

First English Lutheran Church

1311 East 18th Street

Spencer, Iowa 51301

8:00 & 10:45 am Communion Services

Paul E. Kaldahl, Pastor

Pentecost 17

September 20 2026

Kristin Kaldahl, Organist

Phone: 262-5598

Prelude, Ringing of the Bell

Opening Hymn - LSB # 821 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

Welcome

Order of Worship – Divine Service 3 - LSB pg. 184

Invocation; Confession of Sins

Introit

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.

O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.

You have loosed my bonds.

Gloria Patri; Kyrie – pg. 186

Gloria in Excelsis – pg. 187

Collect and Responses – pg. 189

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You
relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding
grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your
Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Old Testament – Isaiah 55:6–9

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Epistle – Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. ¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

²²If I am to live in the flesh that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

(please rise)

Alleluia – pg. 190

Holy Gospel - Matthew 20:1-16

For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.'

⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, '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.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last."

(Responses on pg. 190-191)

Sermon Hymn - LSB # 555 "Salvation Unto Us Has Come"

Sermon

Nicene Creed – pg. 191 (Or inside back cover of hymnal)

Offertory - "Create in Me..." pg. 192-193

Offering

Prayers

Preface to Holy Communion - page 194

Proper Preface

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus – "Holy, Holy, Holy" pg. 195

Lord's Prayer – pg. 196 (Or inside back cover)

Words of Institution – pg. 197

Pax Domini – pg. 197

Agnus Dei – pg. 198

(please be seated)

Distribution of Holy Communion

Hymns - LSB # 578 "Thy Strong Word"

LSB # 637 "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

LSB # 533 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

LSB # 481 "Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom"

Nunc Dimittis – pg. 199

Thanksgiving – pg. 200-201

Benedicamus and Benediction – pg. 201-202

Closing Hymn - LSB # 738 "Lord of All Hopefulness"

Announcements and Postlude

✠ ✠ ✠ **HOLY COMMUNION** ✠ ✠ ✠

Dear Visitors and Friends: Our practice of close communion is the historic practice of the church. Through it we practice love and fidelity to God's Word, prompting us to care for all of God's people in this unique way. Please understand that our communion practice does not deny that the members of other denominations are Christians! Rather,

it bows the knee to the Bible's deep concern for doctrinal truth (Romans 16:17). When we commune together, God unites all who commune, not only in saving faith, but also in truth, regarding what the scripture teaches about the Lord's Supper. In 1 Corinthians 11 Paul tells us that this expression of unity must be honest and truthful.

For this reason, the congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of “Close Communion.” ***If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of First English Lutheran Church or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.*** Rather, we invite you to ask the pastor about how you might become a communicant member of our congregation.

It is our sincere prayer that our careful administration of the Lord's Supper will not be a hindrance to our fellowship with you this morning, but instead that it would lead you to appreciate the high regard we have for Christ and His Word concerning this precious gift. **Thank you for understanding, and God bless you!**

If you are a member of the LCMS, please follow the four steps of preparation for Holy Communion. You can find those preparation instructions on the white cards on the back of the pew in front of you. When you attend Holy Communion, please register by filling out one of the white cards and pass them to the inner aisle during the offering so that the ushers can collect it.

For those who prefer, the cup in the center of the communion tray is grape juice with a drop of wine. If you do not feel secure taking the individual cup from the tray, please hold out your hand to indicate your concern and the cup will be handed to you. We invite small children to accompany their parents, if they desire to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

✠ ✠ VISITORS AND MEMBERS ✠ ✠

Sometime during the service, we ask that everyone fill out one of the cards found in the pew racks so that we might have a record of your worship with us today. For our visitors we ask that you please sign our Guest Register on the table next to the front door as you leave. We are pleased to have you join us this morning as we praise our great God and encourage you to visit us again when possible.

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www.spencer-church.com

Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl, Jr., Pastor