ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH BARTLETT, TX
ELW Holy Communion - Sunday, Oct. 11, 2026
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Announcements
Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness (ELW p. 94)
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.
Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.
Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

Gathering Song - What Is This Place - ELW Hymn #524

What Is This Place

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933
Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626
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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.

Kyrie (ELW p. 147)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 148)

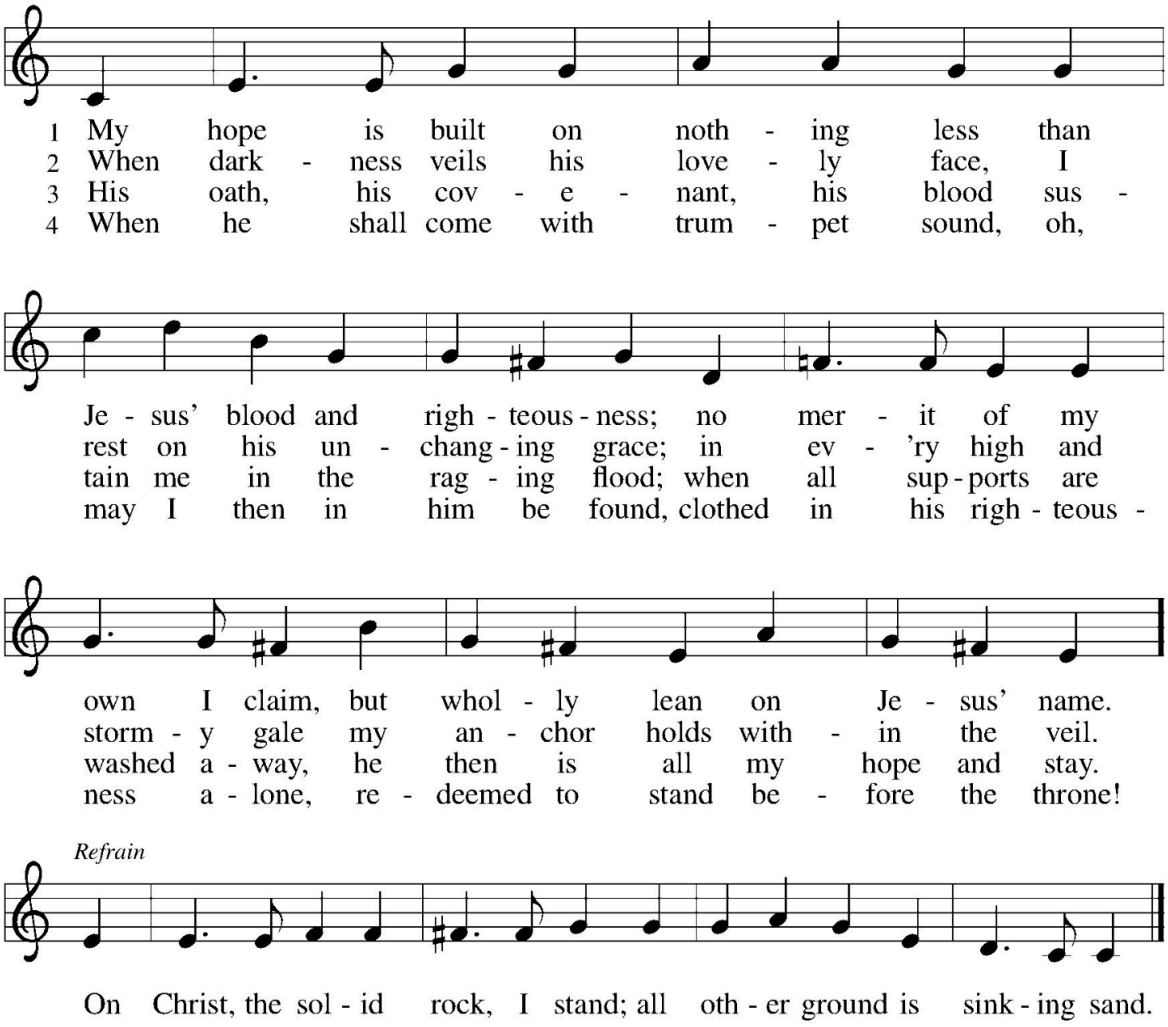
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Song - My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less - ELW Hymn #597

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.
After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

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

Refrain: You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)

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.
R You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over.
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.
R You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

A reading from Philippians.
Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

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 (ELW p. 151)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

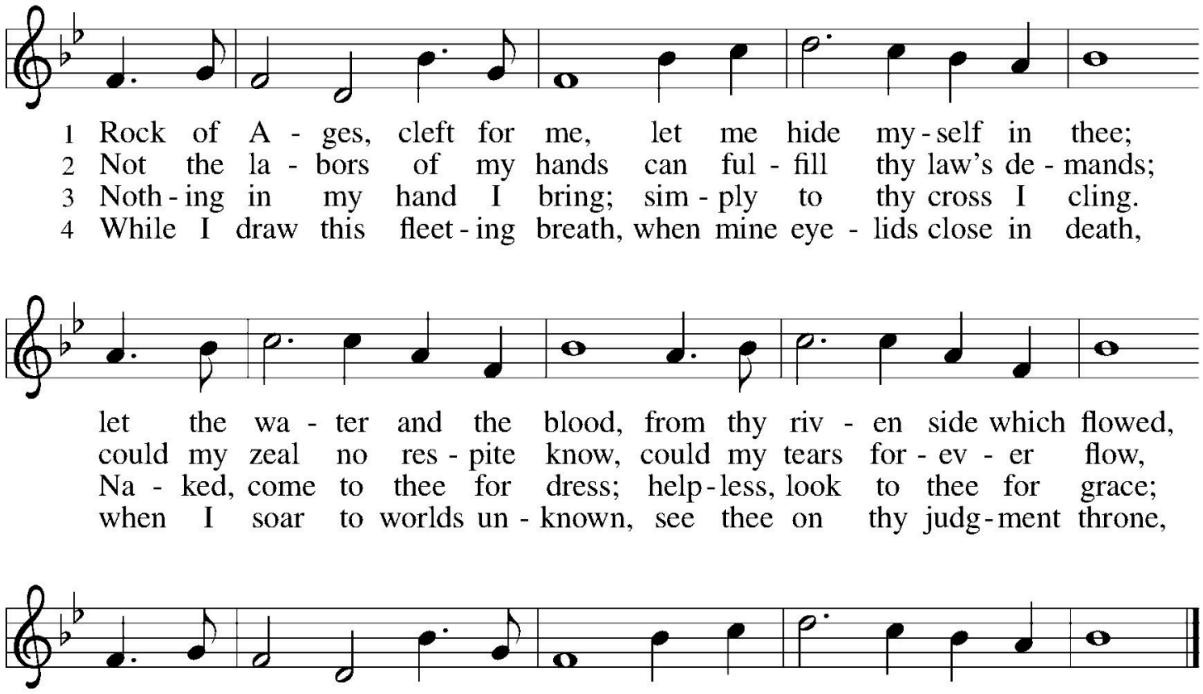
The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.
Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

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.

Children's Sermon (ELW p. 151) - Pastor Jeremy Ullrich
Sermon (ELW p. 151) - Pastor Jeremy Ullrich
Hymn of the Day - Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me - ELW Hymn #623

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872

Apostles' Creed (ELW p. 105)

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.

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*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

Prayers of Intercession

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain. Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious difference, that the world may know your undivided love. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters. Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
We remember your promise to not abandon us amid storm and disaster. Renew all communities facing disasters and give your courage to those leading relief efforts. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
We remember your promise to wipe away every tear. Heal and console all who are sick or suffering. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
We remember your promise of a banquet open to all people. Challenge this congregation to open wide our doors and welcome everyone to the table. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
We remember your promise to swallow up death forever. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Peace
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering (ELW p. 152)

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Offering Prayer
Let us pray.
God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
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.

Blessing
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Song - On Our Way Rejoicing - ELW Hymn #537

On Our Way Rejoicing

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

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OFFICIATING & SERVING -October 11, 2026 10:30 am		
Pastor:	Jeremy Ullrich	Organist: Debra Caldwell
Lector:	Debra Caldwell	
Greeters:	Weldon & Cedalia Kurtz	
Usher Captain:	Darrell Marek	
Ushers:	April Marek, Amanda Harper, & Lynn Stroud	
Altar Care:	Pam Fleming & Mila Wegner	
Teller Captain:	Dorothy Marwitz	
Teller:	Barbara Voight & Kristi Dague	

OFFICIATING & SERVING -October 18, 2026 10:30 am		
Pastor:	Jeremy Ullrich	Organist: Debra Caldwell
Pastor Asst.	Wayne Zieschang	
Communion Asst.	Harold Kurtz	
Lector:	Carol Wilson	
Greeters:	Harold & Joan Kurtz	
Usher Captain:	Tim Steglich	
Ushers:	Justin Young, Spring & Vivian Janke	
Altar Care:	Retha & Alan Shepherd	
Teller Captain:	April Marek	
Teller:	Darrell Marek & Charles Gersbach	

OFFICIATING & SERVING -October 25, 2026 10:30 am		
Pastor:	Jeremy Ullrich	Organist: Debra Caldwell
Lector:	Ronnie Persky	
Greeters:	Duane & Sharon Kurtin	
Usher Captain:	Weldon Kurtz	
Ushers:	Cedalia Kurtz, Kris, Courteney, & Kody Janke	
Altar Care:	April Marek & Amanda Harper	
Teller Captain:	Judy Gersbach	
Teller:	Deborah Martin & Mila Wegner	

OFFERING & ATTENDANCE

	Worship Attendance	Offering	YTD
Sept 13	56	$2,428.00	$108,782.61
Sept 20	47	$2,389.00	$111,171.61
Sept 27	155	$1,957.00	$113,128.61
Oct 4	50	$3,299.00	$116,427.61

IN OUR PRAYERS

Garland Wentrcek | Stanley Glaser | Clark Lindemann | Jeff Woolley
Janell Janke | Risa Steglich | Ruth Janke | Janice Atchison
Sue McClintick | Brandon Janke | Jay Don Gommert | Charles Gersbach
Pam Terrell | Leeann Barnhill | Walt Saverse | Mila Wegner
Tammy Rodriguez (sister of Joey Saverse) | Adam Gielbunt(Melissa Rafay's Brother)
Mr. Hardy (Erin Steglich's Friend's Dad) | Kyle Vanacek (Cousin to Dustin & Amanda Harper)
Cathy Balusek (Friend of Leanne and Shirley Janke) | Anita Thomas(Friend of Leanne Janke)
Dale & Judie Stroud (Brother and Sister-in-law of Lynn Stroud) | Jim Crum (Friend of Cynthia Degner)
Cynthia Motloch (cousin of Sharon Randig) | Glenda Louve (cousin of Sharon Randig)
Alvin Marek (Uncle to Darrell & April Marek)
Penny Dittman and Family (friend of Carol Wilson) | Larry Helbert(Uncle of Melinda Kurtz)

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

Monday: Monday at FBC @ 1:00 pm–Pickleball and 2PM Dominoes in Basement
Thursday: PieceMakers meet each Thursday in the Basement @ 1:00 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Service Helpers

If you are not able to do the job you are assigned, it is your responsibility to get someone to do the job for you. Also, please let the church office know of the change if there is adequate time.

Pastoral Visits

We are encouraging those hospitalized, nursing home residents (or, their family members), and the homebound members and friends who wish to schedule an in-person pastoral visit or phone call to contact Pastor Jeremy Ullrich @ 979-421-3303 or the church office @ 254-527-3341. **NOTE:** Pastor Ullrich will need to be listed as a "visitor of choice" in hospitals or nursing homes. Also, the Pastor will need age or date of birth and address or he will be denied access to your loved one. (Especially at Baylor Scott and White) This will need to be established by a family member.

Dominoes

Every Monday @ 2PM – Domino games (42 and Straight and Moon)

Pickleball

We have moved Pickleball to FBC in Bartlett @ 1:00pm until the work on the TRC is completed.

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School starts at 9:30am in the basement.

Prayer Requests

When you make a prayer request for a non-member, please provide the church office with contact information so that we can send them a card. Thank you.

Flag Donations

3x5 U.S. Flags with grommets are appreciated for our church. In memory of loved ones, you may donate flags, or make cash donations, at the church office. For further information contact Walt Saverse @ 254-770-8381, or contact the church office @ 254-527-3341.

Will-O-Bell Nursing Home Worship

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the residents of our local nursing home! Through communion and a 30-minute hymn sing-along, please show these residents they are not forgotten by joining us on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Granger and on the third Thursday of each month at 10AM in Bartlett. Please come and make a resident smile.

Youth Sunday School

Teachers are NEEDED!!!

Prayer Chain

We have updated the Prayer Chain Information. If you have any changes to your information or If you want to be removed or be added to the Prayer Chain list, please let the office or Linda Ferguson know.

WELCA

The NTNL Synodical Women's Organization is holding their SWO Fall Retreat on October 23-24, 2026 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church , 800 N. New Road in Waco, Texas. Sign Up sheets are in the church office.

WELCA

There will be a WELCA meeting after church on Sunday October 25, to discuss Advent Fair.