



“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said  
‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’”

*Matthew 21:28*

## **Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**

September 27, 2020

*Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel*

Jesus’ parable about two sons who don’t do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God  
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through  
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Nine*

*The paraments are green during the season of Pentecost to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.*

## **✠ GATHERING ✠**

### **ACCLAMATION**

William Stevens

Alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord;  
I know them and they follow me. Alleluia.  
*(John 10:27)*

### **OPENING VOLUNTARY** I Call to Thee, BWV 639

J.S. Bach

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here, BWV 633

*We stand.*

### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*We stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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.**

*The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.*

GATHERING HYMN 557 Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

MORNING HYMN



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy  
 2 All praise to thee, who safe hast kept and  
 3 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new. Dis -  
 4 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all  
 5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and  
 hast re - freshed me while I slept. Grant, Lord, when I from  
 perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of  
 I de - sign or do or say, that all my pow'rs, with  
 God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.  
 thought and will; and with thy - self my spir - it fill.  
 all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.  
 heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.  
 Music: MORNING HYMN, François H. Barthélemon, 1741–1808

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



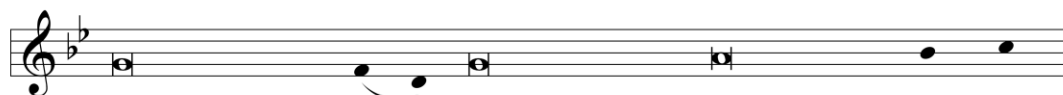
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



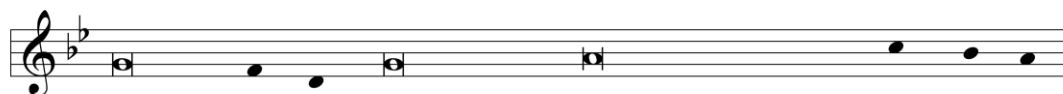
For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



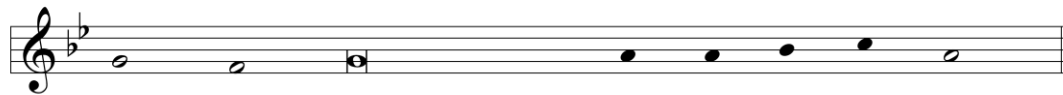
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we  
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of  
God; you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;  
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men, a - - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

*After the prayer the assembly responds: Amen.*

*We sit.*

## WELCOME

## TEMPLE TALK

Eileen New

# ✝ WORD ✝

## FIRST READING Ezekiel 18:1-4; 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the LORD God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the LORD is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the LORD God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the LORD God. Turn, then, and live.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM 25:1-9**

Anglican chant by John Goss

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD,  
I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths.

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness,  
O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>You are gracious and up right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

**SECOND READING** Philippians 2:1-13

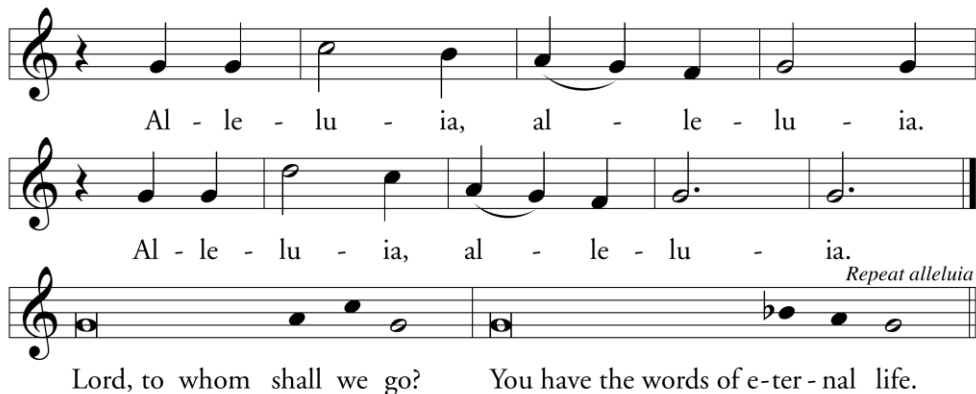
If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

## SERMON

Pastor Wollner

*We stand.*

HYMN OF THE DAY 686 We Give Thee but Thine Own

HEATH

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
 3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
 to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.  
 what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.  
 Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

## APOSTLES' CREED

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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*Each portion of the prayers concludes:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

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

*We sit.*

# ✠ THANKSGIVING ✠

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM As the Deer, for Water Yearning

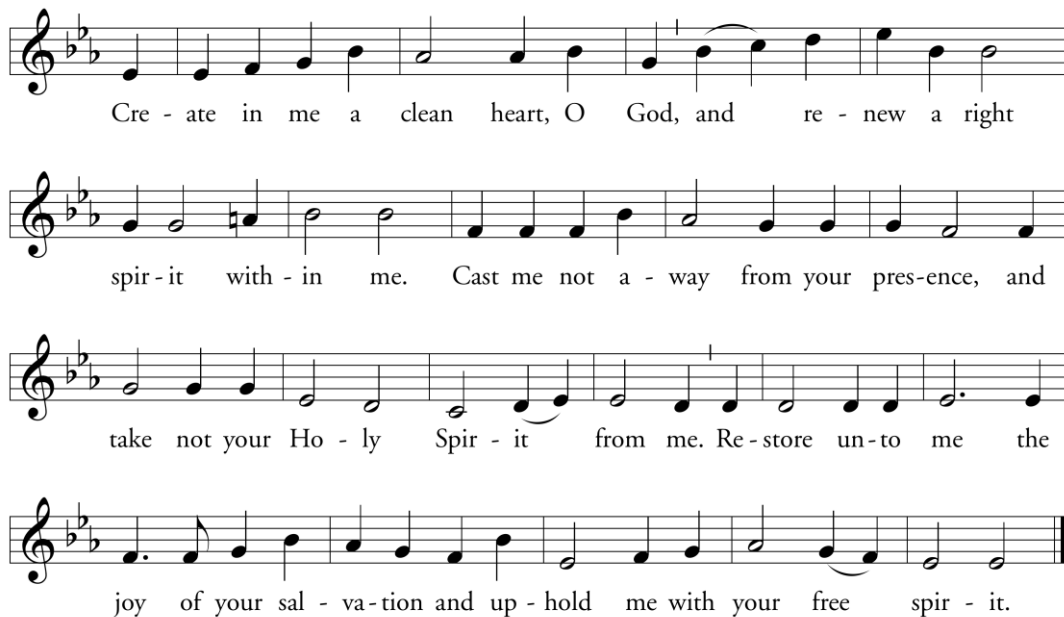
Claude Goudimel

As the deer, for water yearning, seeks the stream's refreshing flow,  
So my heart and soul are burning, thirsting, LORD, your life to know.  
For the waters that revive I cry out to God alive:  
When shall I bow in your presence and behold your face in rev'rence?

Tears have been my daily portion, "Where is God?" they say to me.  
I recall my deep devotion, singing thanks with spirit free.  
Why are you cast down, my soul? Will not God your grief console?  
I will praise my living Savior, God, my help and hope forever.

*We stand.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and  
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion and up - hold me with your free spir - it.

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

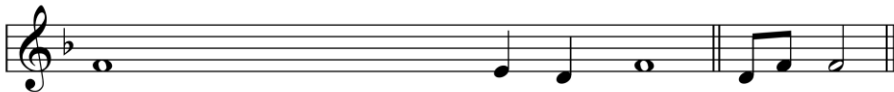
**Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
    **hallowed be thy name,**  
    **thy kingdom come,**  
    **thy will be done,**  
        **on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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.**

## ✠SENDING ✠

### BLESSING



The Lord bless you ... and ✠ give you peace. A - men.

1 Voic - es raised to you we of - fer; tune them, God, for  
 2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise you; earth and sky your  
 3 Christ, the song of love in - car - nate, touch - ing earth with  
 4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion, kin - dle faith with -  
 5 How can an - y praise we of - fer mea - sure all the

songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute  
 works dis - play. Art and mu - sic, gifts you lend us,  
 heav - en's grace, for your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,  
 in each heart. Lift our voic - es high in cho - rus;  
 thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voic - es—

for your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 we re - turn to you to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 for your ris - ing, hear our praise! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 through our hands your love im - part. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 gifts of love we can be - stow. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! God, cre - a - tor, source of life!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, re - deem - er, Lord of life!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Spir - it, help - er, breath of life!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923  
 Music: SONG OF PRAISE, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936  
 Text © 1996 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** Ceremonial Music in B-flat

David N. Johnson

## ***Soli Deo Gloria***

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# Announcements

**The altar flowers are given to the glory of God** and in memory of Dr. C. Ross Ritchie, Jr. by his wife, JoAnne Ritchie.

**This week we keep in prayer Gidei Woldemariam**, 647 South Hawthorne Road, Winston-Salem NC 27013-3738. Please send **Gidei** a note.

**Commitment Sunday is next Sunday, October 4.** Every Augsburg household should have received in the mail a large white envelope containing the 2021 Stewardship Packet: *With God's Abundant Love We Hope*. You can bring your Statement of Intent Card with you to drive thru communion drop off, mail you card to the office, or fill it out online at [www.alcws.org/intent2021](http://www.alcws.org/intent2021). It is especially important to have an accurate forecast for giving as we continue to do ministry in these unique times. Please return you card as soon as possible.

**Augsburg will offer Drive-Thru Communion next Sunday, October 4**, as part of our Sunday worship service. We will follow the same procedures and protocols used in past months. Pre-registration is required. A Flocknote will be sent on Monday, September 28, with all of the details regarding safety and logistical protocols and how you can sign up for a time slot. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

**Bible study continues Tuesday, September 29** with the final week of Pastor Paul's four-week course, "Finding the Triune God in Scripture." A Zoom link will be sent via Flocknote.

**Please send in your family photos for the next family directory.** Email them to Kathy Barnes at [kathy@alcws.org](mailto:kathy@alcws.org). If you need help with a photo, contact Shari Dominguez at [sdominguez@triad.rr.com](mailto:sdominguez@triad.rr.com).

**Dessert with Pastor Lori continues this evening** from 7:30-8:15 p.m. A Zoom Room has been set up so that members from our congregation can click on the link sent out via Flocknote. Come prepared to have some fun.

**Altar Flower Dedications.** Thank you to everyone who contributes to the beautiful altar flowers each week. If you are interested in dedicating flowers as a memorial or in honor of a loved one, please call the church office for more information. We currently have open slots for Nov. 22, and 29. The total cost of both bouquets is \$80.

**The Efrid L. and Maria F. Hine Fund** committee will meet for its Fall Quarter meeting on Monday, October 26, 2020 at 7:00 pm. The committee will review requests for Hine Fund grants and Augsburg Endowment grants at this meeting. All requests for financial grants should be directed to The Hine Fund and should be in the church office no later than 12 noon on Wednesday, October 14th. Agendas will be ready for members to pick up in the work room on Sunday, October 18th. Please call or email the Hine Fund secretary if you are unable to attend the meeting. The general purpose and intent of the Hine Fund is to "put into effect a ministry



of Christian mercy and concern in meeting human needs as the Church thinks Jesus Christ Himself would have them met.”

The purpose of the Augsburg Endowment Fund is “to provide for a perpetual, segregated endowment fund to support the ministries of Augsburg Lutheran Church and the worldwide church, all in the name of Jesus Christ. The Fund will provide members and friends of Augsburg an avenue to make contributions or planned gifts, which will support the Church’s ministries for generations.” Income from the Endowment Fund is distributed annually to support benevolence outside Augsburg, the Augsburg operating budget, and Augsburg capital improvements.

**We keep you in prayer during our time apart.** Our pastors continue to be available for your pastoral care needs. If you would like to reach a pastor, please call their cell phones, send them a text, or an email. Pastor Paul is 803-331-5970 or [seniorpastor@alcls.org](mailto:seniorpastor@alcls.org) and Pastor Lori is 336-414-2838 or [pastoralassociate@alcls.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@alcls.org)

**God’s work continues at Augsburg,** and while we can’t gather in person, our hands can still help carry out that work wherever we are through our love and our resources. Because important ministries continue during our facilities closure, offerings can still be shared through any of these suggested options: drop it in the mail, use the bill pay services that your bank offers, or use Realm to give online. Visit our website—[www.augsburglutheran-ws.org](http://www.augsburglutheran-ws.org)—and click on “Give Now” for more information. Thank you for all the ways that you support God’s work at Augsburg, your Stewardship Team.

**Readings for next week:** Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

**Worship attendance for services last week: 185 views on YouTube.**

### **Providing Service Today**

*Bulletin Cover Artist*

Gretchen Troutman

*Reader*

Paul Anders

*Preaching*

Pastor Wollner

*Quartet*

Karen Kooken, Daniele Olsen, Timothy Olsen, Bruce Tippet

*Greeters*

Shari and Luis Dominguez

*Assisting Minister*

Pastor Carter



## AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod*

Rev. Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Lori H. Carter, Pastoral Associate for Congregational Care

Dr. Timothy Olsen, Cantor

Nancy Carbone, Parish Administrator

Kathy Barnes, Executive Assistant

Leigh Anna Voigt, Dir. of Faith Formation

Bruce Tippet, Youth Music and Handbell Dir.

Robin Welch, Youth Coordinator

Paul Anders, WFU Divinity Student Intern

Hannah Norem, Communications Assistant

Reggie Jackson, Lead Sexton

Carl Davis and John Stepney, Sextons

*Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*