

Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church

"Growing Relationships with God, Each Other, and Our Neighbors in the Way of Jesus"



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, October 3, 2026, 4:00 PM

Sunday, October 4, 2026, 9:00 AM

Welcome...There's a place for you here!

Welcome to the Lord's Table

All Christians, regardless of church membership or affiliation, are invited to the Lord's Table to share Holy Communion. You may come forward through the center aisle to share communion around the table and then return to your seat through the side aisles. You may also share communion while remaining in your seat. Bread and cups prepared in advance are available from baskets at the top of the ramps, or you may let an usher know to have those who are serving at the table come to serve you.

Bread, wheat wafers, or gluten-free wafers are available, as well as alcoholic wine (lighter color) or nonalcoholic grape juice (darker color). Trays are available in the front pews on either side for empty glasses. Those who are not partaking may also come forward to receive a verbal blessing.

Welcome to all God's children

During the Sunday service, the youngest children of God are invited to come forward for a message especially for them. "Busy bags" are hung along the wall in the glass-enclosed room at the end of the gallery seating. Children of all ages are welcome to share holy communion with a grownup's guidance.

You'll find a changing table in the restroom near the top of the spiral staircase in the entryway. Another changing table is located just outside the glass-enclosed room. An unstaffed nursery is located at the bottom of the spiral staircase in the entryway, as a place for a grownup to stay with their child.

Restrooms

in the entryway are single-occupant and gender-inclusive. They are found in two "cubes" with mirrored exteriors, one on either side of the entryway.

Sunday services are livestreamed, and some worshipers may be seen in the worship broadcast. Those seated behind the ramps will not be seen on camera.

(thank you for silencing your phone as you worship)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

(silence is kept for reflection)

Compassionate God,
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.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.

Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” ELW 858

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

BLESSING OF QUILTS (Sat./Sun.) & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (Sun.)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from Isaiah:

¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain

no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:7-15 (*read responsively*)

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸ **You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.**

⁹ You cleared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰ **The mountains were covered by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river.

¹² **Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ **Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;**

¹⁵ behold and tend this vine;
preserve what your right hand has planted.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

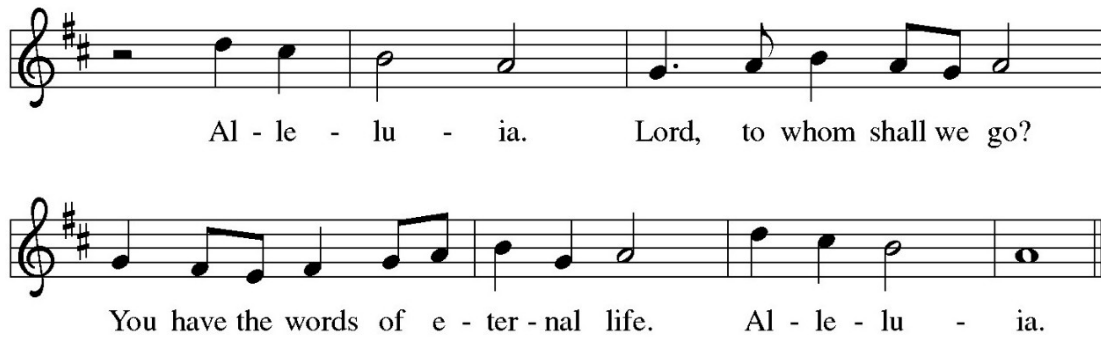
A reading from Philippians:

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: Pastor Brad Brown

HYMN OF THE DAY “The Church of Christ, in Every Age”

ELW 729

SONG FOR PRAYER (*sing once before and once after the prayers*)

“Though the Earth Shall Change” (from Psalm 46; ACS 1035)



IN OUR PRAYERS

Darrell Reynolds, Julie Reynolds, Eric, Gary Brown, Janelle Schowalter, Jill, Jim Broetzmann, Julia, Pastor Marcy Wieties, Ray Palenik, Ron, Scott, Laura Gifford, Dan Wright, Callie Holguin, Betty Boetcher, Gabie Smith

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

Use the QR code to reach MPLC's online giving page:



SPECIAL MUSIC (Sat) "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" Sebastian Temple
(Prayer of St Francis) Stephen Gifford, Soloist

CHOIR ANTHEM (Sun.) "Al shlosa d'varim" Allan Naplan
Translated from Hebrew:
The world is sustained by three things, by truth, by justice, and by peace.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: God of creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

ELW Setting 4

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

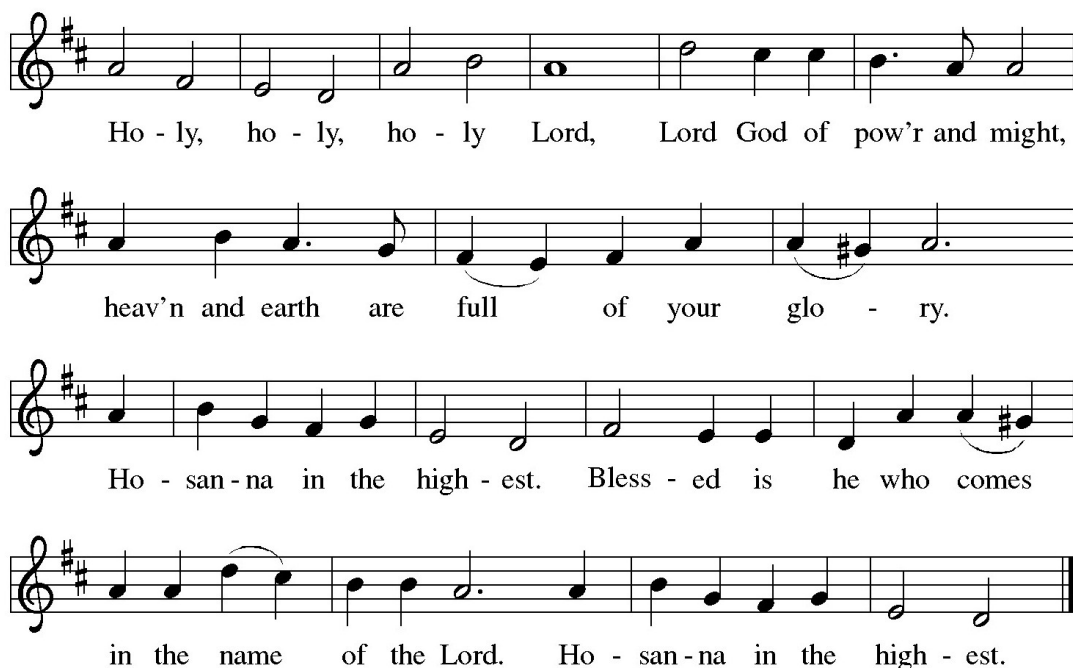
Lift up your hearts.

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 . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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

DISTRIBUTION *(see inside of bulletin cover for communion directions)*

SPECIAL MUSIC (Sun) “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” Sebastian Temple
 (Prayer of St Francis) Stephen Gifford, Soloist

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG “All Creatures, Worship God Most High!” ELW 835 vs 1,2,6

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Today's Worship Leaders

Preacher: Pastor Brad Brown; Presider: Pastor Beth Ann L. Stone

Musician: Michael Becker

Interim Choir Director: Gregory Schroeder

Sun. Greeter: Joe Maier

Welcome Desk Host: Carol Wiechers

Sat. Reader: Clare Johnson; Sun. Reader: Karen Krey

Sun. Communion Assistants: John Berge, Diane Kelly

Video Producer: Becky Litwin

Worship Leaders for 10/10 and 10/11:

Sun. Greeter: The Steenrod Family

Welcome Desk Host: Ann Harmann

Sat. Reader: *One Needed*; Sun. Reader: Harold Solberg

Sun. Communion Assistants: Amy Obernberger, Jamie Rauth

Video Producer: Fritz Obernberger

Coffee Hour Treats: Jayne Armbruster, Jan Fuller

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church Stewardship Appeal for 2027

On board a ship together, shipmates (or “hands”) each contribute to their shared mission and life together. All depends on each person pulling their own weight. As a faith community, our congregation also relies on each member contributing in their own way, using the gifts God entrusts to each of us.

*“Christ makes the whole body fit together perfectly.
As each part does its own special work, it helps the other
parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and
growing and full of love.”
(Ephesians 4:16, NLT)*

This month, MPLC’s *Stewardship Appeal for 2027* invites us to consider how each of us will contribute to the work God calls MPLC to do together next year. Some of our hands will be at work creating or repairing things; some of our hands will serve our neighbors; some will comfort or teach others. And all hands are asked to be open to giving generously.

In the next two weeks, please prayerfully consider how you will give in 2027 to support God’s mission for MPLC and to help keep our “ship” afloat... “healthy, growing, and full of love.”

MPLC Commitment Weekend is October 17 & 18!
It’s time for “All Hands on Deck!”

THIS WEEK AT MPLC: Oct 4- 11

Sun. Oct 4

9:00 AM: Worship (Sanctuary)
10:00 AM: Coffee Hour (Fellowship)
10:15 AM: Sunday School (Education)
10:20 AM: Information Session – Building Project (Fellowship)
1:30 PM: Community Meal Prep (Kitchen)
4:00 PM: Community Meal Distribution (Living Faith LC)

Mon. Oct 5

6:00 PM: Parish Activities (Conference)

Tues. Oct 6

11:00 AM: Chair Yoga (Fellowship)
5:00 PM: Beyond Welcome (Mygatts)
6:30 PM: Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

Wed. Oct 7

11:00 AM: Midweek Bible Study (Mygatts)
5:30 PM: Prayer Vigil (Sanctuary)
6:30 PM: Confirmation (Mygatts)
7:00 PM: Adult Choir (Choir Room)

Thurs. Oct 8

9:30 AM: Quilters (Fellowship)

Sat. Oct 10

10:30 AM: Your Project Day (Fellowship)
4:00 PM: Worship (Sanctuary)

Sun. Oct 11

9:00 AM: Worship (Sanctuary)
10:00 AM: Coffee Hour (Fellowship)
10:15 AM: Sunday School (Education)
10:20 AM: Adult Ed (Mygatts)

MPLC STAFF DIRECTORY

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Communications Director Elaine Martin	elaine@mplc.us
General Information	info@mplc.us
Council President Andy Steenrod	asteenrod@gmail.com

We are called by Jesus to **love God and one another**, to practice generous hospitality, and to serve all unconditionally. We fully welcome you to join us, embracing your race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical abilities, mental abilities, socioeconomic position, family status, background, and wherever you are in your faith journey. You are a unique and beloved child of God and are welcome here. You are accepted and openly affirmed just as you are. We commit ourselves to undertaking the work of racial equality and social and economic justice. We invite you to join us as we joyfully and inclusively love and serve God and our community, as **we are all one in Christ Jesus.**