

Vasa Lutheran Church

18th Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor Marggi Pleiss-Sippola

Accompanist-Anne Anderson

Sunday, September 27, 2026

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

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.**

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 HYMN

God is Here!

ELW 526

- V1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.
- V2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each
- V3 Here our children find a
welcome in the Shepherd's flock and
fold; here as bread and wine are
taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek
in worship to explore what it means in
daily living to believe and to adore.
- V4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt, keep
us faithful to the gospel; help us work
your purpose out. Here, in this day's
dedication, all we have to give,
receive; we, who cannot live without
you,
we adore you! We believe!

GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Lord, Be Glorified

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems. The first system contains four vocal parts and piano accompaniment. The lyrics for the first system are: 1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied; 2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied; 3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied; 4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied; The second system contains four vocal parts and piano accompaniment. The lyrics for the second system are: in my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day. in our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day. in your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day. in your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.

1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied;
2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied;
3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied;
4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied;

in my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.
in our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.
in your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.
in your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of love, giver of life, **you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

Psalms 25: 1-9

To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemy's triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your
goodness, O LORD.

**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

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SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 21: 23-32

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." So, they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

L: Word of God, word of life | **C: Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

ELW 517

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word;
 curb those who by deceit or sword
 would wrest the kingdom from your Son
 and bring to naught all he has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your power make known,
 for you are Lord of lords alone;
 defend your holy church, that we
 may sing your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
 send peace and unity on earth;
 support us in our final strife
 and lead us out of death to life.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY O Master, Let Me Walk with You

ELW 818

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 O Master, let me walk with you
in lowly paths of service true;
tell me your secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care. | 3 Teach me your patience; share with
me a closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and
strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong, |
| 2 Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way. | 4 In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broad'ning way,
in peace that only you can give;
with you, O Master, let me live. |

PROFESSION OF 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 THE CONGREGATION: Each petition will end with the words: Hear us. O God. Please respond with: **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share God's peace with one another.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

LORD'S PRAYER

Give us the courage to follow in the footsteps of Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying...

**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.**

SENDING HYMN We Are Called

ELW 720

1 Come! live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain: We are called to act with justice.
We are called to love tenderly.
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

2 Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so all hatred and blindness will be no more
Refrain

3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love!

Refrain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✝ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

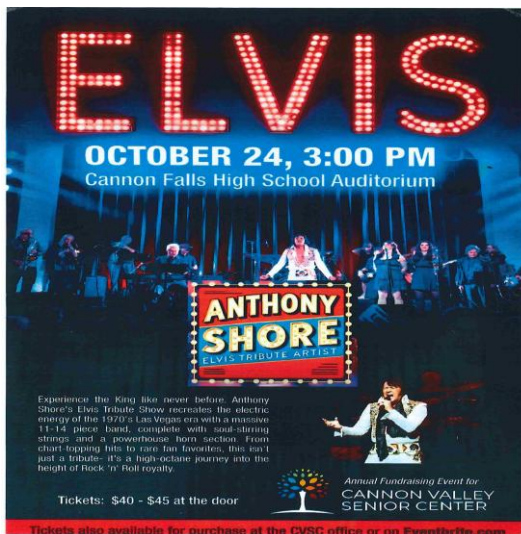
L: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
C: Thanks be to God.

*** Alter flowers given this week:
By Rick Samuelson celebrating
his birthday on the 21st.*

Parish Pulse:
September 20th
Participating in Worship: **47**
+ **38** Live Streams
Total Offerings:
September 20th
\$1,358.00



Rita Pearson, Wendy Anderson, Scott Sorenson, Lorrie Samuelson, Lynda Rosener, Connor Michalicek (Rosann Pearson's grandson), Jake Jacobson, Rachel Harper (Barry Skog's Niece)



Worship Assistants Today

September 27th

Musician: Anne Anderson

Usher: Rick Samuelson

Lector: Sid Featherstone

Hospitality: Marilyn Hanson

Worship Assistants Next Week

October 4th

Musician: Anne Anderson

Usher: volunteer needed

Lector: BJ Norman

Hospitality: volunteer needed

Communion assist: volunteer needed

MUSIC FOR September 27, 2026

God Is Here!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

O Master, Let Me Walk With You

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt

We Are Called

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

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