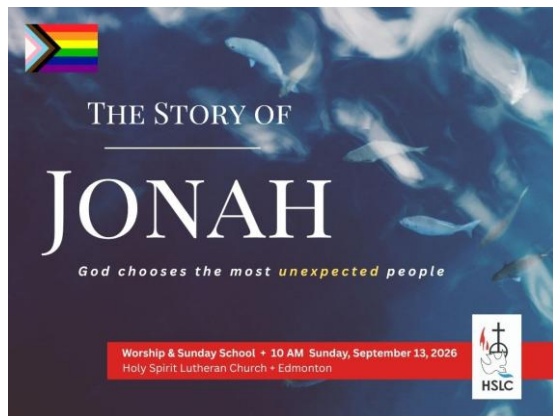




A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community
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September 20, 2026 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: Rev. Liz Bell
Assisting Minister: Marilyn Murray
Ministers: Every member
Ushers: Paul T & Rick S

Council President: Karen Oko
Musician: Kathryn Elford
Video/Live Stream: Anton Chell
Worship Host: Margie Nunweiler

Welcome

Gathering Song “*Gather Us In*” (ELW 532, WOV 718) vs 1,3

Greeting

Kyrie – All Creation Sings (ACS Setting 12)

Song of Praise – All Creation Sings (ACS Setting 12)

Prayer of the Day

Children’s Time & Blessing of Backpack Tags

Blessing of Sunday School Teachers

First Reading Jonah 3:10—4:11

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it. ^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴ And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶ The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was

very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

Psalms 145:1-8 spoken responsively

¹ I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.

² **Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

³ Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!
There is no end to your greatness.

⁴ **One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.**

⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.

⁶ **They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸ **The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

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.

Gospel Acclamation - All Creation Sings (ACS Setting 12)

Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "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? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Sermon

Song of the Day '*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*' (ELW 773, WOV 731)

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Baptism of Grace Rosalyn Richardson

Daughter of Jared and Staci

Peace

Prayers of Intercession

In our prayers: Gertie B, Susan K, Dorothea K, Cody M, Brendan S, Pr. Erin T, Shirley E, Faye P, Pr. Rod A, Darlene & Randy F, Anna E, Pathma D, Brenda K, Lasantha J, Margaret O, Dwight M & family, Hubert L, and those we hold dear in our hearts.

Offertory *'Come to Me, All You Who are Weary'* Liturgy of the Beloved

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving

Holy, Holy - All Creation Sings (ACS Setting 12)

Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer – contemporary spoken

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

Communion Songs

'Lamb of God' All Creation Sings (ACS Setting 12)

'You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore' (ELW 817, WOV 784) vs 1,3,4

'We Come to the Hungry Feast' (ELW 479, WOV 766)

'Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God' (WOV 783)

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Community Life

Sending Song *'My Life Flows On in Endless Song'* (ELW 763, WOV 781) vs 1,4

Dismissal

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