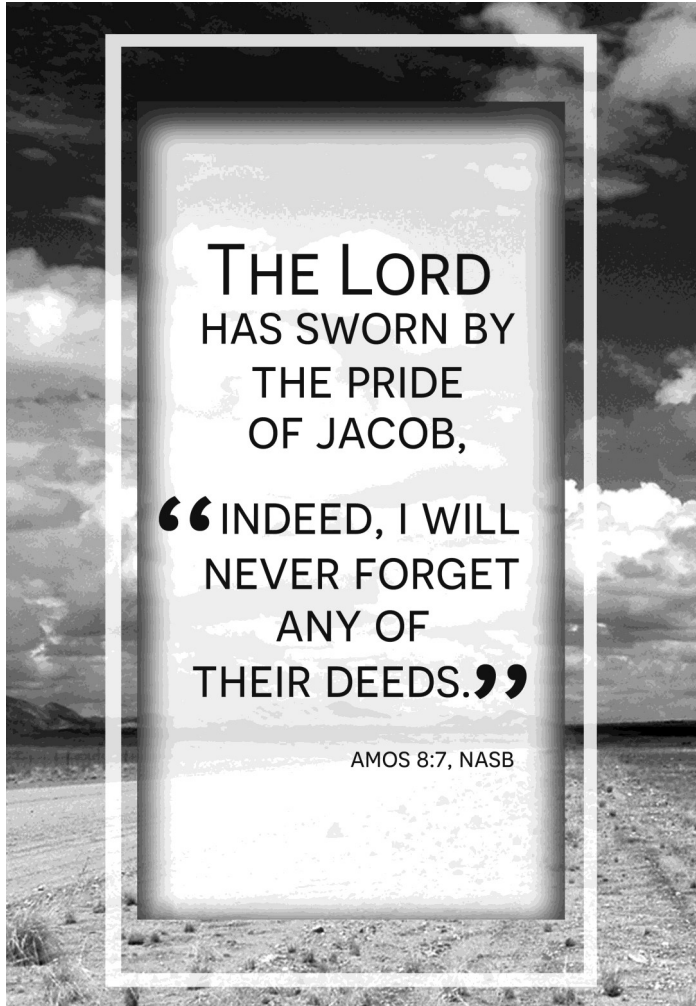


15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 21, 2025



First Lutheran Church
116 Inner Drive
Le Sueur, MN 56058
507-665-2615
Rev. Samuel Mailleue
office@firstlutheranlesueur.org
www.firstlutheranlesueur.org
UNITED by Christ, God call us to LOVE one another
As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price.

“Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all.” Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God’s gracious favor we have everything we need.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK—Stewardship

Dave Nelson

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Son of God, Eternal Savior ELW #655
(Vs. 1, 2 & 3)
Public Domain

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.

KYRIE

ELW page 138

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! ELW #873
(Vs. 6)
Public Domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

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

FIRST READING—Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

- ⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵ saying, “When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶ buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”
- ⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Word of God. Word of Life

Thanks be to God!

PSALM—Psalm 113

- ¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.
- ² **Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**
- ³ From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.
- ⁴ **The LORD is high above all nations;
God’s glory above the heavens.**
- ⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,

⁶ **but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**

⁷ The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸ **enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

⁹ The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING—1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,

⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

Word of God. Word of Life
Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION—Alleluia

ELW page #142

The Holy Gospel according to the sixteenth chapter of Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL—Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property.² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.’⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Rev. Sam Mailleue

HYMN OF THE DAY

As Saints of Old ELW #695
(Vs. 1 & 2)

One License #94138

THE 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

THE PRAYERS

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones especially those on our prayer list, in our hearts and the families of Carol Johnson and Jim Worshek. May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY HYMN

***Create In Me a Clean Heart* ELW #186**

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

**Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.**

**Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW page 144

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy, holy, holy **ELW page 144**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

Lamb of God ELW page 146

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision ELW #793
(Vs. 1 & 4)
Public Domain

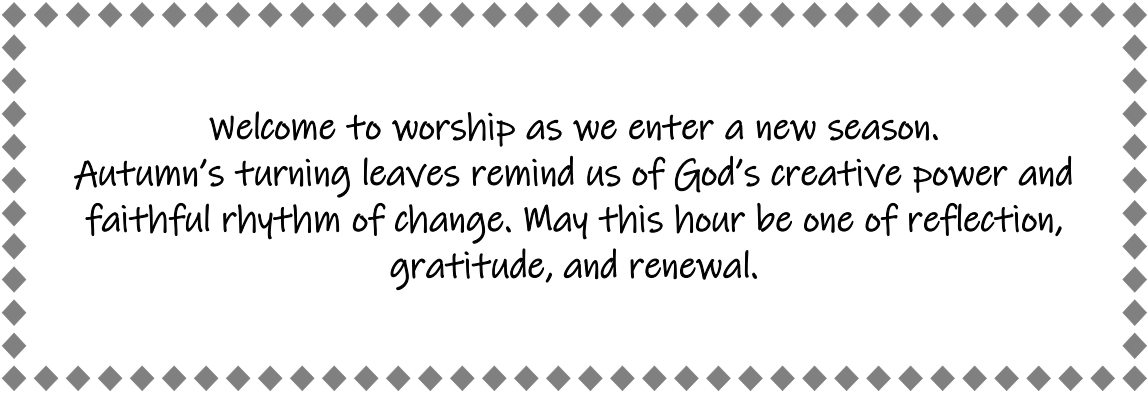
DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

*Whether you are looking for a place of worship
or are just passing through, we hope our service has blessed you
on your journey as your presence has been a blessing to us.*



Welcome to worship as we enter a new season.
Autumn's turning leaves remind us of God's creative power and
faithful rhythm of change. May this hour be one of reflection,
gratitude, and renewal.



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Songselect Advanced—Expires 6/30/2026

Shift Worship—Membership
Expires 12/25/2025

Sharefaith—Membership
Expires 6/2026

Church ArtPro—Account #74057560
Expires 12/15/2025

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Ministry Focus: God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday, Sept. 7th – Serving Together Locally and Globally

Each year, congregations across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) join together for *God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday*—a day dedicated to serving our neighbors in love. This year, we again are excited to take part by combining local service projects with a global outreach effort through Global Health Ministry.

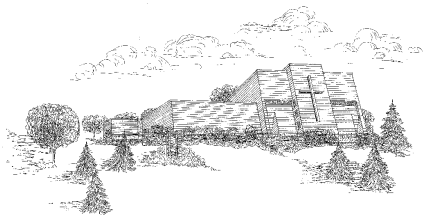
Locally, we will be putting our hands to work on projects that strengthen our community: helping with outdoor cleanup, projects at Mound Cemetery, writing notes to Veterans for the Christmas boxes, helping the Quilting ministry, and supporting the local nonprofit thrift store Treasures in Town. These projects remind us that God calls us to love and serve right where we are planted.

At the same time, we are collecting supplies to assemble **Hospice Kits** for Global Health Ministry, which are distributed around the world to provide care and comfort for those in their final stages of life. These kits are a tangible way we can extend compassion across borders, offering dignity and comfort to people we may never meet, yet who are our siblings in Christ.

Blessing of the Animals will take place on Sunday, October 5. Please bring in a picture of your animal or a stuffed animal to have blessed.

Financial Update		
Week of	Amount Received	Budget Amount Needed
9-14-25	\$2,036	\$4,542
YTD	\$162,074	\$177,122

Year to Date Financial Results			
Month Ending	Actual Received	Actual Expense	Net Gain/(Loss)
8-31-2025	\$153,849	\$152,167	\$1,682



Weekly Schedule

Sunday, September 21	9:00a	Worship w/Holy Communion
Monday, September 22	5:00p	Church Reserved (Treasurer's In Town)
Tuesday, September 23	9:00a	Quilting
Wednesday, September 24	9:00a 6:00p 6:30-7:30p 6:30-8p 6:30-8p	Staff Meeting Meal @ UMC RISE RISE UP FLY
Sunday, September 28	9:00a 10:15a	Worship First Choir Rehearsal

Worship Assistants

September 21, 2025		September 28, 2025	
Organist/Pianist:	Gordon Gregersen	Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick	First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Liam Haaland	Acolytes:	Ezra Carlen
Reader:	Ian Mailleue	Reader:	Alison Montag
Usher:	John Miller	Usher:	LeRoy May
Greeters:	Melissa Schwartz	Greeters:	Montag Family
Communion Asst:	LeRoy & Joan May	Council Member:	Callie Greisen
Council Member:	Sara Carrigan	Fellowship:	
Fellowship:		Projection:	Tech Team
Projection:	Tech Team	Audio:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team	Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Videographer:	Becky Pollack	Offering Counters:	Joan May Bob Patrias
Offering Counters:	Dave Johnson Joan May	Altar Guild:	Marie Walker
Altar Guild:	Marie Walker		