- ✝ **Foundation** meets tomorrow, May 18, at 6:30 PM in Gateway
- ✝ **Scholarship & High School Senior Recognition** is Sun, May 31 during worship
- ✝ **Vacation Bible School** is Jun 22-25 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM register now!
- ✝ **Volunteer for Vacation Bible School** by helping with groups, games, crafts, snacks, check-in, or set-up. Talk with Karla for details!
- ✝ **New Members** will be received next Sunday with a reception following. Join us to welcome them!

This Week's Worship Leaders & Volunteers

Pastors *Pastor Wendy Moen* **Acolyte:** *Gwen*

Assistant Minister: *Russ Horton* **Lector:** *Laurie Judd*

Greeters: *Jack & Helga Cope*

Communion Assistants: *Laurie & Larry Judd and Russ Horton*

Organist/Pianist: *Meghann Proper*

Ushers: *Mark Herbst, Rhetta Smith, Bill Cook, and Gary Tarpinian*

Sound/Projection: *Jude Surrell*

Altar Guild: *Mimi Hinshaw*

Communion Prep: *Jean & Norm Sime*

Fellowship Host: *The Armbruster Family*

Covenant Lutheran Church
1525 N. Van Buren St.
Stoughton, WI 53589

(608) 873-7494
CovLutheran@CovLuth.org
www.CovLuth.org

Pastor Wendy Moen
Cell: (240) 506-1388
PastorWendyMoen@CovLuth.org