AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 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 **WOV #713 "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"**

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: God of love, 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 5:1-7

RESPONSIVE PSALM PRAYER: Psalm 80:7-15

L: Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
C: You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.
L: You prepared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.
C: The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
L: You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.
C: Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
L: The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
C: Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.
L: They burn it with fire like rubbish; at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 3:4-14

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 21:33-46

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 21st 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"**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY **LBW #294 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"**

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

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.

EUCHARISTIC 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 **WOV #675 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"**

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

POSTLUDE

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866
(217) 893-4550 (217) 892-8024 (fax)
amluthoffice@gmail.com www.alc-rantoul.org

Prepare our hearts, O Lord, as we come to your table. Help us remember the sacrifice of Christ, receive your grace with gratitude and live as one body in your love. Amen.

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Loretta Elliott

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Tracy O'Donnell	Hannah Shebesta	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	Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival
Bob & Jenny Hobby	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 Mislan			

ALTAR GUILD	Terri Kirby, Sondra Sipes
ACOLYTES	Ivie Albers, Kali Schluter
GREETERS	Justin & Liam Kaiser
LECTOR	Aubrie Albers
PRAYER LEADER	Shirley Friemel
WORSHIP STEWARD	Sheila Sherman
USHERS	Lloyd Schluter, John & Rhonda Keith

WELCOME TO WORSHIP We warmly welcome all who have gathered for worship and encourage everyone to greet one another with the love of Christ.

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS Pastor Aaron holds open office hours on Monday's and Tuesday's from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. and on Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. He is also available by appointment Sunday through Thursday.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING will be held this Thursday, October 8th, following the Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:15 a.m. in the Main Sanctuary. Please contact Sheila Sherman if you are unable to attend this meeting.

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 by Tuesday, October 13th. Cost of attending will be a $10 donation to cover lunch.

POTLUCK DINNER will be held on Friday, October 23rd, at 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Hall for anyone interested in learning more about the Continental Youth Gathering that will be held here in the summer of 2028. Pastor Teresa Peters, NALC Director of Youth and Family Ministry, will be joining us to talk about this event. Please bring a dish to share.

TREASURER POSITION We are still looking for someone to take over as Treasurer for ALC as DeAnn McMorris will be retiring from this position. Responsibilities include preparing the yearly budget, providing monthly reports to the Council and overseeing income and expenses in the general ledger. This position takes about *8-10 hours a month*. If you are interested in learning more about this position, please contact the church office.

CANTEEN RUN is in need of blankets. They can be used but please make sure they are clean. They can be anywhere from single to king size. No puffy comforters please as they are too heavy for the guys to carry around. We are also in need of men's hoodies or sweatshirts. Thank you in advance for any donations!

FUNERAL MEAL DONATIONS We are still 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.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for the 4th Quarter (October-December) are still available to pick-up in the Narthex and in the entryway outside of the church office.

EDEN PARK CEMETERY All decorations you wish to save must be removed from Eden Park Cemetery by October 15th or the caretaker will remove them. After October 22nd, you may replace decorations on the graves.

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 – 123

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:

Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 4

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Women's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

Monday, October 5

12:30 p.m. Quilting

Tuesday, October 6

5:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice
6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Wednesday, October 7

1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, October 8

9:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:15 a.m. Altar Guild Meeting

Sunday, October 11

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Women's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

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

American Lutheran Church

TRUNK or TREAT





Sunday, October 25th from 3-5 p.m.

This is a trick-or-treat opportunity for kids AND a treat-giving opportunity for adults. Instead of going house-to-house trick-or-treating, kids will go from car to car. Adults will pass out treats from the trunk or tailgate of their vehicle.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

You can decorate as simple or as elaborate as you would like as long as it is kid and church-friendly. This event will be setup around the park across the street from the church. We will have games, activities and a weenie roast. All ages welcome!

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SIGN UP!

Let us know how you would like to participate by circling one or more of the following options. Tear this portion off and return in the offering plate or contact Deanne Rosenbeck at (217) 621-8816 or dwattjes@hotmail.com.

Food Volunteer **Hosting a Trunk** **Game Volunteer** **Cookies**

NAME _____

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH INVITES YOU TO

TRUNK OR TREAT



Sunday October 25th

3-5 p.m. | American Lutheran Church

500 Church Drive, Rantoul IL (in the park across the streeet)

Candy • Games • Food & More!