Welcome to St. Michael Lutheran Church and School

"Engaged in God's Work"
Commitment Sunday

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 2026 + 11:00 am

MORNING SONG

*(* = please stand)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*** SHARING OF THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *(portions of Psalm 103)*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
P: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name.
C: Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all His benefits--
P: The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.
C: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.
P: He will not always accuse, nor will He harbor His anger forever;
C: He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.
P: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him;
C: As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.
P: Our God is gracious and compassionate, and so we come to Him with complete confidence in Christ, as well as in sincere contrition and repentance, confessing to Him our sins *(We pause for a brief time of silent confession of sin).* Father in Heaven. . .
C: We poor sinners confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, both by what we have done, and by what we have failed to do. Have mercy on us and forgive us for the sake of the obedient life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.
P: Our gracious Heavenly Father has heard our confession and forgives us all our sins on account of the atoning sacrifice of His Son. Therefore, in His place and by His authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May God empower us with His grace to take this gift by faith, and to live a new life to His greater honor and glory.
C: Amen.

*** SONG OF PRAISE:** "Thank You, Lord," by Don Moen

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Let us pray.
C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 45:1–7

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

* RESPONSE *(Portions of Psalm 116)*

A: I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.
C: Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.
A: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.
C: The Lord preserves the simple; when I was brought low, He saved me.
A: Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.
C: For You have delivered my soul from death,
A: My eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;
C: I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
A: What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
C: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.
A: I am Your servant… You have loosed my bonds.
C: I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.
A: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people,
C: In the courts of the house of the Lord... Praise the Lord!
A: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
C: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

* GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:15–22

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.
C: Glory to You, O Lord. *(after the reading the following is said. . .)*
P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to You, O Christ.

* NICENE CREED

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one LORD Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BIBLE MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY: "Jesus Thank You," by Pat Sczebel; and as time permits, "Offering," by Paul Baloche

(At this time the congregation will be ushered forward to place their pledges and contributions near the altar)

* PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(Each petition concludes with "Lord, in Your mercy," to which the congregation responds: "**Hear our prayer"**).*

* SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them up to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is good and right for us to do.
P: Holy and gracious Father, we give You thanks that in Your infinite love You made us for Yourself, and when we rebelled against You in sin, You had mercy on us and sent Your perfect Son to the cross and raised Him from death that we might be reconciled to You. Therefore, with angels, and archangels, and all the company of heaven we praise and magnify Your holy name, forever saying:

C: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, "Take and eat, this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me." For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen, come Lord Jesus.

P: Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray. . .

C: 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.

SONGS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

"Revelation Song," by Jennie Lee Riddle
"Salvation's Song," by Stuart Townend

* THANKSGIVING PRAYER

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: And His steadfast love lasts forever.

P: We give thanks to You, dear Father, and glorify Your holy name for all Your countless blessings to us, especially the forgiveness, life, and salvation we have through this holy Sacrament of the true body and blood of Your Son. Empower us with the Holy Spirit that we might be Your people in the world, and share the good news of Your love through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit as one God forever.

C: Amen.

* ANNOUNCEMENTS

* BLESSING AND SENDING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
The Lord look upon you with His favor and give you His peace.

C: Amen.

P: "Freely you have received; freely give" (Matthew 10:8)

C: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING SONG: "Your Grace Is Enough," by Matt Maher

POSTLUDE

Those who would like someone to pray with them privately
are invited to come toward the front of the sanctuary at this time.

SERVING TODAY (10/18)	***SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (10/25)***
Presiding Minister (P): Rev. Daniel Maske	*Rev. Dr. Paul R. Naumann*
Assisting (A) and Preaching: Rev. Dr. Paul Naumann	*Rev. Dr. Paul R. Naumann*
Lay Ministers: Arlan Wendzel, Howard McNees	*Arlan Wendzel, Howard McNees*
Ushers: Jesse Hogue	*Jesse Hogue*
Greeters: Mark & Kim Ruesch	*Dar Swift, Sue Keltsch*
Children's Message: Lisa Lam	*Pastor Naumann*
Lector: Dave Johnson	Lynne Wendzel

Isaiah 45:1–7

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: 2 "I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will

break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, [3] I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. [4] For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. [5] I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, [6] that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. [7] I form light and create darkness; make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things.

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. [2] We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, [3] remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. [4] For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, [5] because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. [6] And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, [7] so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. [8] For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. [9] For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, [10] and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Matthew 22:15–22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. [16] And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. [17] Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” [18] But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? [19] Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. [20] And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” [21] They said, “Caesar's.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.” [22] When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.