CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Patrick Cox

Worship for Saturday, October 3, 2026
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The True Vine Redeems the Vineyard of the LORD of Hosts

"The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel" (Is. 5:7), which He planted "on a very fertile hill" (Is. 5:1). He did everything for His vineyard, not only clearing it of stones and planting it with "choice vines," but also building the "watchtower" of His prophets and hewing out the "wine vat" of His priesthood in its midst (Is. 5:2). But when "he looked for it to yield grapes," there were only "wild grapes" of bloodshed and unrighteousness (Is. 5:2, 7). The Lord Jesus likewise described the unfaithfulness of those who were called to care for His vineyard (Matt. 21:33-35). But in this He also describes His cross and Passion (Matt. 21:38-39), by which He has redeemed the vineyard for Himself. He is the true Vine, planted by death into the ground, and in His resurrection He brings forth "the fruits in their seasons" (Matt. 21:41). Among those good grapes of the true Vine is the apostle Paul. Once a zealous persecutor of the Church, he "suffered the loss of all things" in order to "gain Christ and be found in him," to "know him and the power of his resurrection" (Phil. 3:8-10).

+ Please silence your cell phone.
+ Please fill out the red 'Record of Fellowship' book in your pew.

✢ DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING 2 ✢

HANDBELL PRELUDE: "What God Ordains Is Always Good"

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

✢ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✢

INVOCATION and EXHORTATION LSB 167

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

INTROIT *(see insert)*
SALUTATION LSB 172
Pastor: **And also with you.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 5:1-7
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Philippians 3:4b-14
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46
Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Holy Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY

SERMON "Finally He Sent His Son" *from Matthew 21:37-44*

APOSTLES' CREED LSB 175

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
Pastor: …let us pray to the Lord,
People: Lord, have mercy.

RESPONSIVE SONG
OFFERING

✢ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✢

PREFACE LSB 177
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING LSB 178

LORD'S PRAYER LSB 179

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI LSB 180
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT and BENEDICTION LSB 183

CLOSING SONG

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HOLY COMMUNION

In the Sacrament of Holy Communion our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us with His true body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins. He invites to His table baptized Christians who trust His words, repent of all their sin, and forgive one another as He forgives us.

In 1 Corinthians 10:14-22, St. Paul teaches us that Holy Communion is also a public profession that unity of doctrine exists amongst those who commune at the same altar. Therefore, we ask any who are not yet instructed in the doctrine of our church or who hold membership/commune at a non-LCMS church body to abstain from receiving the Sacrament here today. If it is your desire to receive communion with us at this altar, please speak with Pastor Cox. It would be his joy to instruct you toward confirmation. *For further study see Matthew 5:23ff, 10:32ff, 18:15-35, 26:26-29; Acts 2:38, 42; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:17-34.*

All who are not receiving the Sacrament today are welcome to come to the communion rail to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest when you come to the rail.

- ✠ **The individual cups are offered first, followed by the chalice.**
- ✠ **The cups in the center of the trays include one drop of wine.**
- ✠ **Please let the pastor know if you need a gluten-free wafer.**

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PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP SERVICE

READERS: (Sat) Pastor Cox| (Sun) Tony Pessini
ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Wyatt, Rose Dawn
ELDERS: Scott Brewster, Bob Timm, John Clemmons
USHERS: (Sat) Scott Brewster
(Sun) John Clemmons, Mat Shelby, Pastor Hildebrandt
ORGANIST: Dr. Sarah Harr DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS: Judy Zehnder
PRAISE TEAM: Nyssa Hunt and Sylvia Hildebrandt
A/V TEAM: Scott Brewster, Nyssa Hunt, Tim Riethmeier,
Mike & Monica Witherby, Bonnie Wright-Woodward