

Sunday, September 6, 2026

Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons 2026



INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

GATHERING

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose
compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.



Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: ELW #818 “O Master, Let Me Walk with You”

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

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated as the children come forward.

Children’s Time

THE WORD

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God’s warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

Psalm: Psalm 119:33-40 (Read Responsively)

I desire the path of your commandments. (Ps. 119:35)

³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶ Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.



- ³⁷ Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.
³⁸ Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.
³⁹ Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.
⁴⁰ Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.



Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW Setting #4 – S 151a



Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

The Gospel according to St. Matthew. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Steven Kuhl

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day: ELW #604 “O Christ, Our Hope”

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us, especially those we name aloud or in our hearts. (*A brief silence*) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pastor: 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 people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words. The assembly is seated.

OFFERING – Collection of our offerings.

OFFERING HYMN: *Background music only* – ELW 686 "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION: DAILY WORK – LABOR DAY

Dear Christian friends: Baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we are called by the Holy Spirit to offer ourselves to the God of all creation in thanksgiving for what he has done and continues to do for us. There are many ways and places in which we as Christians offer ourselves to God in service. We call them vocations: callings from God to be God's servants. Some vocations are chosen, some just fall upon us, seemingly by accident, but no matter how these vocations come to us, they are to be viewed as opportunities for us to serve the Lord joyfully. On this Labor Day weekend, we lift up the vocation of daily work.

The creation stories in Genesis depict daily work as an integral part of God's relationship with humanity. Through daily work God dignifies us: calling us to participate in his ongoing work of blessing the creation so that it may be fruitful and multiply. Through the blessings of daily work God also provides for us: calling us to share with each other the fruits of our labor so

that all may partake in the common good. Unfortunately, our daily work is often tainted by the reality of our own sin – our inclination to work for self alone and not for God and the common good – and frequently demeaned by the exploitation of systems that would rob workers of their dignity and a living wage. Labor Day was initially established precisely to help us appreciate the great gift that daily work is and to safeguard it against all that would demean it.

Therefore, let us give thanks for our calling to daily work. Let us remember those who are happily employed or busily retired; those who are unemployed or underemployed; those who are overworked and underpaid; let us pray for justice in the workplace and meaningful work for everyone.

The presiding minister addresses those affirming Christian vocation.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, believing that you are called to live out your baptismal covenant through your daily work, will you endeavor to pattern your life and service after the Lord Jesus Christ? **I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

Knowing that the weakness of the flesh and the temptations of the evil one are all around, will you make use of the means of grace so that, strengthened in faith, you may exhibit the love of God in your daily work? **I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

The presiding minister continues.

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.** (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 210, Collect 25, For Labor Day*)

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray, together.

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

THE MEAL



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.



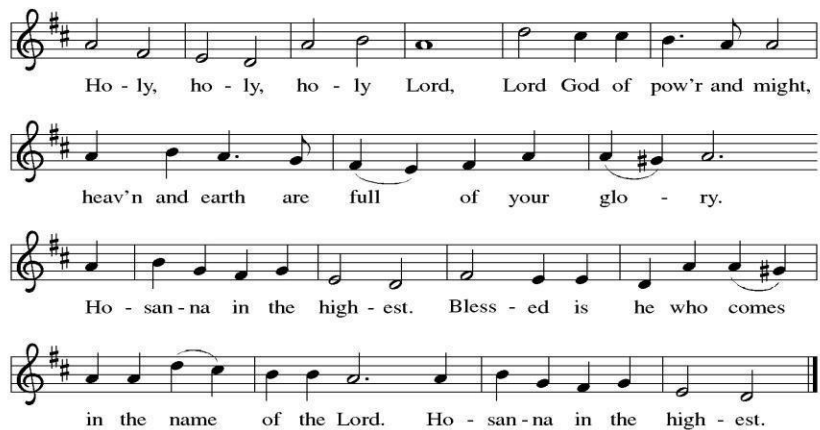
PROPER PREFACE – for the Season of Pentecost

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:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting #4 – S 153



The 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

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

These are the gifts of God for you the people of God. Come, share in the feast! Come.

Please be seated and wait to come forward for Holy Communion after the singing of The Lamb of God song.

Lamb of God

ELW Setting #4 – S 154

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.



HYMN DURING COMMUNION: ELW #720 “We Are Called”

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

*After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands. The presiding minister may say a table blessing; the assembly responds **Amen.***

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray, together.

Compassionate God,
**through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled
with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we,
through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as
you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of
Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The one true God, Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW #731 “Earth and All Stars”

THE DISMISSAL

The Kingdom of Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Copyright Information

Copyrighted materials listed above are reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SAS017715 & printed and/or podcast/streamed/recorded by permission of OneLicense.net License # A-709652, CCLI Christian Copyright Licensing International # 3162482, ad CCLI Christian Copyright Streaming License # CSPL190517. Liturgy elements from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Certificate of License

Be it known Adoration Lutheran Church has obtained from Christian Video Licensing International, LLC the right under the copyright law of the United States of America to publicly perform certain lawfully obtained motion pictures and other programs intended for personal, private use only, such as DVDs at the location(s) specified in the license agreement between these parties. This Certificate of License is set to expire on: 02/25/2027 Christian Video Licensing International, LLC.

Today's Lay Leaders

Lector: George Becker

Ushers: John & Kathy Imp

Communion Assistant: Jeanette Nowakowski

Altar Guild: Deanna Posig

Altar Guild for Wednesday Evenings: Joann Voegeli and Joyce Weinert

Music & Worship Coordinator: Barb Regent

Adoration Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America

3840 West Edgerton Avenue

Greenfield, WI 53221

Phone: 414.281.0414

Web site: www.adorationlc.com

e-mail: adorationlutheran@gmail.com

Pastor Steve Kuhl, Interim Pastor

Crystal A. Roider, Office Manager

