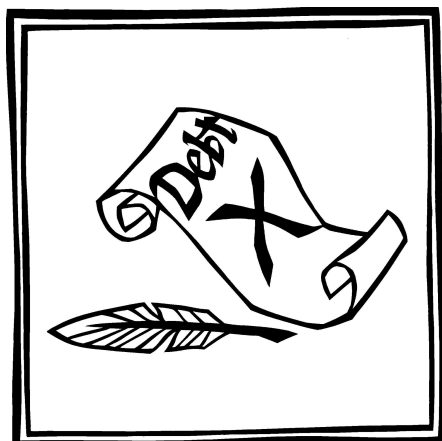


16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2026
10:30 AM



University Lutheran Church of Hope is a welcoming, Christian community of faith centered on God's grace and called to demonstrate God's love for the world. University Lutheran Church of Hope is a Reconciling in Christ congregation with a commitment to racial equity.

Welcome. Peace be with you.

We continue our holy experiment. We're worshipping together in-person and virtually on YouTube. Welcome!

For those worshipping in-person, please remember:

- ❖ **To support the health and wellness of all those among us**, feel welcome to use masks and hand sanitizer, stay current with your vaccinations, and stay home as needed if you are unwell.
- ❖ **We honor one another's boundaries** by asking permission to be in close proximity, and finding alternate ways to greet one another and share the peace (a deep bow, the peace sign, an air hug, etc.). Our risk levels and comfort differ.
- ❖ **In our service today, we will share Holy Communion.** Ushers will direct you.
- ❖ **If you are new to the community** and wish to speak with a Pastor or be included in our communication and activities, fill out the blue slip in the pew rack and give it to an usher. We'll follow up. It's also just fine to be anonymous. To get more involved, check out our website: <http://www.ulch.org/> To receive the weekly enews, the Thursday Epistle, contact our church administrator at ulch@ulch.org.
- ❖ **Children are welcome in worship.** Kids, grab your SPARK Story Bibles. Craft tables are available for families at the front of the sanctuary. Note: The nursery is not staffed, but is available for your use. The nursery is on the upper level of the education wing, most easily reached from the doors nearest the baptismal font.
- ❖ **After worship, enjoy the time to linger for conversation** in the lounge, courtyard and patio.

Land Acknowledgment

This Land Acknowledgment, and our response, are both a work in progress. We're actively engaged in a process to move beyond a simple acknowledgment, and toward a more active commitment. Watch for more opportunities for our community.

We gather for worship on the land of our Creator. Many of us and our church building dwell in the traditional home of the Dakota people, and a land over which the Anishinaabeg people and others also moved. They gathered and ate food, rested, died and gave birth, and prayed here, and many still do.

GATHERING

+ Indicates the assembly stand as able. Assembly parts are marked in **bold**.

ELW refers to the red hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. **ACS** refers to *All Creation Sings*, an *ELW* supplement.

Prelude

Morning Has Broken arr. Tracey Craig McKibben (2026)
Incorporating "Morgenstimmung" by Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Welcome

+ Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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. 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 Hymn** All Creatures, Worship God Most High (*vss. 1-3*) ELW 835

+ Greeting

The grace of the risen Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

+ Prayer of the Day

God of freedom, you brought your people out of slavery with a mighty hand.
Deliver us from our captivity to pride and indifference to the needs and gifts of others,
that we may be ready to love as you have loved us, and to give even as we have received. **Amen.**

from the Vanderbilt Divinity School Library

WORD

Children's Message

Psalm 103:1-13

Refrain Music: Thomas Keesecker

Refrain (*1st time the choir sings, all sing thereafter*)



LORD, you are full of com - pas - sion and mer - cy.

Choir sings the odd verses, all sing the Even verses



¹ Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.
² **Bless the LORD, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God's benefits—
³ who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
⁴ **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
⁵ who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.
⁶ **O GOD, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed. REFRAIN
⁷ You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
⁸ **GOD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
⁹ you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
REFRAIN
¹¹ For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who honor you.
¹² **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions
from us.
¹³ As a parent has compassion | for their children,
so you have compassion for those who honor | you,
O GOD. **REFRAIN**

¹ Alaba, alma mía, al SEÑOR;
alabe todo mi ser su santo nombre.
² **Alaba, alma mía, al SEÑOR**
y no olvides ninguno de sus beneficios.
³ Él perdona todos tus pecados
y sana todas tus dolencias;
⁴ **él rescata tu vida del sepulcro**
y te corona de gran amor y misericordia; R.
⁵ él te colma de bienes
y tu juventud se renueva como el águila.
⁶ **El SEÑOR hace justicia**
y defiende a todos los oprimidos.
⁷ Dio a conocer sus caminos a Moisés;
reveló sus obras al pueblo de Israel.
⁸ **El SEÑOR es compasivo y misericordioso,**
lento para la ira y grande en amor. R.
⁹ No sostiene para siempre su querella
ni guarda rencor eternamente.
¹⁰ **No nos trata conforme a nuestros pecados**
ni nos paga según nuestras iniquidades.
¹¹ Tan grande es su amor por los que le temen
como alto es el cielo sobre la tierra.
¹² **Tan lejos de nosotros echó nuestras transgresiones**
como lejos del oriente está el occidente.
¹³ Tan compasivo es el SEÑOR con los que le temen
como lo es un padre con sus hijos. **R.**

Reading - Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God, word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

+ Gospel Acclamation

Reciban al que es débil en la fe, pero no para entrar en discusiones. A algunos su fe les permite comer de todo, pero hay quienes son débiles en la fe y solo comen verduras. El que come de todo no debe menospreciar al que no come ciertas cosas, y el que no come de todo no debe condenar al que lo hace, pues Dios lo ha aceptado. ¿Quién eres tú para juzgar al siervo de otro? Que se mantenga firme o que caiga es asunto de su propio señor. Y se mantendrá firme, porque el Señor tiene poder para sostenerlo. Hay quien considera que un día tiene más importancia que otro, pero hay quien considera iguales todos los días. Cada uno debe estar firme en sus propias opiniones. El que le da importancia especial a cierto día, lo hace para el Señor. El que come de todo, come para el Señor y lo demuestra dándole gracias a Dios. El que no come, para el Señor se abstiene y también da gracias a Dios. Porque ninguno de nosotros vive para sí mismo ni tampoco muere para sí. Si vivimos, para el Señor vivimos; y si morimos, para el Señor morimos. Así pues, sea que vivamos o que muramos, del Señor somos. Para esto mismo murió Cristo y volvió a vivir, para ser Señor tanto de los que han muerto como de los que aún viven. Tú, entonces, ¿por qué juzgas a tu hermano? O tú, ¿por qué lo menosprecias? ¡Todos tendremos que comparecer ante el tribunal de Dios! Está escrito: «Tan cierto como que yo vivo», dice el Señor, «ante mí se doblará toda rodilla y toda lengua confesará a Dios». Así que cada uno de nosotros tendrá que dar cuentas de sí a Dios.

Palabra de Dios, palabra de vida.

Demos gracias a Dios

ELW Setting 8 (by Robin Cain)



+ Gospel Reading - Matthew 18:21-35

The gospel according to Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay

Pedro se acercó a Jesús y preguntó:—Señor, ¿cuántas veces tengo que perdonar a mi hermano que peca contra mí? ¿Hasta siete veces? —No te digo que hasta siete veces, sino hasta setenta veces siete —contestó Jesús—. »Por eso el reino de los cielos se parece a un rey que quiso ajustar cuentas con sus siervos. Al comenzar a hacerlo, se presentó uno que le debía diez mil monedas de oro. Como él no tenía con qué pagar, el señor mandó que lo vendieran a él, a su esposa y a sus hijos y todo lo que tenía, para así saldar la deuda. El siervo se postró delante de él. “Tenga paciencia conmigo —rogó—, y se lo pagaré todo”. El señor se compadeció de su siervo, perdonó su deuda y lo dejó en libertad. »Al salir, aquel siervo se encontró con uno de sus compañeros que le debía cien monedas de plata. Lo agarró por el cuello y comenzó a estrangularlo. “¡Págame lo que me debes!”, exigió. Su compañero se postró delante de él. “Ten paciencia conmigo —rogó—, y te lo pagaré”. Pero él se negó. Más bien fue y lo hizo meter

you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

en la cárcel hasta que pagara la deuda. Cuando los demás siervos vieron lo ocurrido, se entristecieron mucho y fueron a contarle a su señor todo lo que había sucedido. Entonces el señor mandó llamar al siervo. “¡Siervo malvado! —le dijo—, te perdoné toda aquella deuda porque me lo suplicaste. ¿No debías tú también haberte compadecido de tu compañero, así como yo me compadecí de ti?”. Y enojado, su señor lo entregó a los carceleros para que lo torturaran hasta que pagara todo lo que debía. »Así también mi Padre celestial los tratará a ustedes, a menos que cada uno perdone de corazón a su hermano».

El Evangelio del Señor.

Alabanza a ti, oh Cristo!

Sermon - Pastor Amanda Simons

+ Hymn of the Day

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy

ELW 588

+ Prayers of the People

Following each petition: God of Grace, hear our prayer.

+ Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.

And also with you.

Y también contigo.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ using these or similar words “Peace be with you” or “La paz del Señor.”

MEAL

Offertory

Christ Be with Me

by K. Lee Scott (1988)

Hope Choir

As an act of gratitude and participation in God’s work among us, we offer our gifts. Thank you for supporting the ministry we share together through your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Financial offerings may be made online, via the QR code at the rear of the bulletin, by mail, or in the offering plate during Communion.

+ Offertory Prayer

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.**

+The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks to our gracious God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right.... we join their unending hymn:

+ Sanctus

ELW Setting 8 (by Jay Beech)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

+Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

+The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, Our Mother, 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

Creador nuestro, Madre nuestra, Padre nuestro que
estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu
reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el
cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona
nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación

from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

y libranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder y tuya es la gloria, ahora y siempre. Amén.

Holy Communion

We believe that Jesus Christ is present in Holy Communion with gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. All who hunger for the presence of Christ in their life are invited to partake. By our participation in this meal and blessing, we are strengthened in faith and in life. All are welcome to commune.

If you are at home and sitting with others... When sharing the bread with someone, say to them: “This is the body of Christ, given for you.” When sharing the wine or grape juice, say, “This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.”

If you are at home on your own... Hear the voice of the pastor naming these promises of grace and life for you. If you’d prefer a blessing, hear these promises: “You are a beloved child of God. May God strengthen you with grace through Christ for all we face today.”

If you are worshiping in-person today... We invite you to come forward to receive the elements and hear the words of promise, or to receive a blessing. Following the direction of the ushers, come forward: pick up a cup, gather around the table, receive the bread (gluten free is available), receive either the red wine or white grape juice in your cup, place your used cup in the basket. Children of all ages are welcome to partake at Holy Communion.

If you seek healing prayers today... A healing minister is available during Holy Communion this morning. If you’d like prayers for healing for yourself, for those you love, or for other situations, you are invited to come to one of the healing ministers. You can ask for specific prayers or simply ask them to pray with you...and they will.

If you are so inclined during this time... You may dip into the baptismal waters and remember the promises, light candles for situations around the world and close to home or add a prayer to the prayer wall. All prayer slips remain anonymous. Periodically throughout the year, prayers are removed from the wall, blessed during worship, and burned in our courtyard fireplace as a sign of releasing our burdens and entrusting our concerns to God’s care.

Music During Communion Before the Waters Nourished Earth

ACS 1049

1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
 2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
 3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
 4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness

ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
 E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
 par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
 still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -

u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
 mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
 faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
 gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961
 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish melody
 Text © 1996 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive
 I Come with Joy

ELW 605
 ELW 482

+ **Table Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

+ **Prayer after Communion**

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

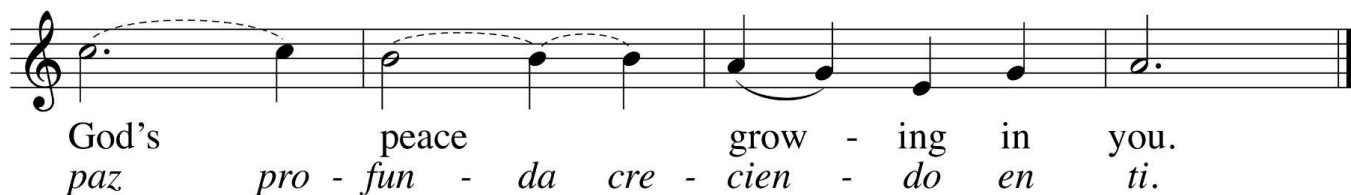
+ **Announcements**

SENDING

+ **Sending Hymn**

The Peace of the Earth	Guatemalan Song
<i>Choir sings once, then all sing twice, in English</i>	arr. John Bell (1998)

See next page for the sheet music



+Blessing

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.

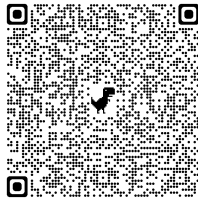
+Dismissal

Go forth with joy, loving God and serving neighbors.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne, BuxWV 137 Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Staff at University Lutheran Church of Hope Lead Pastor Rev. Amanda Simons (she/her) amandas@ulch.org Pastor Rev. Maria Anderson-Lippert (she/her) mariaa@ulch.org Minister of Worship and Music Paul Stever (he/him) pauls@ulch.org Financial Administrator Catherine Menick (she/her) FinAdmin@ulch.org Interim Office Administrator Sadie Bakken-Durchslag (she/her) office@ulch.org Worship a/v Tech Addison Gillette (she/they) ULCHTechAdmin@ulch.org Custodian Geremew Beshah (he/him) Lutheran Campus Pastor Kate Reuer Welton (she/her) kate@umnlutheran.org	Giving electronically Use this QR code to reach the University Lutheran Church of Hope donation page: Or go to www.ulch.org and click on the “Give” tab. Thank you for your generous support of God’s ministry through ULCH.  Copyright Acknowledgments Liturgy reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #3625 and from Westminster John Knox Press, <i>Feasting on the Word Worship Companion</i>, ©2014. Music throughout the service is reprinted under OneLicense A-707451 unless otherwise noted. Scripture excerpts in English from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, unless otherwise noted. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Scripture excerpts in Spanish from Santa Biblia, NUEVA VERSIÓN INTERNACIONAL® NVI®, © 1999, 2015 por Biblica, Inc.® Usado con permiso de Biblica, Inc.® Reservados todos los derechos en todo el mundo. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF LUTHERAN HOPE University Lutheran Church of Hope 601 13th Avenue SE Minneapolis, MN 55414-1437 612.331.5988 www.ulch.org Office hours: 9am to 2pm weekdays
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Today’s Worship Leaders

Pastor Amanda Simons, Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert (presiding minister); Eric Ringham (assisting minister); Hope Choir, Paul Stever (musicians); Bruce Eldevik, Diane Greve, Beth Kautz, Jo Schroeder (communion servers); Jason Lukis (lector); Addison Gillette (worship tech facilitator); Tim Abrahamson (greeter); Scott Hvizdos, Michael Kneer, Uli Koester, Williams Santana (ushers); Julaine Kobiske (worship prep); John Beane, Pauline Hendrickson (communion clean-up); Ann Agrimson, Donna Neste (healing prayer)

Save the Date - Upcoming Events

TODAY, September 13 and following Sundays at 10:30am

Worship has now returned to the 10:30am worship time for the upcoming year

Hope Choir: Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30pm

Hope Handbells: THIS Wednesday, Sept 16 from 6-6:55pm

Weekly choir rehearsals have resumed on Wednesday nights. All are welcome! If you haven't sung with us recently or if you are interested in bells (meeting about once a month) or other music programming, please reach out to Paul (pauls@ulch.org) so that we can have sheet music for you and get you a copy of the schedule.

Neighborhood Hope Celebration

Sunday, September 20 after worship

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of community, connection, and hope! Enjoy delicious oven-baked pizza, live music, games for all ages, and our special Circulation Event—where donated household items find new homes. Browse, choose, and adopt items you can use while helping reduce waste and bless your neighbors. Bring your family, invite a friend, and celebrate the joy of being a neighborhood together!

Want to help make it happen? We're looking for volunteers to assist with setup, hospitality, games, and cleanup. Whether you can help for an hour or the whole event, we'd love to have you join the team and help bring hope to our neighborhood! Contact Pastor Amanda at amandas@ulch.org to volunteer.