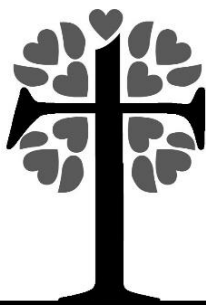


Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



September 22, 2024 ~ 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are by the kitchen and by the Wiggle Room

Wiggle Room is available for anyone needing a brief break from worship, at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary

WiFi is available: Look for TOL-GUEST; password is OdessaTOL1

We Gather as God's People

PRELUDE

You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.

↑ CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one-another. Most merciful God:

We confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, and turn us again to you. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

"Christ is Alive"

RED HYMNAL #389

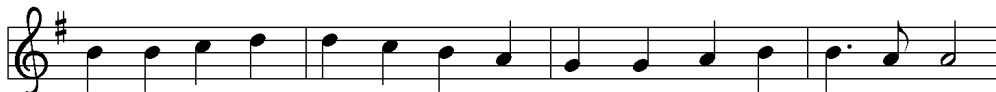
↑ APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

RED HYMNAL pg. 204



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

A reading from Jeremiah.

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. ¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" ²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 54

¹Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

²**Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.**

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

⁴**Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice**

and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

⁷**For you have rescued me from every trouble,
and my eye looks down on my enemies.**

SECOND READING: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

A reading from James.

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

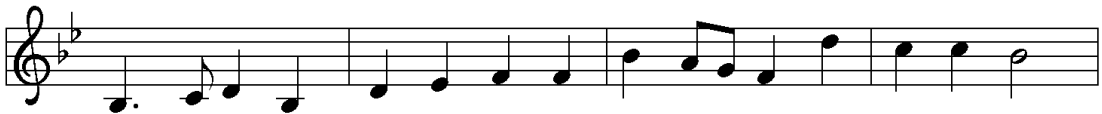
^{4:1}Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

↑ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

RED HYMNAL pg. 205



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

↑ **GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

↑ **HYMN** **“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”** **RED HYMNAL #712**

↑ **APOSTLES’ CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**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

Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all people according to their need:

Loving God, you welcome all at your table of grace, and call your people to be servants of all. Instill in your Church around the world a spirit of humility and charity, that needless division and dispute might give way to united service and witness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you shape the world so there is more than enough for all. Take away covetousness and selfishness, so that all creatures might know your abundance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, you show that true greatness comes not through selfish power but selfless service. Grant this wisdom to all earthly rulers, that your freedom, justice and peace might thrive. Bless our nation, heal our conflicts and hostilities, protect those in public office and all candidates for public office, lead us to reject political violence in favor of peaceful dialogue, and support all who serve for our protection. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Faithful God, you draw near to all in need. Bring healing and wholeness to those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. We pray especially for Amanda, Annalise, Anya, Bill, Brian, Cecelia, Christine, Cindy, Clara, Dale, Danielle, Elizabeth, Erica, Gail, Grace, Kenneth, Kimberly, Marilyn, Mercedes, Pam, Patrick, Paul, Richard, Sarah, and those we name with our lips or in our hearts... *(Time for personal petitions)* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy God, you call us to submit ourselves to you alone. Help all of us at Tree of Life to conform our lives to your will, set aside our own selfish ambitions, and reflect your mercy and love. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie; Grace Lutheran Church and its pastor Tara, and Lutheran Volunteer Corps. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, you give us true life and everlasting greatness. Accept our thanksgiving for Dallas Dean, Viola Mann's mother Amelia Trautner, and all the saints who now rest in you. Console those who mourn, and at the last, bring us all to your Paradise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we lift up all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

↑ PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

We Share God's Holy Meal

OFFERING

"Be Still, God Will Fight Your Battles"

arr. Williams Jr.

Pam Nichols, voice; Duane Dillard. piano

↑ OFFERTORY

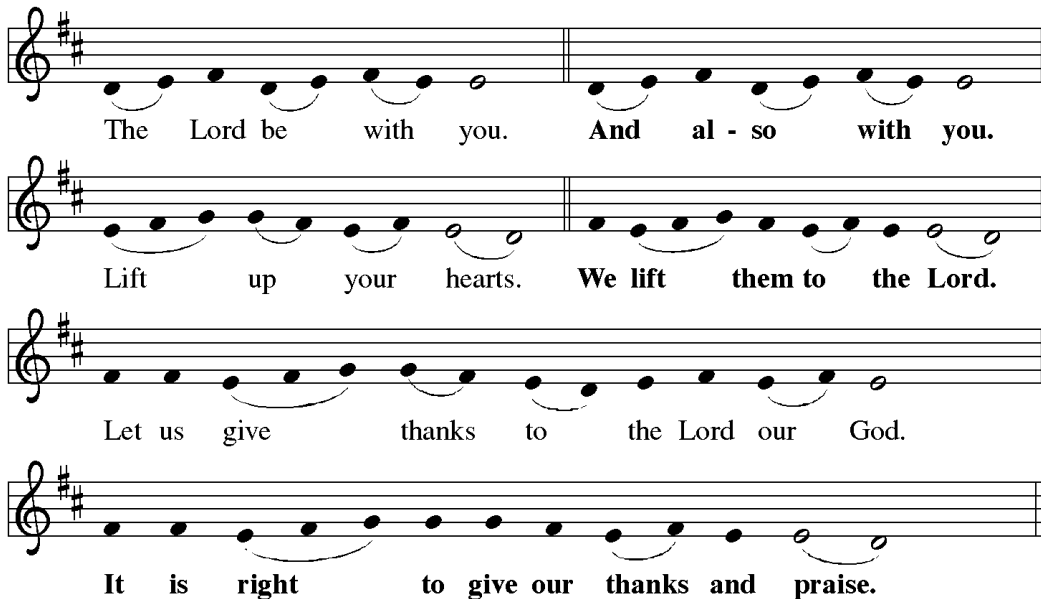
RED HYMNAL #884

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye Heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: **Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes, which are connected by slurs. The first staff has a double bar line in the middle. The second staff also has a double bar line in the middle. The third and fourth staves end with double bar lines.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:

↑ **SANCTUS**

RED HYMNAL pg. 207



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

↑ **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.

↑ **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.

↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION

RED HYMNAL pg. 208



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

HYMNS

**“Let Us Break Bread Together”
“Here is Bread”**

**RED HYMNAL #471
RED HYMNAL #483**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

God Sends Us in Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" RED HYMNAL #843

↑ MISSION STATEMENT

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

You may listen to the music or depart to do God's work.

Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.

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Blessing of the Animals

Tree of Life Lutheran Church and St. Paul's United Methodist Church
Invite you to bring your furry or fuzzy friends
to Willey Farms on the afternoon of October 4,
where we will share a Bible reading, prayer of blessing and a pet treat!

3:00-5:30 p.m.
Friday, October 4
Willey Farms
4092 Dupont Pkwy. (U.S. 13)
Townsend, DE 19734



ST. PAUL'S
United Methodist Church of Odessa
Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out



**Tree of Life will have a table
and hand out candy at**

THE TOWN OF ODESSA'S

HALLOWEEN *in the Park*

Saturday

10.26

2pm-4pm

Odessa Memorial Park
623 Main Street, Odessa, DE

Want to help? Talk to Sylvia Schill or Pr. Robbie

Organized by Outreach Committee