

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday October 17th, 2026,
Sunday, October 18th, 2026,

4:30 pm
9:00 am



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.

300 Logan St.
Merrill, WI 54452
Pastor Justin Smoot

715-536-5813
www.oslcelca.org

Marlene Graap, Organist



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

At OSLC, we have a tradition of participating in worship, because it is our gathering to practice prayer and fellowship.

- Bold Print indicates responses spoken by all.
- You are encouraged to listen to your body and stand if you are comfortable doing so.
- Children are welcome in worship. If they want to help out with any portion of the service they can do so, just ask the pastor. There is also a place for them to color and play on the north side of the worship space. Sitting up front is also an effective way to help them see what is going on.
- On Sunday morning, the ushers will pass the offering plates, but we also have a QR code that will take you to our Vanco (online giving) site.
- All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Our Saviour's. Please come forward as indicated. Please fill out a communion card so that we can have a record of who communion. You can also use the communion cards or visitor cards to reach out to the pastor.
- We have large print bulletins if you need them as well as hearing devices with headphones



Altar flowers are given by Carol Finanger

Sing for Joy is sponsored by..... Our Saviour's Church to the Glory of God

GATHERING

For where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there among them. (Matthew 18:20)

Announcements

*Gathering Hymn

WOV 705

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



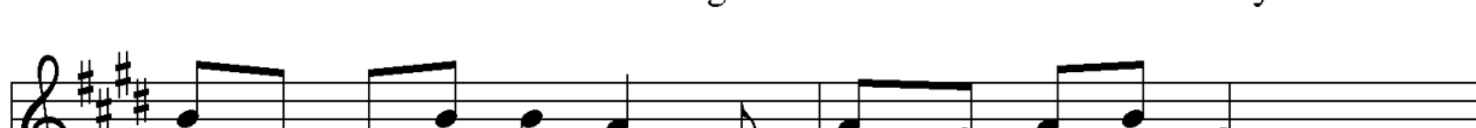
As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



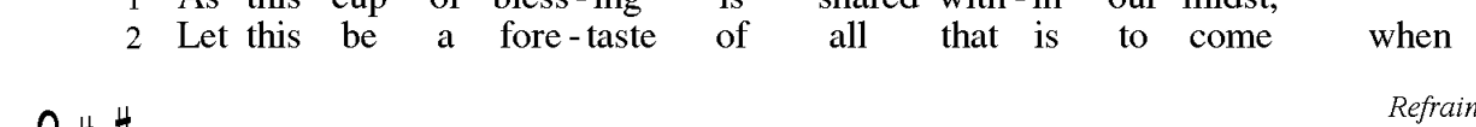
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



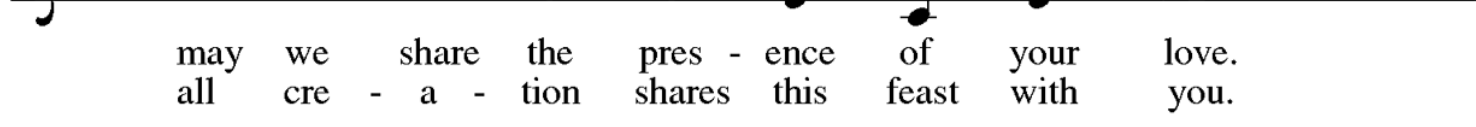
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



Refrain



may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

**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.

**Prayer of the Day*

Let us pray,

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

*So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty. (Isaiah 55:10-11)*

EXODUS 33:12-23

Moses successfully interceded with God to accompany Israel to the promised land after their sin with the golden calf. In response to a request to display the divine glory, God recites a sentence that appears frequently in the Hebrew Scriptures: “I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious.” Moses is not allowed to see God’s face, but only God’s back.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 99

¹ The Lord is king; let the people tremble. The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

² **The Lord, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.**

³ Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

⁴ **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God.

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.

⁶ **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O Lord, they called upon you, and you answered them,**

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

⁸ **O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and worship upon God's holy hill; for the Lord, our God is the Holy One.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God.

**Gospel Acclamation*

*We stand and sing to welcome the Gospel reading
as we would welcome Christ.*



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

**MATTHEW 22:15-22*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 22nd chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pr. Justin H. Smoot

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Gift of Finest Wheat

Refrain



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

Refrain



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997

Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996

Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

**Apostles Creed*

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

We believe and are marked with the promised Holy Spirit.

Living together in trust and hope, let us profess our faith

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*

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Each petition ends with the following response.

...Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of peace.

MEAL

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (Acts 2:42)

Offering

Saturday: Please place your offering in the plates in back.

Sunday: The ushers will collect the offering, if you wish to give electronically, please visit our website: oslcelca.org or scan the QR code.



*****Confession and Forgiveness***

God spoke these words and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honor your father and your mother.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not covet.

Lord, have mercy upon us and write all these, your laws, in our hearts, we pray.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen

**Dialogue*

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Eucharistic Prayer*

**Lord's Prayer*

Gathered around our Lord's Table, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

**Invitation to Communion*

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Distribution

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE LORD'S TABLE

We have gluten-free hosts available. The lighter colored drink is non-alcoholic. Please fill out a communion card or a visitor card and hand it to the ushers who will direct you down the center aisle.

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

SENDING

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus . . . May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing. (Romans 15:5, 13)

Holy God, as you have accompanied your people through times of captivity, wilderness, and exile, shelter and sustain all those who flee persecution, oppression, warfare, violence, hunger, and poverty. Open our hearts and homes, our gates and doors so that they find safety, peace and welcome – a place to live in freedom and without fear; through Jesus Christ, our refuge and our hope.

Amen.

**Benediction*

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

**Sending Hymn*

ELW 639 Next Page

**Dismissal*

Go in peace. Serve the Lord

Thanks be to God.

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You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Gift of Finest Wheat

Refrain



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



Refrain

so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
300 Logan St. Merrill, WI 54452
Monday – Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm
oslcelca.org office@oslcelca.org 715-536-5813
Pastor@oslcelca.org



Sing For Joy

Sunday morning at 10:00 am, we broadcast the St. Olaf Collage's Sing for Joy radio program. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast in honor of, or in memory of, anyone, or just because you love religious music, please sign up on the sheet in the hallway. You can also contact the church office as well.

Prayer List



Lois Ullman, Adam Norman, Cash Beyer, Carri Leyk, Laurie Sprague, Earleen Fox, Katie Hahn, John Hahn, Andy Semling, Chad Semling, Karleen Bebel, Gilman Smoot, Richard Ollmann, Elayne Ollman, Sarah Willman, Jane Eshleman, Jerrald Laak, Lee Ann and Lindy Lindquist, Larry Lebal, Barbara Kampstra (Bea Lebal's Sister), Scott Buttke Halena Anderson, Stacy Dummer (niece of Ruth Nelson-Lau), and the families of Megan (Latzig) Tugnoli, Jerry Wick, Kim Woellner and Faye Marsceau.

Sunday Fellowship

Pr. Justin will usually make a pot of regular coffee; all we need is some sweet treats from you. Sign up in the lounge or surprise us!

All of October is available.



This Week's Events - October 18th – 24th

OCTOBER 18 TH	9:00 am Worship Service
OCTOBER 19 TH	6:45 pm Bible Study
OCTOBER 21 ST	10:00 am Faithful Followers @ Christ United Methodist NO CONFIRMATION CLASS
OCTOBER 22 ND	8:30 am Mission Sewing
OCTOBER 24 TH	9:00 – 11:00 am Diaper Closet 4:30 pm Worship Service



PLEASE NOTE – THERE WILL BE NO SERVICE HERE ON SUNDAY

10/25/26

Birthdays This Week – October 18th – 24th

October 18 th	Arnold Lange
October 20 th	Sue Van Der Geest
October 21 st	Samantha Allen Anna O'Malley
October 24 th	Jackie Arseneau Joyce Handlin

If you know of additions or corrections to the Birthday list, please let the office know so that we can update our records.



The quilters are desperately low on sheets for quilting. The wanted/needed items are sheets, blankets and mattress pads. If you are cleaning out your closets and have excess of any of these items, please feel free to bring them to the church and the ladies will put them to good use.

Book/Bible Study

JIM BURNS
**WHEN
 YOUR
 ADULT
 CHILD
 STRAYS**
 TRADING HEARTACHE FOR HOPE



Wednesday @ 10am

Oct 14	Our Saviour's
Oct 21	Christ UMC
Oct 28	Our Saviour's
Nov 5	Christ UMC

At Christ we will be discussing this book.

Copies available in the office.

At Our Saviour's we will be reading 1st Kings.



The Little Library is Looking a Little Lean

Do you have some books laying around that you are willing to share? The Little Library on the church grounds needs books to share with our friends and neighbors. Please bring your books to the church lounge marked for the Little Library or put them directly into the Little Library on the lawn. Thank you for being part of the ministry!

All Saints Sunday

On November 1st, there will be a service of remembrance for those who died. We will plan to read the names of those who are members of the congregation who have died in the past year. If there are family members whom you wish to remember on that day, please contact the church office 715-536-5813 or Pastor Justin at pastor@oslcelca.org

It's Time to Roll

Lefse making is just around the corner! We are planning to roll on **Tuesday October 27th, Thursday October 29th, and Saturday October 31st**, starting at 9am each day. Lefse sale dates are **Saturday November 14th and Sunday November 15th at service times**. Hope to see you there!



October is Clergy Appreciation Month

Dear Pastor Smoot

As we celebrate Clergy Appreciation Month, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your dedicated service. Your messages always seem to speak directly to what I need to hear, and your steady guidance has been a true blessing in my life. Thank you for your endless patience, your prayers, and for always guiding our community toward faith and love. Additionally, your work with Holy Communication and our relationship building in our community of churches has not gone unnoticed.

With sincere gratitude,

Gregory Latzig

President Our Saviours Lutheran Church

Note: A gift box will be located in the Narthex/Vestibule this weekend and next weekend for anyone wanting to thank Pastor Smoot with a card or small gift of appreciation during Clergy Appreciation Month.

Some News from East Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA

SYNOD EVENT | NOV. 3 - DEC. 8, 2026

EXPLORING CHRISTIAN ENGAGEMENT IN CIVIC LIFE

The ELCA's *Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All* social statement explores how Christians and congregations can faithfully engage in civic life and promote the well-being of their communities. Join East Central Synod of Wisconsin leaders, including Bishop Anne Edison-Albright and Vice President Nancy Schanke, for a six-session study series exploring the social statement. While anyone will benefit from this study, it is especially designed for ministers, congregational leaders, and members who may wish to bring the study back to their own congregations.

Sessions will be offered in the morning and evening using the same Zoom link. When you register, you will see a 10:30am start time listed, but the same link can also be used to join the evening session. A reminder with the Zoom link and session details will be sent to participants each week. Register to Attend: [**Zoom Registration**](#)

SYNOD EVENT | JUN. 9-15, 2027

WALKING THE PATH OF CIVIL RIGHTS

Join Bishop Anne Edison-Albright and Bishop Katherine Finegan for a meaningful Civil Rights Tour through Alabama and Georgia, June 9–15, 2027. This six-day journey will invite participants to learn, reflect, and deepen their understanding of the history of the Civil Rights Movement and its ongoing call for justice. The itinerary includes the Freedom Riders National Monument, Birmingham Civil Rights District, 16th Street Baptist Church, Edmund Pettus Bridge, Montgomery's Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice, Tuskegee, and historic sites connected to the life and ministry of Martin Luther King Jr. This will be an opportunity to walk together through places of profound history, hear stories of courage and perseverance, and consider how this history continues to shape our call to strive for justice and peace today. The tour departs from Milwaukee and begins at \$2,898 per person. [**Learn more and view the full itinerary.**](#)