Worship Leader Edition
Labor Day Weekend

September 6, 2026 8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME *{Front Center} (Rob)*

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *{Front Center} (Rob)* ***Screen***

L: God of grace and new beginnings, you invite us to turn from the things that hold us captive and to walk in the freedom of your forgiveness. Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us take a moment of silences to confess our sins to God.

L: Reconciling God,

C: We confess that we have not always lived as your children. We have held onto hurts and grudges, instead of releasing them to you. We have relied on our own strength and wisdom, rather than trusting in your abundance. We have forgotten your promise of new life. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may serve you in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "If You But Trust in God to Guide You" **ELW #769/*Screen***

Verse 1
If you but trust in God to guide you
with gentle hand through all your ways,
you'll find that God is there beside you,
when crosses come, in trying days.
Trust then in God's unchanging love;
build on the rock that will not move.

Verse 2
What gain is there in anxious weeping,
in helpless anger and distress?
If you are in your Savior's keeping,
in sorrow will he love you less?
For Christ who took for you a cross
will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.

Verse 3
The Lord our restless hearts is holding,
in in peace and quietness content.
We rest in God's good will unfolding,
what wisdom from on high has sent.
God, who has chosen us by grace,
knows very well the fears we face.

Verse 4
Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving,
offer your service faithfully,
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,
you'll find God's promise true to be.
This is our confidence indeed:
God never fails in time of need.

GREETING {*Front Center*} *(Bette Gamboni)*

L: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

ASSISTANT SAY: "PLEASE BE SEATED"

PRAYER OF THE DAY {*Front Center*} *(Bette Gamboni)*

L: God of mystery, you meet us in questions we cannot answer and moments we do not understand. Give us patience when things are unclear. Give us courage to stay open. And remind us that we are not alone in the unknown. In Jesus name.

C: Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *{On Floor Pulpit Side} (Andrea)*

FIRST READING *{Lectern} (Angela Hansen)* Deuteronomy 15:7-11

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Be careful that you do not entertain a

mean thought, thinking, "The seventh year, the year of remission, is near," and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, "Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land."

L: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.
L: Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ***(STAND)*** "Alleluia" ELW pg. 124/***Screen***

C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

THE HOLY GOSPEL *(Rob)* Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to You, O Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED

SERMON Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

PLEASE SAY: "PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE"

HYMN OF THE DAY "Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song" **ELW #808/*Screen***

Verse 1
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;
I'll tell everybody about you wherever I go:
You alone are our life and our peace and our love.
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

Verse 2
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

Verse 3
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant
To carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.
For you saved me by giving your body and blood
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

Verse 4
I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey
But courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side
And with all of the fami'ly you saved by your love
We'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

THE APOSTLES' CREED {*Front Center*} *(Bette Gamboni)* ***Screen***

C: 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE {*Front Center*} *(Bette Gamboni)*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.
C: And also with you.
L: For all who are gathered, let us take a moment to welcome one another. For those of you online, please share a word of peace in the comment or chat.

ASSISTANT SAY: "PLEASE BE SEATED FOR THE PRAYERS"

THE PRAYERS {*Front Center*} *(Bette Gamboni)*

After each petition:

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

MEAL

INVITATION TO THE TABLE *(Rob)*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING/DIALOGUE AND PREFACE *(Rob)* ELW pg. 129/***Screen***

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW pg. 130/***Screen***

C: 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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *(Rob)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Rob)* ***Screen***

C: 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 DISTRIBUTION/ALL ARE WELCOME

COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God" ELW pg. 135/***Screen***

C: 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.

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE *(On Screen)* ***Screen***

L: During this time of reflection and response, please fill out your welcome card with any prayer request and use this time to prepare your offering. For those gathered, collection plates are in the front and back. To give electronically, a QR code is in the bulletin. For those on-line please go to our website **stlukesbloomington.org.** A link is at the bottom of every page. Email prayers to **office@stlukesbloomington.org.** Enjoy this time.

COMMUNION MUSIC *Lori Murray*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING *(Rob)* ***(REMAIN SEATED)***

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *{Front Center} (Rob)*

L: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE + MINISTRIES *(Rob)*

PLEASE SAY: "PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE"

BENEDICTION *{Front Center} (Rob)*

L: May you have courage to ask real questions. May you find peace in not knowing everything. May you stay open to wonder and mystery. And may you trust that God is with you in it all. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG "Lead On, O King Eternal!" **ELW #805/*Screen***

Verse 1
Lead on, O King eternal!
The day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest
your tents will be our home.
Through days of preparation
your grace has made us strong;
and now, O King eternal,
we lift our battle song.

Verse 2
Lead on, O King eternal,
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums,
but deeds of love and mercy
the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Verse 3
Lead on, O King eternal:
we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning
where'er your face appears.
Your cross is lifted o'er us;
we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest;
lead on, O God of might!

DISMISSAL *{Back} (Rob)*

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Altar Flowers Given Today:
Rob & Nancy Norris-Weber
In celebration of our 33rd anniversary!