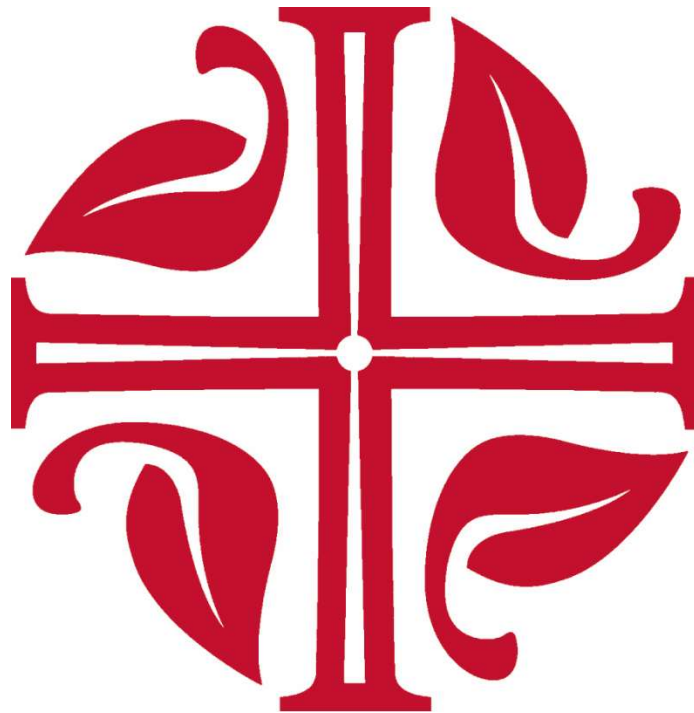


Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church

"Growing Relationships with God, Each Other, and Our Neighbors in the Way of Jesus"



Saturday, October 25, 2025, 4:00 PM
Reformation Sunday, October 26, 2025, 9:00 AM

Welcome...There's a place for you here!

Welcome to the Lord's Table

All Christians—including visitors of all denominations or no church membership—are invited to the altar to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to take communion while remaining in your seat, select a prefilled cup from a basket at the top of the ramps before the service begins.

Worshippers may come forward via the center aisle to receive communion at the altar, then return by the side aisles. Bread, wheat wafers or gluten-free wafers are offered, as is a choice of wine (lighter color, outer rings of tray) or grape juice (darker color, inner rings). Paper towel-lined baskets are provided for empty cups at the end of the first pew and at the top of the ramps. Those who are not yet communing may also come forward to receive a blessing, crossing your arms to indicate this choice.

Children have a place here, too!

During our Sunday services, children are invited to come forward for the children's time. They may also receive communion at whatever age their adult(s) agree(s) they may. "Busy bags" are hung along the wall in the sanctuary for use during services. Toys and books are also found in and near the "cry room", the window-enclosed room at the front right side of the worship space.

You'll find one changing table in the bathroom near the top of the spiral staircase in the entryway, and another behind the door at the front of the sanctuary behind the choir section. Our unstaffed nursery is located at the bottom of the spiral staircase as a place for an adult to stay with their child, if needed.

Restrooms are located in the entryway on either side (mirrored cubes).

Note: our Sunday service is livestreamed, and some worshippers may be seen in the broadcast. Those seated behind the ramps will not be seen on camera.

(thank you for silencing your phone as you worship)

PRELUDE

BELL CHOIR PRELUDE (Sun.) “My Faith Looks up to Thee”

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God . . . through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” ELW 504

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (Sun.) Zack Steenrod

FIRST READING: **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

A reading from Jeremiah:

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 46 (*read responsively*)

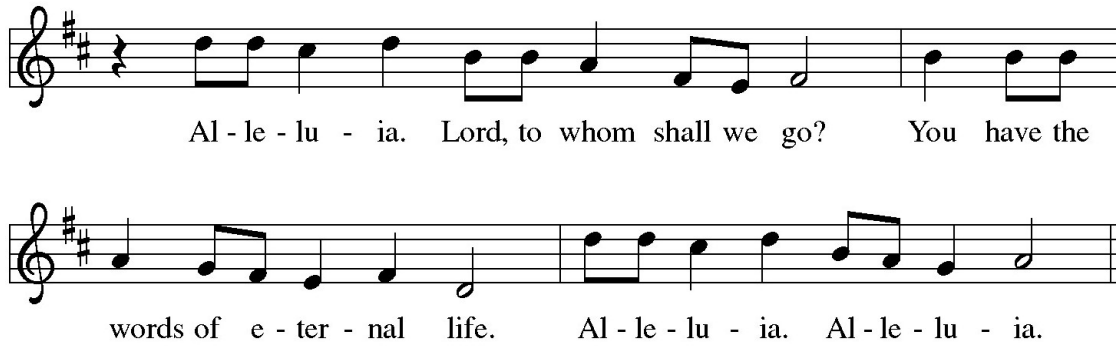
- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
- ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
- ¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: **Romans 3:19-28**

A reading from Romans:

- ¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.
- ²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.
- ²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL: Luke 18: 9-14**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁹ [Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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

SERMON: Pastor Beth Ann L. Stone

HYMN OF THE DAY “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy ” ELW 588

APOSTLES’ CREED (Sat.)

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.**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM (Sun.)

...People of God, do you promise to support these young people and pray for them in their life in Christ?
We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray...(A prayer is offered for each person affirming their baptism)

...Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and
proclaim the good news to all the world.**

SONG FOR PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*sing once before and once after prayers*)

“Though the Earth Shall Change” (ACS 1035)



Though the earth shall change, though the moun-tains trem-ble,



though the wa-ters rage, you, God, are here.



Though the na-tions war, though the peo-ples bat-tle,



though the em-pire fal-ters, we will not fear.

PEACE

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

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM (Sun.)

“The Church’s One Foundation”

OFFERING

Use the QR code to reach our online giving page:



OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, gracious and merciful,

you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

ELW Setting 3

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

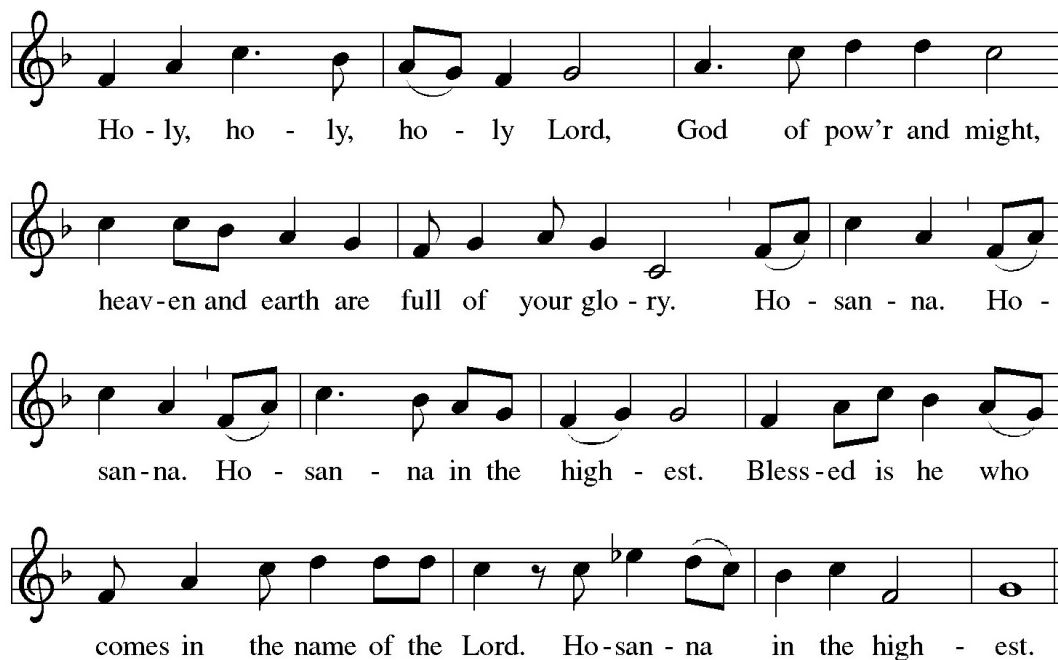
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father . . .

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

. . . the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION *(see inside of bulletin cover for communion directions)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

"Rise, Shine You People!"

ELW 665

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Celebrating Our Confirmands

Willow Haigh
Jonah Herder
Scarlett Londré
Evan Olson
Zack Steenrod
Katelynn Thorn

The congregation is invited to join the confirmands in the Fellowship Hall following the Sunday service for cake and refreshments in their honor.

Today's Worship Leaders

Preacher: Pastor Beth Ann Stone; Presider: Pastor Nathan Pratt
Musician: Michael Becker; Minister of Music: Dimitri Shapovalov
Sun. Greeter: Joe Maier
Coffee Hour Refreshments: MPLC
Sat. Reader: *One needed*; Sun. Reader: Evan Olson
Sun. Communion Assistants: Jonah Herder, Katelynn Thorn
Video Producer: Becky Litwin

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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THIS WEEK AT MPLC: Oct 26 - Nov 2

Sun. Oct 26

9:00 AM: Worship (Sanctuary)

10:15 AM: Coffee Hour (Fellowship)

10:15 AM: Sunday School (Education)

10:30 AM: Prayer Shawl Ministry (Mygatts)

10:30 AM: Adult Ed Speaker – Josh Latawiec on Advance Funeral Planning (Fellowship)

Mon. Oct 27

6:00 PM: Building Anniversary Committee (Fellowship)

6:30 PM: Book Study “How to Fight Racism” (Mygatts)

Tues. Oct 28

11:00 AM: Chair Yoga (Fellowship)

5:30 PM: GriefShare (Conference Room)

6:30 PM: Bell Choir (Sanctuary)

Wed. Oct 29

11:00 AM: Bible Study (Mygatts)

6:30 PM: Confirmation (Mygatts)

7:00 PM: Adult Choir (Choir Room)

Sat. Nov 1

8:00 AM: Men’s Breakfast (Fellowship)

10:00 AM: Outdoor Work Day (Gardens)

4:00 PM: Worship (Sanctuary)

Sun. Nov 2

9:00 AM: Worship (Sanctuary)

10:15 AM: Coffee Hour (Fellowship)

10:15 AM: Sunday School (Education)

10:15 AM: Endowment Fund Board (Office)

10:20 AM: Word of the Week Small Group (Mygatts)

1:30 PM: Community Meal Prep (Fellowship)

4:00 PM: Community Meal (Living Faith Lutheran Church)

5:00 PM: “American Teenager” Book Reading & Signing (Sanctuary)

MPLC STAFF DIRECTORY

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General Information	info@mplc.us
Council President Kim Haigh	khaigh@acosta.com

We are called by Jesus to **love God and one another**, to practice generous hospitality, and to serve all unconditionally. We fully welcome you to join us, embracing your race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical abilities, mental abilities, socioeconomic position, family status, background, and wherever you are in your faith journey. You are a unique and beloved child of God and are welcome here. You are accepted and openly affirmed just as you are. We commit ourselves to undertaking the work of racial equality and social and economic justice. We invite you to join us as we joyfully and inclusively love and serve God and our community, as **we are all one in Christ Jesus.**

Stewardship Appeal for 2026

If you have not yet shared your intent to give through MPLC in 2026, you can return a card by mail, place your completed card in the offering plate, or use the QR code to complete an online form. Thank you for sharing your plans to give to God's work through MPLC next year!

*"God can bless you with everything you need,
and you will always have more than enough
to do all kinds of good things for others."
(2 Cor. 9:8 CEV)*



New Artwork at MPLC: “The Storm”



A newly acquired framed print by John August Swanson will soon be displayed in our refurbished "Conference Room." Purchased through Memorial Gifts, the brightly colored piece entitled “The Storm” was one of the last Swanson completed before his death in 2021.

According to the artist’s notes, “Swanson began painting The Storm after the Covid-19 pandemic began. He was inspired by a passage in Pope Francis’ Urbi Et Orbi, referencing the Gospel of Mark. The Pope’s words address the sickness, sorrow, and danger of the disease, and they reaffirm our need to help each other:

“We were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying ‘We are perishing,’ so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this.”

You can find “The Storm” currently displayed in the Fellowship Hall to the left of the kitchen. Memorials used for this acquisition include those given in memory of: Dee Craft, Mike Zimdars, Nancy Holtz, Betty Breiwick, Mary Shawl, and Fred Hofer.