

September 20, 2026
17th Sunday after Pentecost



Leading Worship Today:

Preacher: Brian Entz

Lay Leader: Theresa Bevilacqua

Accompanist: Ralph Johansen

*Please read along with all **Bold** text
All are invited to stand when there is an **

Larger Print: Please see an usher if you would like larger print hymns.

Prayground: We have a Kids Corner for young kids on the front left side (by the stained glass windows). Kids and their adults are more than welcome to sit in that area during the service where there are coloring pages and puzzle books to engage young minds and hands in worship.

PRELUDE

Prelude on an English Folk Song

Andrew Unsworth

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Speak to us of Prayer. And he answered saying: You pray in your distress and in your need; would that you might pray also in the fullness of your joy and in your days of abundance. ... We cannot ask thee for aught, for thou knowest our needs before they are born in us: Thou art our need; and in giving us more of thyself thou givest us all.
-on Prayer, by Kahlil Gibran*

GATHERING

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Psalm 105

We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your Name;

we make known your deeds among the peoples.

We sing to you: we sing your praise

and speak of all your marvelous works.

We glory in your holy Name;

let the hearts of those who seek you rejoice.

***OPENING HYMN**

#318 In Christ There Is No East or West

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus who came into the world to save us from sin. Trusting in God's grace let us confess our sin.

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.

In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

As water is poured into the font remember your baptism and that in these waters your sins are forgiven and you are named as one of God's beloved and joined to Christ forever.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, receive the good news, the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Alleluia, Amen!**

***RESPONSE**

#581 The Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through Christ's faithfulness, we have peace with God. Let us also share peace with one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*The people may exchange with their neighbors, by words or gesture,
signs of peace and reconciliation.*

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Focus our attention, O God, upon the reading of the scriptures, that we might encounter them with curiosity, humility, and faith. Order our hearts and minds, O God, that as your Word is proclaimed we might understand once again the saving life you give. Tune our spirits, O God, to yours, that as your Holy Spirit moves among us we might follow. Amen.

FIRST READING

Exodus 16:2-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.³ The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days."⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt,⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?"⁸ And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD."

⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites: 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.' " ¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹ The LORD spoke to Moses, ¹² "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.' "

¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN

#372 O for a World

THIRD READING

Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³

But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Pastor Brian Entz

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY

Abbot's Leigh

Mark Sedio



*"Let us present ourselves to God
as those who have been delivered from death to life."
To contribute to our mission and ministry online, please scan the QR code.*

*DOXOLOGY

#606 Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*OFFERING PRAYER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Confession of 1967

God has created human beings for a personal relationship with himself that they may respond to the love of the Creator. God has created male and female and given them a life which proceeds from birth to death in a succession of generations and in a wide complex of social relations. God has endowed humans with capacities to make the world serve their needs and to enjoy its good things. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. People are free to seek life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We come before you O God in gratitude for your loving kindness and mercy. Continue to build up in us a great love for you and the whole of your creation and give us courage to follow in the way of Jesus your Son.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church...

Let us be a sign of your promised realm and make us ready to meet our Savior Christ when he comes again in glory. Strengthen us in our faith and give us courage and compassion to extend the mercy we have been shown to others.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world...

Make a way in the wilderness of this world. Bring justice and equality to every land and let all creatures know your saving love. Bring peace to every corner of the world, especially Ukraine and Russia, Palestine, Israel, Iran, and the United States, Yemen, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Transform us and all your Church into peacemakers by the power of your Spirit. Help us to seek the common good of all your creation and remember that you have made us to share life with you and all you have made.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community...

We pray for Buffalo and Wright County, for all of our neighbors who live, work, study, and play here. Strengthen us in times of difficulty and give us compassion for all our neighbors.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for loved ones...

Let your tender mercy shine on them. Comfort those who wait in the gloom of death's shadow and guide their feet onto the path of peace. Pour out your healing and mercy to those in need, especially...

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

Prepare your way in us, O Lord, that we may rejoice and be glad when your reign of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord, who taught us to pray saying...

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN

#546 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Festive Gloria

Aaron David Miller

Loving all People, Living our Faith, and Following Jesus

WORSHIP NOTES

The Call to Worship is taken from Psalm 105 in the St. Helena Psalter, © 2004 by the Order of St. Helena.

#318 In Christ There Is No East or West | John Oxenham, 1908, alt., Alexander Robert Reinagle, 1836, Public domain

#372 O for a World | Miriam Therese Winter, 1987, Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839, Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

#546 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing | Attr. John Fawcett, 1773, alt.; stanza 3, alt. Geoffrey Thring, 1880, alt., Sicilian melody, 18th cent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 Annual Women's Retreat: Our retreat will be September 25th - 27th, we look forward to seeing you!

Bonfire & Hot Dog Roast: Join us for an evening of fellowship, a warm fire, and a good old-fashioned hot dog roast! Bring a chair or blanket to sit on.

Date: October 3rd

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Prospective Members Lunch: Are you interested in becoming a member of BPC or learning more about the church? Join us from **11:30am-1pm on Sunday Oct. 4th** for lunch and a time to get to know the church and one another. Lunch is free and attendance is not a formal commitment to become a member. If you are planning to come please let Pastor Brian know by Oct. 1st.

Immigration Aid Collection: Thank you for your on-going support for our immigrant neighbors. Now, we have an opportunity to support our neighbors who are able to return to work, but are in need of assistance with food. We are looking for **donations of vegetable / cooking oil and Maseca corn flour**. Donations can be dropped off in the bin outside Fellowship Hall. Thank you for being a blessing to so many in our community!

Today September 20	9:30am: Worship 11:00am: CCC: Vanderheidens share on Australia trip 11:30am: Faith Formation Committee
Monday September 21	5:00pm: Deacons Meeting
Tuesday September 22	9:00am: Crafty Ladies 9:00am: Guy's Breakfast
Wednesday September 24	7:00pm: Choir Rehearsal
Thursday September 10	7:30am: People of Faith 10:00am: Women of Faith 5:30pm: Racial Justice Reading Group
Friday - Sunday September 25-27	Women's Retreat Weekend
Sunday September 27	9:30am: Worship 11:00am: CCC Immersive Weekend with God: Pastor Brian

How Can We Pray for You?

Scan the QR code to submit prayer requests:



Along with the blue prayer request cards found in the pews you can also submit prayer requests on the BPC website. Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to be taken directly to the prayer request form. All prayer requests go directly to Pastor Brian.

Scan the QR code to submit prayer requests.

BPC Prayer List:

- Rich Dahl
- Christy Wood
- Dennis Stanley, fighting cancer
- Anne Marie Wille, Bonnie Morek's daughter
- Dennis Sletten, friend of Diane
- Sherry Sletten, friend of Diane
- Lois Lindstrom
- Madree
- Jim, Elaine Thole's brother, following a diagnosis
- Donna, a friend of Lana Kopplin, who has cancer
- Shannon, Virginia's former daughter-in-law
- Erva Hance
- Barb and Tom Stone
- Rochelle Tandrian, Angela's daughter
- Brittany Daniels
- John and Charlotte Collins
- Cassie & Bryce Taylor, grandson of Lanny and Shirley Taylor
- Louise Markve
- Don Eddy
- Joseph Wille, Bonnie Morek's grandson
- Windi Willette
- Tony
- Allen, father of Jennifer Glauvitz
- The Grady Family (friends of Theresa) upon the loss of their father
- Dennis, Kate, Alicia, & Dan Vanderheiden (Del's family)
- Gloria & Daniel Elliott (Bonnie Moreks brother and his wife)
- Nancy Gritman
- Sandy Anderson and family following Steve Anderson's death
- Marcy, Peggy Hunter's sister-in-law
- James Doth
- Jessica Lundgren

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In Christ There Is No East or West 318

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in

him no south or north, but one great fel - low -
 high com - mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 e'er your race may be. All chil - dren of the
 him meet south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This text formed a very small part of an elaborate Christian missionary pageant in the early 20th century, yet it has endured while the grander aspects of that production have faded away. It is set to a simple 19th-century tune that does not get in the way of its message.

O for a World

372

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves.

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re-spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re-lieved,
3 We wel-come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
where truth is spo - ken, chil-dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out-casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987
MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839
Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

AZMON
CM

SENDING

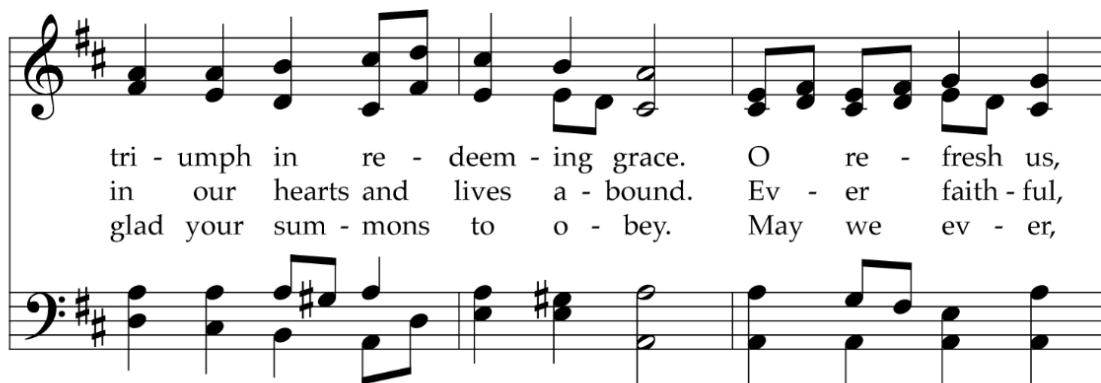
546 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us, from our strug - gling



joy and peace; let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
 pil - grim way, let no fear of death ap - pall us,



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
 glad your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

This hymn of corporate benediction is one of several using the same first line. It was written by a Baptist pastor who dedicated his entire ministry to a small church in rural Yorkshire. The tune used here was first transcribed from Sicilian sailors in the late 18th century.