In today's first reading, God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

Today, Jack Seymore, authorized lay worship leader in the Allegheny Synod ELCA, will distribute the gifts of bread and wine.

Next social time will be on November 1st. If you are interested in hosting, please sign up in the Narthex. You can be reimbursed for your expenses, just save your receipts and give them to Dan.

Next Council meeting will be tomorrow, November 2nd, at 6:30 pm.

Apple Dumplings will be sold during the Halloween parade on October 25. We will be set up at Decort's. There is also going to be an apple dumpling sale for November 22 pick-up. To order, please see one of the wonderful ladies of the church or sign up in the Narthex.

If anyone in need of Pastoral care, please call the Allegheny Synod Office, at (814) 942-1042 to make needed arrangements.

Youth News

Please remember that the sign up sheet for a possible Washington Zoo trip is posted, on the narthex door. Please sign up if you may be interested. If we do not fill the bus with members of the congregation, this will be opened to the public. See Kim Fox ☺, with any questions.

Bedford Candy fundraiser has started. Orders due on November 8th, pick up will be November 15th. See one of the youth, to order or place your order on the door in the Narthex.



10-25
Server – Sonny Kerch
Lector – Karen Pohopin

Crucifer: Ben Fox
Acolyte: Rylan Maul
Offering: Kason Lutz/Locklyn Robine
Communion: Olivia Lutz/Gracie Jasper

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Worship Sunday at 9:00 am
Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 2026

Communion Hospitality

Lutheran Christians believe Christ is truly present in his supper. By faith we receive his Body and Blood "in, with, and under" the forms: of bread and wine for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. All baptized Christians who desire to receive Jesus in his sacrament, are welcome to commune.

Tall and small candles are placed to the Glory of God.

✣ ✣

THE HOLY COMMUNION
Setting II

Parish Announcements
Prelude
***= Stand** *(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)*
***Announcements:**

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, whose compassion endures forever. **C: Amen.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin to God.
Silence is kept for reflection. Please kneel as you are able.

Pastor: 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

Pastor: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's Love.

C: **Amen**

***Entrance Hymn:** **God Is Here !** **WOV 719**

***Pastor:** 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.**

***Kyrie** **p. 78**

Hymn of Praise **Glory to God** **p. 79**

***Prayer of the Day:** **Pastor:** The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7 L: The word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

Psalm 96:1-9[10-13] **(Read Responsively)**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 L: The word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

The Holy Gospel:
Matthew 22:15-22 **C: Glory to You O Lord** **C: Praise to You, O Christ**

Sermon

***Hymn of the Day** **Lift Every Voice and Sing** **LBW 562**

***Apostles Creed** **p. 85**

***Prayers of the Church**

Pastor: Hear us, O God, **C: Your mercy is great.**

***Passing of Peace** **Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**
The minister and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord; and then be seated.

Offering ***The offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.***

***Offertory** **"Let the Vineyards"** **p. 86**
***Offertory Prayer**

Pastor: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and win, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **C: Amen.**

Liturgy of Holy Communion

***Great Thanksgiving and Sanctus** **p. 88**

***When our brothers and sisters at Zion Lutheran Church in Hollidaysburg gathered for worship, they heard again the story of God's mighty acts and the love shown to us in Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension, and they shared the holy meal of the Lord's Supper. Now, I bring to you this same word of life, and this same bread and cup of blessing, so that we may share these gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.**
Gathered at the Lord's table, our brothers and sisters in Christ celebrated with thanksgiving that in the night in which Jesus was betrayed, he took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take and eat; this is my body given to for you. Do this in 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." This is the supper our Lord Jesus Christ, and this meal is shared with assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of the Holy Spirit. This bread and cup, shared in the gathering of our faith, are now given here for you.

***The Lord's Prayer**

***Invitation to Communion:**

Pastor: Christ invites you to this table. All who believe are thirsty, all who hunger, come!

***Agnes Dei** **"Lamb of God"** **p. 92**
As bread and wine is given, these words are said to each communicant:
"The body of Christ, given for you.' & 'The blood of Christ, shed for you.'
After each, the communicant may say: 'Amen.'

Distribution of Communion

Communion Hymn: **O Living Bread from Heaven** **LBW 197**

***Post Communion Blessing** **p. 94**

***Prayer After Communion:**

Pastor: 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**.

***Blessing:**
Pastor: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, +one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **C: Amen**

***Recessional Hymn:** **Amaging Grace, How Sweet the Sound** **LBW 448**

***Dismissal**

Pastor: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **C: Thanks be to God.!**

Please keep the following in your prayers:
Our Military Members Becky (& Gary) Mickle Carolyn Pinos
Emma Rosman Cheryl & Keith Sherbine