

Milwaukie Lutheran Church

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Announcements: 10:50 AM Worship Starts 11:00 AM

September 13, 2026

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to Milwaukie Lutheran Church

"Nurturing the Personal and Spiritual Growth of Our Community."

September 13, 2026

Announcements 10:50 AM - Worship 11:00 AM

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Our order of worship follows this printed bulletin. # signs indicate hymn choices and are printed on the top of each page in the hymnal. Little ones are always welcome at worship. We stand and sit at various places in the service. These symbols are a guide to those times...please know that if at any time it is difficult to stand, you are invited to stay seated.

 = stand as able  = sit

Reader for today - Kathy Olson

Communion Assistants - Andy Quale & Sara Daniel-Quale

Gathering

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

Welcome/Announcements

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

(following the sharing of the peace)

Confession and Forgiveness

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

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

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

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

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

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.

P: Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

Opening song: Awake, O Sleeper, Rise From Death

ELW #452

Greeting

ELW pg. 147

Kyrie

ELW pg. 147

Canticle of Praise (This is the feast...)

ELW pg. 149

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray together...

C: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

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

 *First Reading:*

Genesis 50:15-21

Second Reading:

Romans 14:1-12

P/A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

 *Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia!*
Holy Gospel

ELW pg. 151
 Matthew 18:21-35

 *Sermon*

 *Hymn of the Day: Chief of Sinners Though I Be*

ELW #609

Nicene Creed:

ELW pg. 104

**We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father;
 through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
 and became truly human.**

(cont.)

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People:

Celebrate

 *Offering*

Online Giving QR Code

Scan with your smartphone camera



 Offertory: For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW #679

Offertory Prayer

P: God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

C: Amen.

Meal

The Great Thanksgiving: pg. 152

Eucharistic Preface

Holy, Holy Holy: pg. 153

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer pg. 154

 *Lamb of God:* pg. 154

 *Holy Communion:*

All who hunger and thirst for Christ's presence are welcome at the Lord's Table. Communion is served on the lower level at the front row of pews. There are both gluten free and non-alcoholic options available. If you are mobility challenged, please let one of our ushers know, and we will bring the meal to you.

Communion Hymn: [Special music]



Prayer after Communion:

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

C: Amen.

Sending

Blessing:

P: The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

 Closing Hymn: Sent Forth By God's Blessing

ELW #547

Dismissal:

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Milwaukie Lutheran Prayers

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, or to submit a personal prayer request, please call the office (and leave a voicemail) or email office@milwaukielutheran.org. If you are submitting a prayer request on behalf of someone else, please make sure you have permission before sharing personal information.

Prayer List

Myra Manley, Mark & Dawne Haase, John Wehr, Jerry Prosa, Laura Giese, Grant, Dominic, Mya O'Camb, Anthony Alvarez, Evelyn Knutsen, Jim Strupp, Holly Manning, Mark Olson, Patti Effenberger, Pat Korsness, Owen, Dan North, Jo Wax, Alejandro de Jesus Garcia, Tom Wilson, Terrie Weeks, Larry Hertz, Margaret Ann Lindell

Submitted Prayers

- Our teachers and students who are headed back to school
- Sharon Funston, recovering from a severe eye injury

In Memoriam

- Twyla Long

Places of Conflict

- Ukraine and Russia
- Israel, Palestine, Yemen, Lebanon, and Syria
- Sudan
- Venezuela
- Iran
- United States

Places of Disaster

- Massive flood in Nepal
- Wildfires in Oregon, Washington, and Canada, and those places afflicted with smoke and ash.

New Perspective

Being a disciple requires an expansive perspective on forgiveness. Today our perspective is broadened by the good news that God's forgiveness is not based on our idea of fairness, but rather on abundant, unimaginable grace. God "[has] not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities" (Ps. 103:10). The king forgives our entire debt, no matter how enormous it is (Matt. 18:23-27). We also are challenged to stretch our perspective and forgive each other. With Peter, we learn to stop keeping score (Matt. 18:21-22).

It's not an easy thing to do. Again and again we fall back on limited human understandings of what is "fair." Looking at the story of Joseph and his brothers, it's easy for us to say that his brothers really didn't deserve forgiveness. Even their plea for forgiveness is dishonest and manipulative—have they really repented (Gen. 50:15-17)? Joseph takes the wider view and realizes that it isn't his brothers' intentions that matter, but God's. God's forgiveness is much greater than what is fair, what we deserve.

So what does this new, broadened perspective look like in the lives of Christians and congregations? Paul provides a pragmatic glimpse: "Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them" (Rom. 14:3). If all are truly welcomed by God, we are called to share the good news of that welcome in all we say and do.

