

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost

September 13, 2026

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Congregation: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)

P: 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.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God, C: we confess that we are in bondage 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

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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. C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

LBW #406 "Take My Life, that I May Be"

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE (pgs. 58-59 LBW)

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: 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

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you. P: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty and eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 3:1-12

RESPONSIVE PSALM PRAYER: Psalm 23

L: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C: He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

L: He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

C: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

L: You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C: Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 10:5-17

**Please stand for the procession of the cross, bowing as it passes by,
and remain standing until the cross is returned to its base.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**LBW #559 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
(Please rise)**

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 10

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 10th chapter. Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord. (After Gospel is read) P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SONG OF RESPONSE

LBW #564 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

RECOGNITION OF CONFIRMANDS

SERMON

Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY

**LBW #290 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”
(Vs. 1, 3-4)**

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

INSTALLATION OF TEACHERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: And also with you.

OFFERING & OFFERTORY (pg. 66 LBW) **(Please rise)** **Congregation Sings:** 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 dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pg. 67 LBW) *P: Merciful Father,* **C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (pgs. 68-69 LBW)

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 him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (pgs. 69-71) & LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD (pg. 72 LBW) **Congregation Sings:** 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE & PRAYER (pgs. 72 LBW) **(Please rise as you are able)** **Congregation sings:** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

BENEDICTION

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. C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN

LBW #334 "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me"

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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*With eagerness we approach you, O God. We join with all who love and serve you.
We offer ourselves to be your people, ready to let your light shine upon us and through us.
In Jesus' name. Amen.*

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Hannah Shebesta (granddaughter/Geri Remmers)

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Toni (Hinrichs) Santrock	Robert Pilarski	Tom Finger	Rich Friemel
Angie Trenberth	Tracie Sisneros	Jim Perry	Mary Kempfer
Kim Ross	Kay Thomas	Sondra Sipes	Barb Corbly
Marty Mirocha	Melvina Heap	Paul Albers	Kim Wyre
Annette Carlson	Wilma Suits	Brian Dietz	Roberta Arthur
Steve Schluter	Glenn Behnke	John Keith	Pen Pendleton
Denny Doyle	Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins	Jessica Hawn
Gabbi Reynolds	William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen
Mary Mallicoat	Bob & Jenny Hobby	Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival
Joyce Williamson			

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Dave Overholt	LouAnn Baugher	Pr. Barb Busboom	Genet Dixon
Luella Loschen	Joan Mathis	Martha Stanfill	Paul Wolters
Keith Dohleman	Earl Smith		

MILITARY (Bolded names are known to be in an area of higher danger):

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti	Eli Baker
Matthew Mislán			

ALTAR GUILD

ACOLYTES

GREETERS

LECTOR

PRAYER LEADER

WORSHIP STEWARD

USHERS

Emily Deal, Sheila Sherman

Carson McClain, Jack Flesner

Emily Deal, John Lux

Chrissie Hall

Jim Cheek

Lloyd Schluter

Travis Flesner, David Keith, Marleen Peavler

WELCOME TO WORSHIP It is a genuine joy to welcome all who have come to praise our Lord. Let us begin this service as we should begin every day: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

FLOWERS TODAY are provided by *Scott, Tina & Joshua James* in memory of Tina's mom, Iverne Johnson's, Birthday on September 13th.

RALLY SUNDAY CELEBRATION will be held today immediately following the Worship Service. Lunch will be provided. There will be games and activities for everyone. Please plan to attend!

BLOOD DRIVE The ImpactLife Blood Drive will be held at American Lutheran Church this Wednesday, September 16th, from 11:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. in the ALC Youth Hall.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will be studying the Psalms starting in October. We will be ordering workbooks for this study, so if you would like to attend, please let Pastor or the church office know by this Thursday, September 17th.

MISSION SUNDAY We will celebrate Mission Sunday in two weeks on September 27th. Conrad L. Mandsager, Founder & President of ChildVoice will be our speaker. There will be a question & answer time following the service with light refreshments.

TREASURER POSITION DeAnn McMorris is looking to step down from the Treasurer position. Some of the position's duties include things such as preparing the yearly budget and providing monthly reports to the Council. If you are interested in learning more about this position, please contact the church office.

FUNERAL MEAL DONATIONS We are looking for additional people that would be willing to bring a salad or a dessert for meals held after funerals. If you are not already on our list of people to call but would like to be, please call the church office at 217-893-4550.

GREAT RIVERS MISSION DISTRICT CONVOCATION will be held here at American Lutheran Church from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 24th. Please register online at www.greatriversmissiondistrict.com/events so we can get an accurate headcount for lunch. Cost of attending will be a \$10 donation to cover lunch.

DOORS LOCKED The following doors are left unlocked after the church service begins: both sanctuary doors on the east and west sides and the sanctuary door on the south side. All other doors are locked shortly after church begins and unlocked right before church ends. This is being initiated to help ensure the safety of our parishioners. Thank you.

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION If you are a baptized believer, trusting that the life giving and sustaining power and presence of Christ is truly present in bread and wine, we welcome you to the Lord's table. Children who commune in their home congregations are welcome to commune; those who are not currently communing at the Lord's table are invited to come forward for a blessing keeping their hands to their sides. The center of each tray holds light colored, non-alcoholic juice for those with special circumstances. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request for those with allergies.

ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 97

BROADCAST/FLOWER CHART The cost to sponsor the broadcast on WPXN is \$50. The cost to provide flowers for Sunday is \$25. Please sign up on the chart outside the Narthex and call the office with the details to print in the bulletin.

ATTENTION USHERS When you are ushering on a Sunday morning, please check-in with the Worship Steward on duty when you arrive. This assures the Worship Steward knows you are here and can assign you the area you are to cover.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Jonah 3:10-4:11; Psalm 145:1-8; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 13 RALLY SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Rally Sunday Celebration
- Adult Sunday School
- Women's Bible Study

Monday, September 14

- 12:30 p.m. Quilting
- 4:30 p.m. Preschool Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 15

- Martha's Table Meals Delivered
- 5:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice
- 6:30 p.m. Elders Meet
- 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 16

- 11:30 a.m. ImpactLife Blood Drive
- 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Thursday, September 17

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, September 20

- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- Women's Bible Study

Radio Broadcast Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m. on WPXN 104.9FM