ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH BARTLETT, TX
ELW Holy Communion - Sunday, Oct. 4, 2026
19th Sunday after Pentecost

Announcements
Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness (ELW p. 94)

In the name of the Father,
and of the ☩ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Gathering Song - If You But Trust in God to Guide You - ELW Hymn #769

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.
Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Song - Lead On, O King Eternal! - ELW Hymn #805

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.
The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

1 I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
2 He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.
3 And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,

judge between me and my vineyard.
4 What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

5 And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.
6 I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;
I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah are his cherished garden;
he expected justice but saw bloodshed;
righteousness but heard a cry!

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 80:7-15

Refrain: Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

7 Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
8 **You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;**
you cast out the nations and | planted it.
9 You cleared the | ground for it; it took root and | filled the land.
10 **The mountains were covered | by its shadow**
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.
R Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine.
11 You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea
and its branches | to the river.
12 **Why have you broken | down its wall,**
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?
13 The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

14 **Turn now, O | God of hosts, look | down from heaven;**

15 behold and | tend this vine; preserve what your right | hand has planted.

R Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from Philippians.

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] 4b If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:

5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. 10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, 11 if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

12 Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. 13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.
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 21:33-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.
Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said:] 33 “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put
a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and
went away. 34 When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his
produce. 35 But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.
36 Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way.
37 Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ 38 But when the tenants
saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his
inheritance.’ 39 So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40 Now when
the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” 41 They said to him, “He will
put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give
him the produce at the harvest time.”

42 Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?

43 “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people
that produces its fruits. 44 The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will
crush anyone on whom it falls.”

45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was
speaking about them. 46 They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they
regarded him as a prophet.

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 - O Master, Let Me Walk with You - ELW Hymn #818

Nicene Creed (ELW p. 104)
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

---

*Or, “who proceeds from the Father.” The phrase “and the Son” is a later addition to the creed.

Prayers of Intercession

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

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world’s conflict zones, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees.
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you. 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

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

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.

Dialogue (ELW p. 152)

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface (ELW p. 153)
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy (ELW p. 153)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution (ELW p. 153)

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer (ELW p. 154)

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.

Invitation to Communion
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Communion Song (ELW p. 154)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion
Let us pray.
Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Song - My God, How Wonderful Thou Art- ELW Hymn #863

Dismissal
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Hymns available under One License A - 710028.

OFFICIATING & SERVING -October 4, 2026 10:30 am

Pastor:	Jeremy Ullrich	Organist: Debra Caldwell
Pastor Asst.	Weldon Kurtz	
Communion Asst.	Alan Shepherd	
Lector:	Garrett Kurtz	
Greeters:	John & Barbara Voight	
Usher Captain:	Tim Steglich	
Ushers:	Justin Young, Spring & Vivian Janke	
Altar Care:	Donna Dawson & Lori Matlock	
Teller Captain:	Sharon Koosen	
Teller:	Cedalia Kurtz & Joyce Martinets	

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	

OFFERING & ATTENDANCE

	Worship Attendance	Offering	YTD
Sept 6	43	$3,282.00	$106,354.61
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

IN OUR PRAYERS

Garland Wentrcek	Stanley Glaser	Clark Lindemann	Jeff Woolley
Janell Janke	Risa Steglich	Ruth Janke	Janice Atchison
Sue McClintick	Brandon Janke	Lloyd Kurtz	Jay Don Gommert
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)
Charles Gersbach
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.

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.

Youth Sunday School

Teachers are NEEDED!!!