Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Joseph in Prison

September 27, 2026

CHRIST THE VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

15700 W. Coffee Road, New Berlin, WI

www.ctvelca.org

262.782.4940

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 *Goodness is Stronger than Evil* ELW 721

Goodness is stronger than evil;
love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness;
life is stronger than death;
vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours,
through God who loves us.
Vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours,
through God who loves us. *Repeat*

(+) 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

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

(+) Prayer of the Day

God with us,
Your presence never fails, even in the midst of challenges or crises. Stir up in us your fire for truth and make us willing to risk for the sake of the flourishing of others, trusting that you are with us in all things. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

1st Reading Genesis 39:1-23

39:1 Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. 2 The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man; he was in the house of his Egyptian master. 3 His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hands. 4 So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him; he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. 5 From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and field. 6 So he left all that he

had in Joseph's charge, and with him there he had no concern for anything but the food that he ate.

Now Joseph was handsome and good-looking. [7] And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." [8] But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, with me here, my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my hand. [9] He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" [10] And although she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not consent to lie beside her or to be with her. [11] One day, however, when he went into the house to do his work, and while no one else was in the house, [12] she caught hold of his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" But he left his garment in her hand and fled and ran outside. [13] When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, [14] she called out to the members of her household and said to them, "See, my husband has brought among us a Hebrew to insult us! He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice, [15] and when he heard me raise my voice and cry out, he left his garment beside me and fled outside." [16] Then she kept his garment by her until his master came home, [17] and she told him the same story, saying, "The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me, [18] but as soon as I raised my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me and fled outside."

[19] When his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, saying, "This is the way your servant treated me," he became enraged. [20] And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; he remained there in prison. [21] But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love; he gave him favor in the sight of the

chief jailer. [22] The chief jailer committed to Joseph's care all the prisoners who were in the prison, and whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. [23] The chief jailer paid no heed to anything that was in Joseph's care because the LORD was with him, and whatever he did, the LORD made it prosper.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation p. 198

Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 5:11-12

P: The gospel according to Matthew…

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

5:11 [Jesus said,] "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. [12] Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* ELW 733

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *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 *Arise, Your Light Has Come!* ELW 314

1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.

3 Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

(+) Dismissal

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