

22 Brook Street, Morris, MN 56267

Sunday Worship: 10:00am

www.morris.clclutheran.org

A member congregation of the *Church of the Lutheran Confession*

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18th Sunday after Pentecost – Mission Festival

September 27, 2026

Opening Hymn #758

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ, our head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the Church in one,
Holy Zion's help forever
And our confidence alone.

2. To this temple, where we call you,
Come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
Come with all your lovingkindness,
Hear Your people as they pray.
And Your fullest benediction
Speak within these walls today.

3. Grant, we pray, to all Your faithful
All the gifts they ask to gain,
What they gain from You forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Your glory
Evermore with You to reign.

4. Praise and honor to the Father,
Praise and honor to the Son,

Praise and honor to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One,
One in might and one in glory
While unending ages run!

Invocation

P We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪**Amen.**

Confession & Absolution

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and
confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪**Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord

C ♪**And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners
confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean
and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and
deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy,
seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Je-
sus Christ.

P & C **O most merciful God, who has given Thine only-be-
gotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His
sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy
Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy
will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by**

Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪Amen.

Gloria Patri

C ♪Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie

C ♪Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis – (Hymn #238 v.1)

All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the Highest One,
Who doth our sinful race befriend,
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among mankind may His good will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

The Salutation

P The Lord be with you

C ♪And with thy spirit.

The Collect for the Day

P Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ♪Amen

The First Lesson – Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 25:1-10

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Antiphon – Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of Your love.

¹To you, | O Lord,*

I lift | up my soul.

²O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;*

let not my enemies exult | over me.

³Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;*

**they shall be ashamed who are wantonly |
treacherous.**

⁴Make me to know your ways, | O Lord;*

teach me | your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of
my sal- | vation;*

for you I wait all the | day long.

⁶Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your | steadfast love;*

for they have been | from of old.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans- | gressions;*

**according to your steadfast love remember me, for
the sake of your goodness, | O Lord!**

⁸Good and upright | is the Lord;*

therefore he instructs sinners | in the way.

⁹He leads the humble in | what is right;*

and teaches the humble | his way.

¹⁰All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and |
faithfulness;*

**for those who keep his covenant and his testi- |
monies.**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit,

as it was in the be- | ginning;*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen

Antiphon – Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of Your love.

The Second Lesson – Philippians 2:1-18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹²Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. ¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted

generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,
¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Verse of the Day – Matthew 28:18b

Alleluia. All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Alleluia.

The Gospel – Matthew 21:23-32

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes

go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

Confession of Faith ***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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day #261 ***Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word***

1. Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word;
Curb those who fain by craft and sword
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son
And set at naught all He hath done.

2. Lord Jesus Christ, Thy power make known,
For Thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend Thy Christendom that we
May evermore sing praise to Thee.

3. O Comforter of priceless worth.
Send peace and unity on earth.
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

Sermon Text
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Sermon
Repentance Is God's Mission Goal
Pastor Zachary Sippert

Offertory

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: Dear Father in heaven, with Your gift of a Savior You restored hope for our fallen world and brought glory to Your name. We thank You for the good news that You have reconciled the world to Yourself through Your Son.

1. I hear the Savior calling! The gospel comes to me.
My eyes once closed in blindness Are opened now to see

**That I myself was helpless To live eternally,
But, dying, Christ did save me, And now He calls for me!**

P: O Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise You for offering Yourself as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all. On the cross You declared the sacrifice for sins completed. At the open tomb, You assured the world that sinners are reconciled to God.

**2. I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.
The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord's decree
That all have been forgiven-My Savior calls for me!**

P: Lord of the Church, Bless our church with pastors and teachers who faithfully proclaim Your Word. Lead many young men and women to study for the preaching and teaching ministries. By the power of Your gospel, motivate them so that they do not become discouraged but continue in the course You have set before them.

**3. I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me:
To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.
Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key
We spread the gospel tidings-My Savior calls for me!**

P: Holy Spirit, blessed Counselor, use Your Word of Truth and power to break down the barriers to our witness, including fallen mankind's natural hatred for God and Satan's wicked work among us.

**4. I hear the Savior calling! He changes hearts for me.
From door to door I witness To bring my Savior's plea;
Yet nothing can be added, No word on bended knee,
Beyond the simple gospel-My Savior calls for me!**

P: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, send us by the power of Your Word into the mission fields beyond the walls of our church.

Give us hearing ears and seeing eyes that seize the opportunities You set before us to be your witnesses.

**5. I hear the Savior calling! His call has urgency!
Each moment souls are dying; Soon comes eternity.
And so, my precious Savior, This is my humble plea:
Prepare me for my mission For You are calling me!**

P: You taught us to pray: **Our Father...**

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.**

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you,
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C ♪Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn #398

Renew Me, O Eternal Light

1. Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from Thy holy face.
2. Destroy in me the lust of sin,
From all impureness make me clean.
Oh, grant me power and strength, my God,
To strive against my flesh and blood!
3. Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Thy Word
And naught but what Thou wilt, desire;
With such new life my soul inspire.
4. Grant that I only Thee may love
And seek those things which are above
Till I behold Thee face to face,
O Light eternal, through Thy grace.

Silent Prayer

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Portions of the Liturgy from the Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book.

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