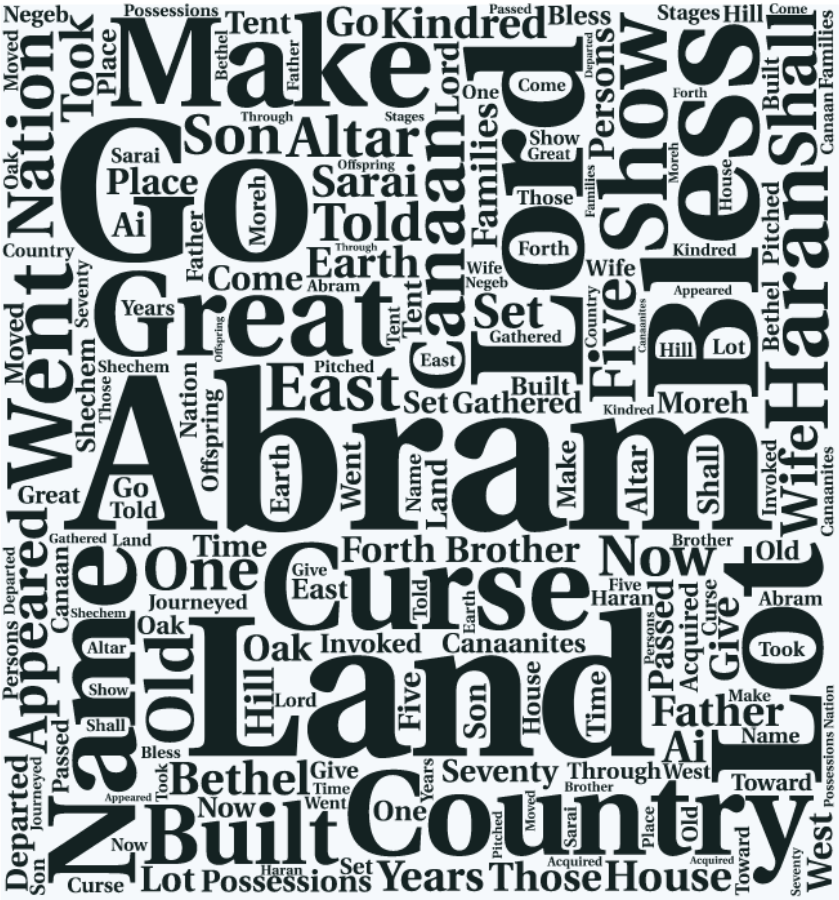


# Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

## *God Calls Abram and Sarai*

## September 20, 2026

**CHRIST THE VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

15700 W. Coffee Road, New Berlin, WI

www.ctvelca.org

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

Welcome

(+) Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

Creating and renewing God,

**You have made us in your image to carry your life-giving love as a blessing to all the world. Yet we fail again and again to live out your call. We place our trust in money and possessions, in flawed people and broken relationships, in the things that cannot sustain us. We do the things we do not want to do, and we fail to do the things we know you would have us do. Forgive us for all the ways we fall short. Open our eyes, hearts, and minds to your presence, and re-create us in your image each day, for the good of all that you have made. Amen.**

The God whose love outpoured caused the world to be continues to pour this creative love on us. The God whose love outpoured in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ continues to pour this redeeming love upon us. Children of God, know that you are forgiven, and go forth refreshed and ready to answer God's call to love and serve the whole of creation, in Jesus' holy name. **Amen**.

(+) Gathering Song *As We Gather at Your Table* ELW 522

1 As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence,
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's vict'ry known.

2 Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those that had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

(+) 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.**

(+) *Glory to God* p. 121

*Refrain*

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

1 Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

3 For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen. *Refrain*

(+) Prayer of the Day

God of blessing,
**As you called Abram and Sarai into relationship with you, and charged them with being a blessing to all of creation, remind us today and every day of all the ways in which your blessings to us make it possible for us to bless others. May we shine as beacons of your loving grace in all we do and say. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

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

1st Reading Genesis 12:1-9

12:1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and
your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show
you. 2 I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and
make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless
those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse,
and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
4 So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with
him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from
Haran. 5 Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and
all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons
whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the
land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, 6
Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the
oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7
Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring
I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who
had appeared to him. 8 From there he moved on to the hill
country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel
on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the
LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. 9 And Abram
journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation p. 198

Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 28:19-20

P: The gospel according to Matthew…

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

28:19 [Jesus to the disciples,] [19] "Go therefore and make disciples
of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit [20] and teaching them to obey
everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am
with you always, to the end of the age."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Song *Here I Am, Lord* ELW 574

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

*Refrain*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

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

Assisting Minister: God of mercy and grace,

**C: We lift our prayers to you.**

Peace

## MEAL *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

Offering

*We give thanks to God and to you for your gifts and offerings. Our offering plate is located near the baptismal font at the entrance of the church, and we invite you to place your offering in the plate as you enter worship or at any time.*

Offering Song *Let Us Break Bread Together* ELW 471

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

Offering Prayer

Holy God,

**all of creation—all that is—comes from you and belongs to you. Free us from our attachments to our earthly possessions, and receive from them these offered gifts out of what you have given us, for the ongoing work of your love for all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving (spoken) p. 129

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.**

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy…

… we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

*Holy, Holy, Holy* p. 130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving at the Table and Words of Institution

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,…
In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant…
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.
In the night in which he was betrayed…
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection…
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

**Amen.**

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate…
And let the church say, Amen.

**Amen.**

Join our prayers and praise
with your prophets and martyrs of every age...
Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever. **Amen.**

(+) 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.**

Communion

*We will receive communion at the altar railing. Please wait to come forward until directed by the usher. The wafer will be placed in your hand. Please take a prefilled cup from the communion tray and then place it in the empty tray as you leave the altar. The cups in the center contain grape juice; the others have wine.*

*We can bring communion to you at your seat if that is helpful – just let the usher know. Prepackaged communion kits are also available near the entrance to the sanctuary if you would prefer to commune that way.*

*Lamb of God* p. 201

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Table Blessing

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.
As you have blessed us,
may we become a blessing to others,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
**Amen.**

## SENDING *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Announcements

(+) Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
**Amen.**

(+) Sending Song *We All Are One in Mission* ELW 576

1 We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

2 We all are called for service, to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are diff'rent; our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace,
so ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

3 Now let us be united, and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

(+) Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
**Thanks be to God**