Williams Bay
Lutheran Church

October 11, 2026

Service of the Word & Holy Communion

9:30 AM

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

Please silence your cell phone. Thank you.

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

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

Stewardship Month
October is stewardship month! Every Sunday in October we will hear a stewardship message. Our theme is from Martin Luther: "Priesthood of All Believers." October 25th is Stewardship Sunday with a unity service at 9:30 and a guest speaker, Sara Nichols from Open Arms Free Clinic.

Confession and Forgiveness
The assembly stands. 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, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* **ELW 553**

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.**

Let us pray: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

1 O Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
2 For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.
3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
4 For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
5 the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

6 On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
7 And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;
8 he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.
9 It will be said on that day,
"See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

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

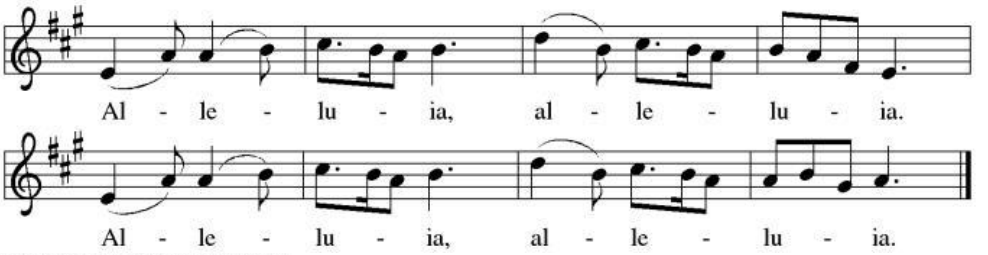
Psalm: Psalm 23

[1] The Lord | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.
[2] The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.
[3] You restore my | soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.
[4] Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.
[5] You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.
[6] Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

[1] My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord
in this way, my beloved. [2] I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the
Lord. [3] Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have
struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my
coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.
[4] Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. [5] Let your gentleness be known to
everyone. The Lord is near. [6] Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer
and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace
of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ
Jesus.
[8] Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just,
whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and
if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. [9] As for the things that you have
learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with
you.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Gospel

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

[1] Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: [2] "The kingdom of heaven may be
compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. [3] He sent his slaves to call those
who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. [4] Again he sent other
slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen
and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding
banquet.' [5] But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business,
[6] while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. [7] The king was enraged. He
sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. [8] Then he said to his slaves,
'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. [9] Go therefore into the main streets,
and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' [10] Those slaves went out into the streets
and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with
guests.

[11] "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not
wearing a wedding robe, [12] and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a
wedding robe?' And he was speechless. [13] Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand
and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of
teeth.' [14] For many are called, but few are chosen."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon *Pastor Tom*

Silence for Reflection

Hymn of the Day *As We Gather at Your Table* **ELW 522**

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

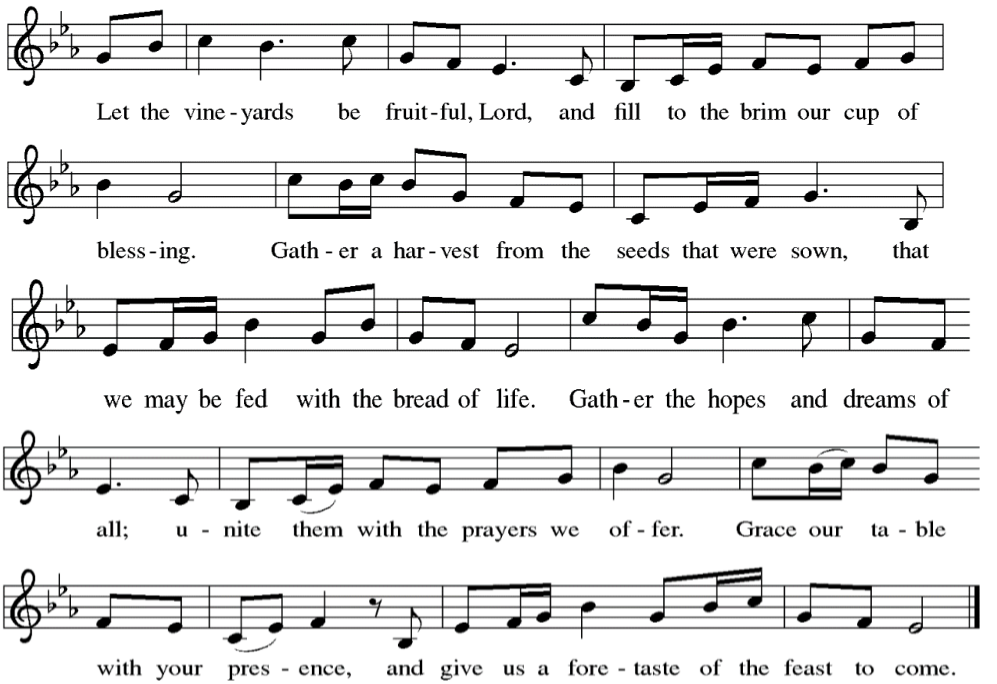
Prayers of Intercession
Petitions conclude with: Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

Peace
The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offering

MEAL

Offering Hymn *"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"* ELW 184



Offering Prayer

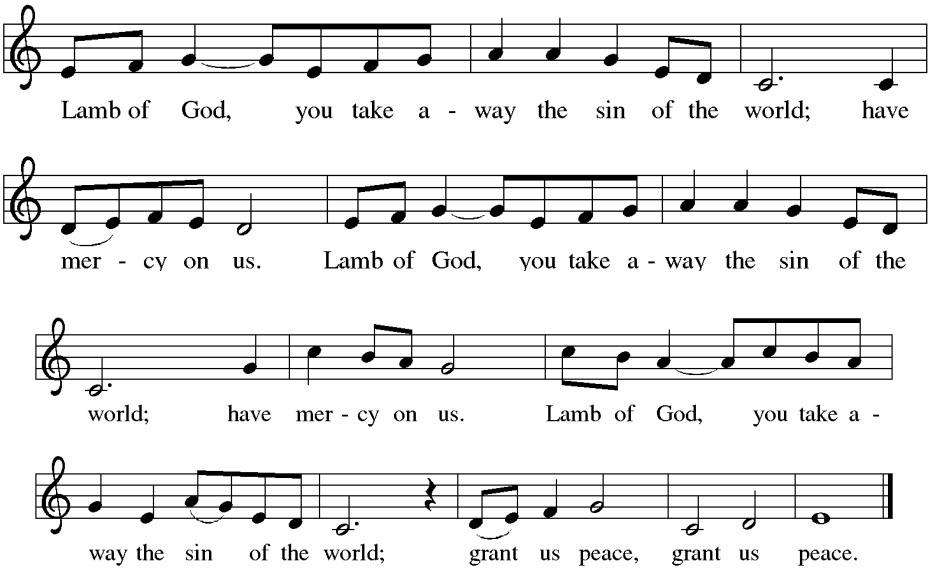
Words of Institution for Holy Communion

Lord's Prayer

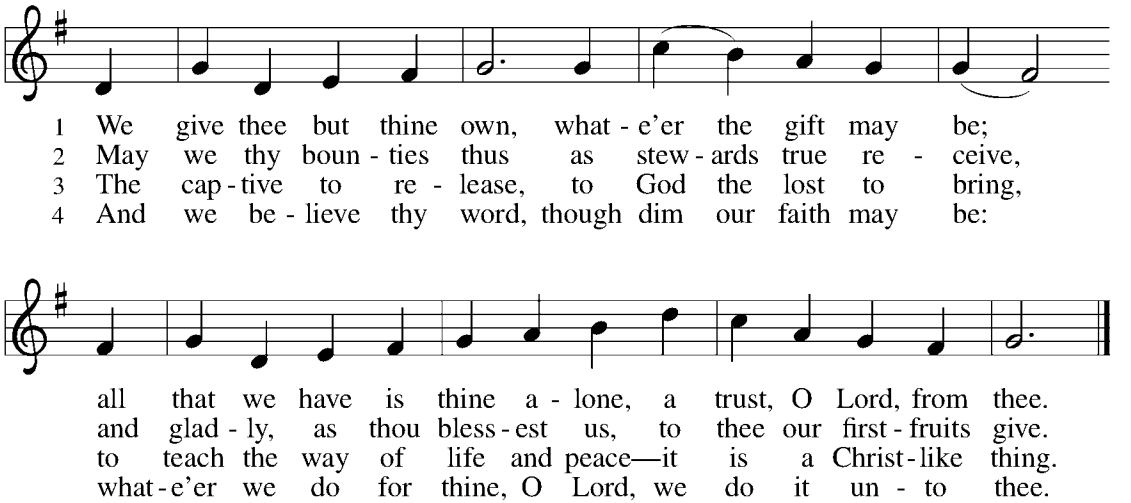
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

All are Welcome to receive the Lord's Meal at His table.

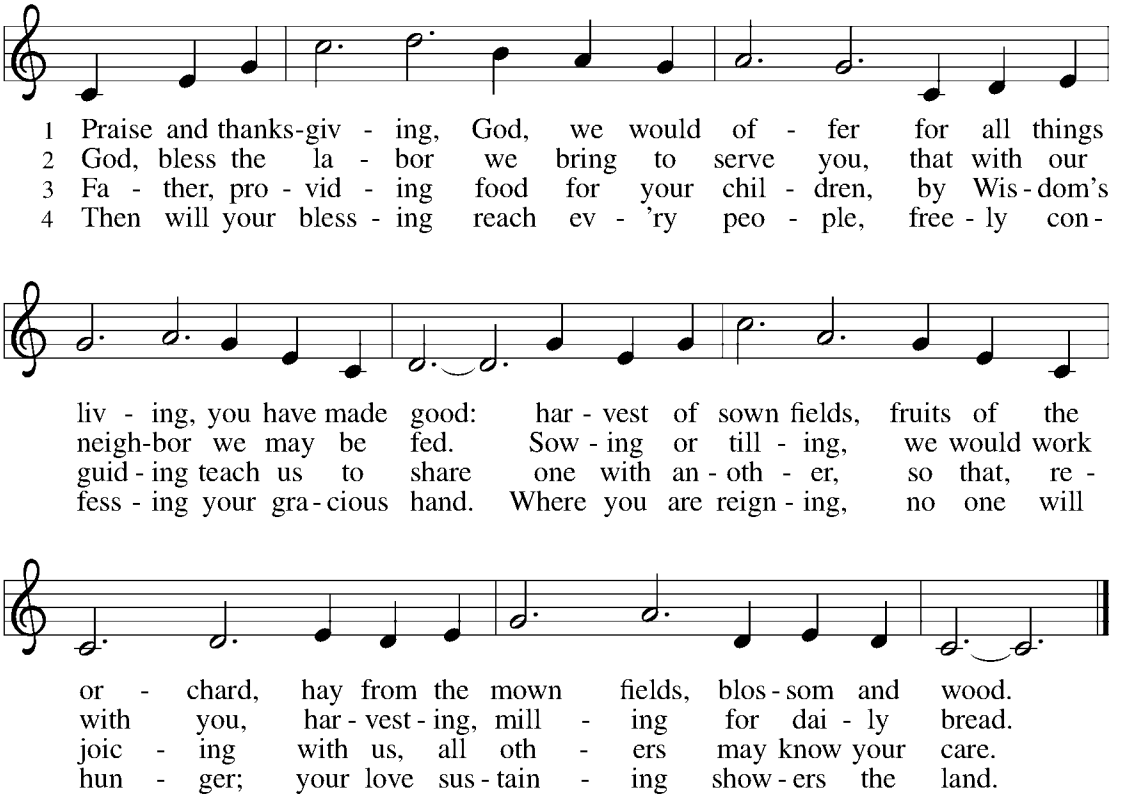
Hymns during Communion *"Lamb of God"*



We Give Thee but Thine Own **ELW 686**



Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
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Table Blessing

SENDING

Sending Prayer and Blessing

Sending Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* **ELW 807**

Dismissal

Thanks be to God!

†

Altar flowers: Today's altar flowers are given by Harold Friestad Friestad in loving memory of his wife Cheryl.

Grace Notes

Oct 11	8:00 AM Simplified Service
	9:30 AM Traditional Service
	9:45 Sunday School
	10:45 AM Bible Study
Oct 12	Office Closed
Oct 13-14	Pastor Tom at Synod CE
Oct 14	9:30 AM Coffee Club
Oct 15	8:30 AM Pastor Tom at Ecumenical Meeting

Pastor Tom Out of the Church Office - Pastor Tom will be gone for Synod Continuing Education in Madison on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Church Gardens - Thank you to Carolyn Marshall for providing all the beautiful church flowers this summer and thanks to John and Karen Yancey for the new church plants on the north side of church.

Picture Directory - We are making plans for a new pictorial church directory. Please sign up to have your picture taken.
Bible Study - Join Pastor Tom in a fall Bible study on the Gospel of John. We will meet from 10:45 - 11:30 after Sunday morning worship.

CROP Hunger Walk - Join us on a community walk to raise awareness of hunger needs in our community and around the world. We will walk on October 18 at 1pm. This is a community led event and everyone is welcome to walk and donate.

Worship Servers

Service		October 11	October 18
Usher	9:30 AM	Chad Beth	OPEN
Lector	8:00 AM	Dori Freundt	OPEN
	9:30 AM	Mary Mock	Fran Flucke
Cantor	9:30 AM	Mary Mock	OPEN
Communion Assistants	9:30 AM	Mary Mock	OPEN
		OPEN	OPEN
Refreshments		Carlson's	Pastor Tom & Evie
Altar Flowers		Harold Friestad	OPEN
Altar Guild		Carol	Jorine
Offering Counters		Dinah & Jack	Dottie & Connie
Sunday School		Marilyn Carlson	Marilyn Carlson

Life Together as God's People

Ministers	Williams Bay Lutheran Church Members
Pastor	Rev. Thomas Dowling
Council President	Allen Filloon
Council Vice President	Mike Reno
Treasurer	Bruce Hildner
9:30 Organist	Marianne Peterson
8:00 Pianist	Susan Gali and Chris Groth
Custodian	Mary Mock
Landscaping	Gunnar Olsen
Secretary	Sandra Johnson