

Welcome to Shepherd of the Desert
Evangelical Lutheran Church
Sun City, AZ



Eighteenth Week after Pentecost
September 27, 2026

Mission Statement

"To be a congregation that puts the Love of Christ into action from one generation to another and from our community to our world".

✠ Please stand in body or spirit.

Preludes

Words of Welcome

✠ Confession and Forgiveness

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

C **Amen**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

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

C **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C **Amen**

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**



- 1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;
- 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;
- 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
- 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be



help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
 our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
 in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in
 hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in



to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.
 ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Prayer of the Day

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9

- ¹ To I you, O LORD,
I lift I up my soul.
- ² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be I put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph I over me.**
- ³ Let none who look to you be I put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame I who are treacherous.
- ⁴ **Show me your I ways, O LORD,
and teach I me your paths.**
- ⁵ Lead me in your I truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all I the day long.
- ⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compas- I sion and love,
for they are from I everlasting.**
- ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and I my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- I ness, O LORD.
- ⁸ **You are gracious and up- I right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners I in your way.**
- ⁹ You lead the low- I ly in justice
and teach the low- I ly your way.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord
C Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Setting 4



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Gospel of Our Lord
C Thanks be to God

Message

Hymn of the Day Here I Am, Lord

ELW # 574



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Refrain
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Apostles Creed

A With the whole church let us confess our faith

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 the Gathered Community

Each petition ends with:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

Share the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Offering Music



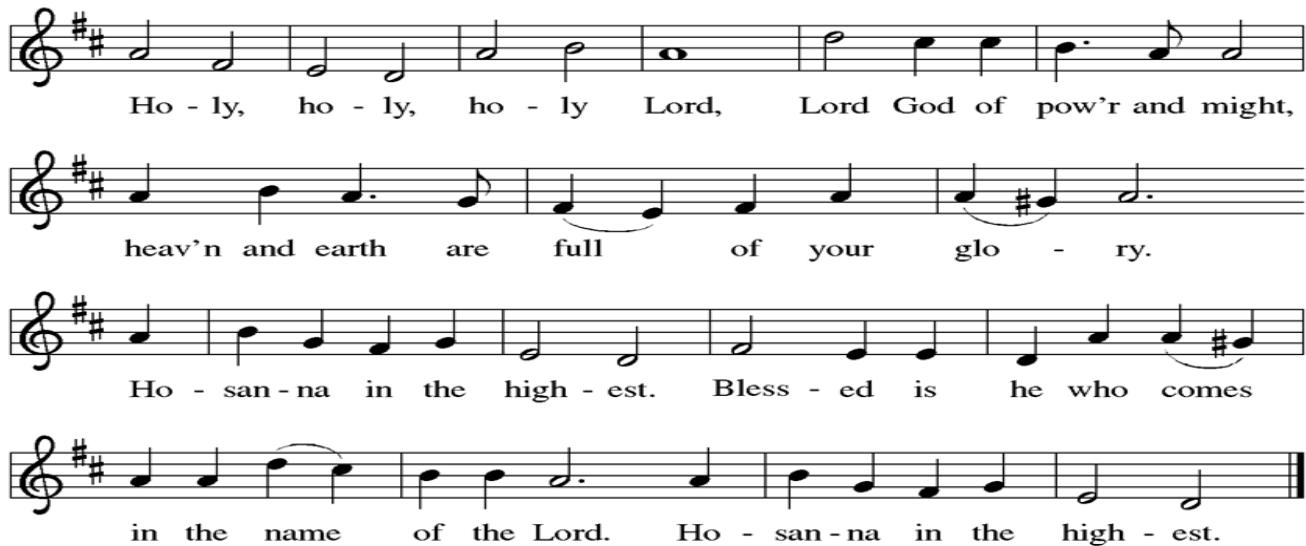
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

⌄ Prayer at the Table

- P The Lord be with you.
 C **And also with you.**
 P Lift up your hearts.
 C **We lift them to the Lord.**
 P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
 P It is indeed right . . . And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Setting 4



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

With hearts full of memories and hopes, we break this bread and share this cup, remembering the death and resurrection of Christ, and his promise to be with us always as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Lord's Prayer

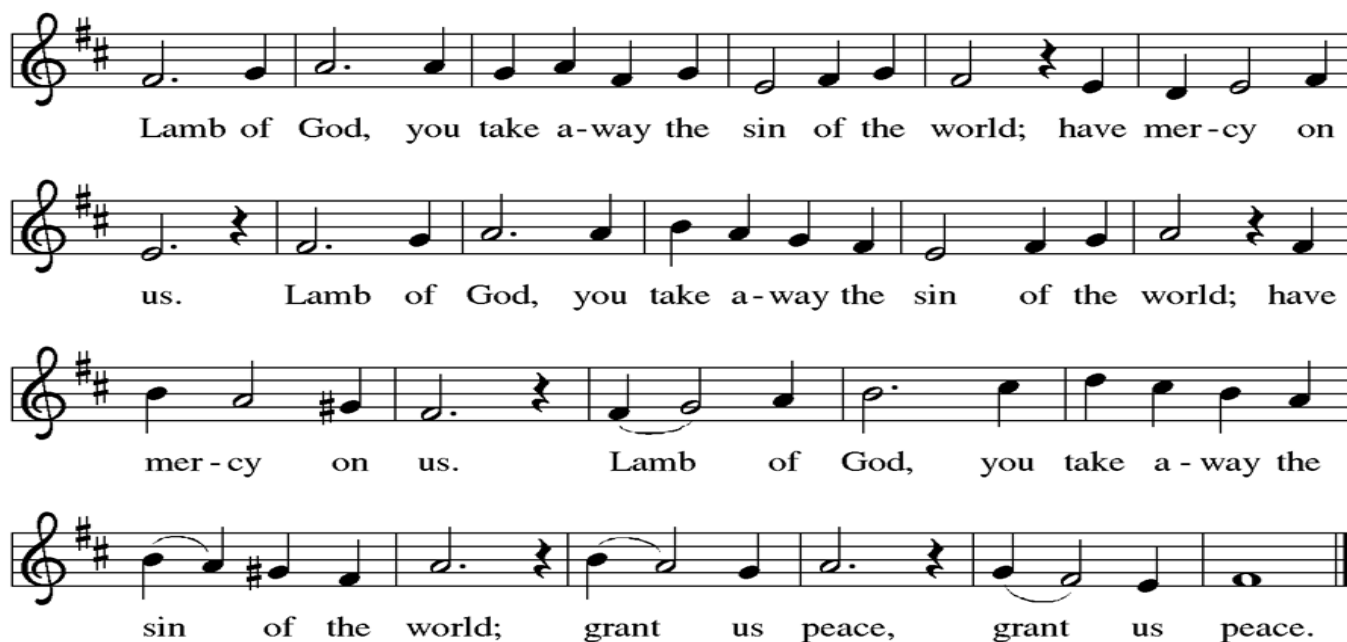
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P There's a place for everyone at the table. All are welcome here.

Lamb of God

Setting 4



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

Post Communion Prayer and Sending of Communion and Ventana Winds

A Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food.

O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger, bless those who now leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are homebound. May they, and those they visit, be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

A Amen



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

✠ **Dismissal**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Shepherd of the Desert Announcements

Monday Morning Bible Study 10:00 a.m. in the Founders Room.

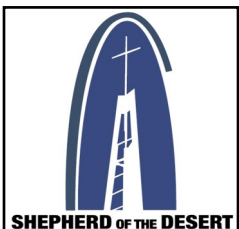
Remember to bring your Bible and a beverage. We will be reading the lessons for the upcoming weekend services.

FREE First Wednesday Bingo First Wednesday of **every month** through November. Fellowship, food, bingo and Prizes. **October 7th at 5 p.m.** in Walton Hall. Please make sure to sign up so we can plan for enough food Oct. Bingo Night we will have Sloppy Joes Thank you!

Paint Night **October 14th at 5:30 p.m.** Please make sure to sign up so we can plan on snacks and supplies. Bring a beverage there is snacks provided.

Mission of the Month - September 2026 Justa Center Located at 1001 W Jefferson Street, Phoenix, the Justa Center provides life-sustaining recourses, services, and support to assist homeless seniors on their path to housing and supportive services to help prevent seniors entering homelessness.

Candy Donations for Trunk or Treat Trunk or Treat is on the Calendar for Oct. 28th. If you would like to donate candy there are bins in the church office and the Narthex. Or you can note "Candy" on your offering envelope. This is a free event for the community. Thank you for all you do to support it!



Worship Times: Saturday at 4:00 p.m. & Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Senior Pastor: Rev. John Maroni

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