Worship & Holy Communion
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 11, 2026 9:30 a.m.

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

In God's Service

Worship Leader:	Pastor Paul Nelson
Ministers:	All Baptized People of God
Music:	Deb Nielsen
Reader:	Art Martell
Ushers	Dave VanDeventer
Communion Helper	Marilyn Martell

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Please kneel, sit or stand. Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.

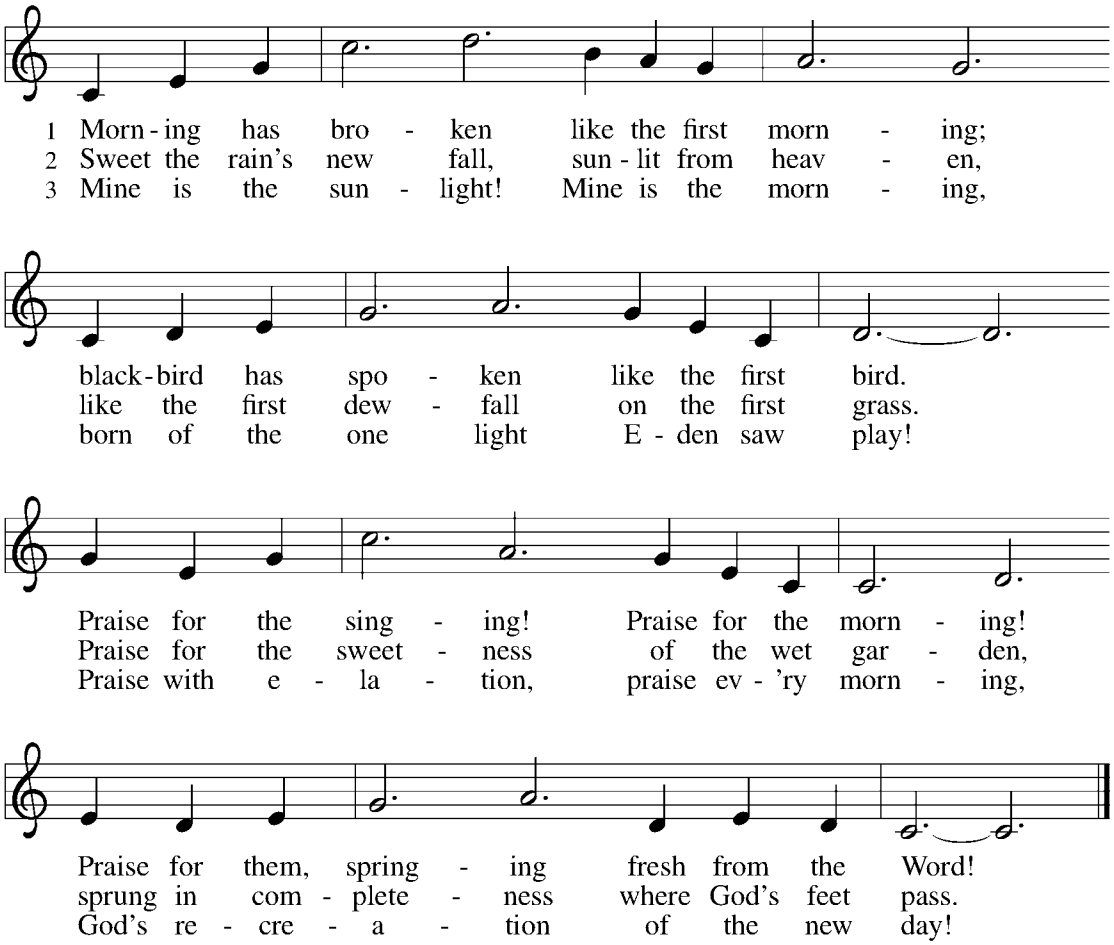
Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

The assembly stands

GATHERING HYMN ***Morning Has Broken*** ***ELW 556***



Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
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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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE ***Now Thank We All Our God***

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices.
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love and still is ours today.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,
Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. **Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen
The assembly is seated.

Isaiah 25:1-9
The feast of victory

Psalm 23
You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over.

Philippians 4:1-9
Rejoice in the Lord always

Matthew 22:1-14
The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast

A reading from Isaiah
[1] O LORD, you are my God, I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful
and sure. [2] For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a
ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be

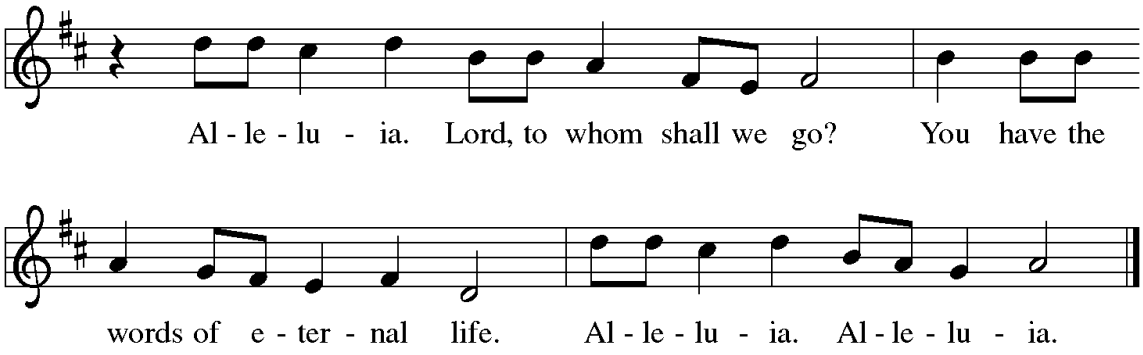
rebuilt. [3] Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. [4] For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, [5] the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. [6] On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. [7] And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; [8] he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. [9] It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: (Please read responsively)
[1] The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
[2] The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
[3] You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

4 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.
5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

A reading from Philippians:
1 My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. 2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3 Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. 4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATON *The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*



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

[1] Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: [2] "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. [3] He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. [4] Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' [5] But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, [6] while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. [7] The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. [8] Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. [9] Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' [10] Those slaves went out into the streets

and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. [11] “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, [12] and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. [13] Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ [14] For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON ***You are Invited***

HYMN OF THE DAY *As We Gather at Your Table* 522

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710
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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 (*PLEASE READ RESPONSIVELY*)
Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.
A brief silence.
P: Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain.
C: Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious difference, that the world may know your undivided love.

P: We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters.
C: Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land.

P: We remember your promise to not abandon us amid storm and disaster.
C: Renew all communities facing disasters and give your courage to those leading relief efforts.

P: We remember your promise to wipe away every tear.
C: Heal and console all who are sick or suffering.

P We remember your promise of a banquet open to all people.
C: . Challenge this congregation to open wide our doors and welcome everyone to the table.

P: We remember your promise to swallow up death forever.
C: We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you.

P: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

OFFERING

Please stand as able or comfortable.
OFFERTORY ***In the Singing***

In the question, in the answer, in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart's cry, in the healing, in the circle of your people.
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace.
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the bread of peace.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. **Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

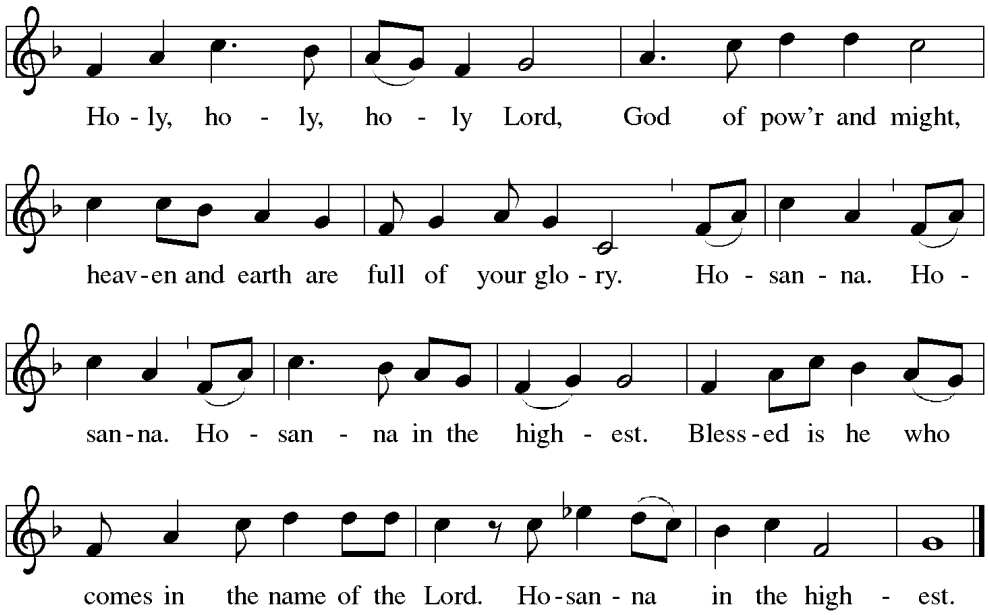
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

(The assembly is seated)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

The usher will direct you to receive communion at the altar. Please go up the center aisle and return to the pew by the side aisles. There are gluten free wafers available. The baskets to collect the used wine glasses are in the pews in front of the pulpit and lectern.

COMMUNION MUSIC ***Accompanist Choice***

The assembly stands

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. **By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.**

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

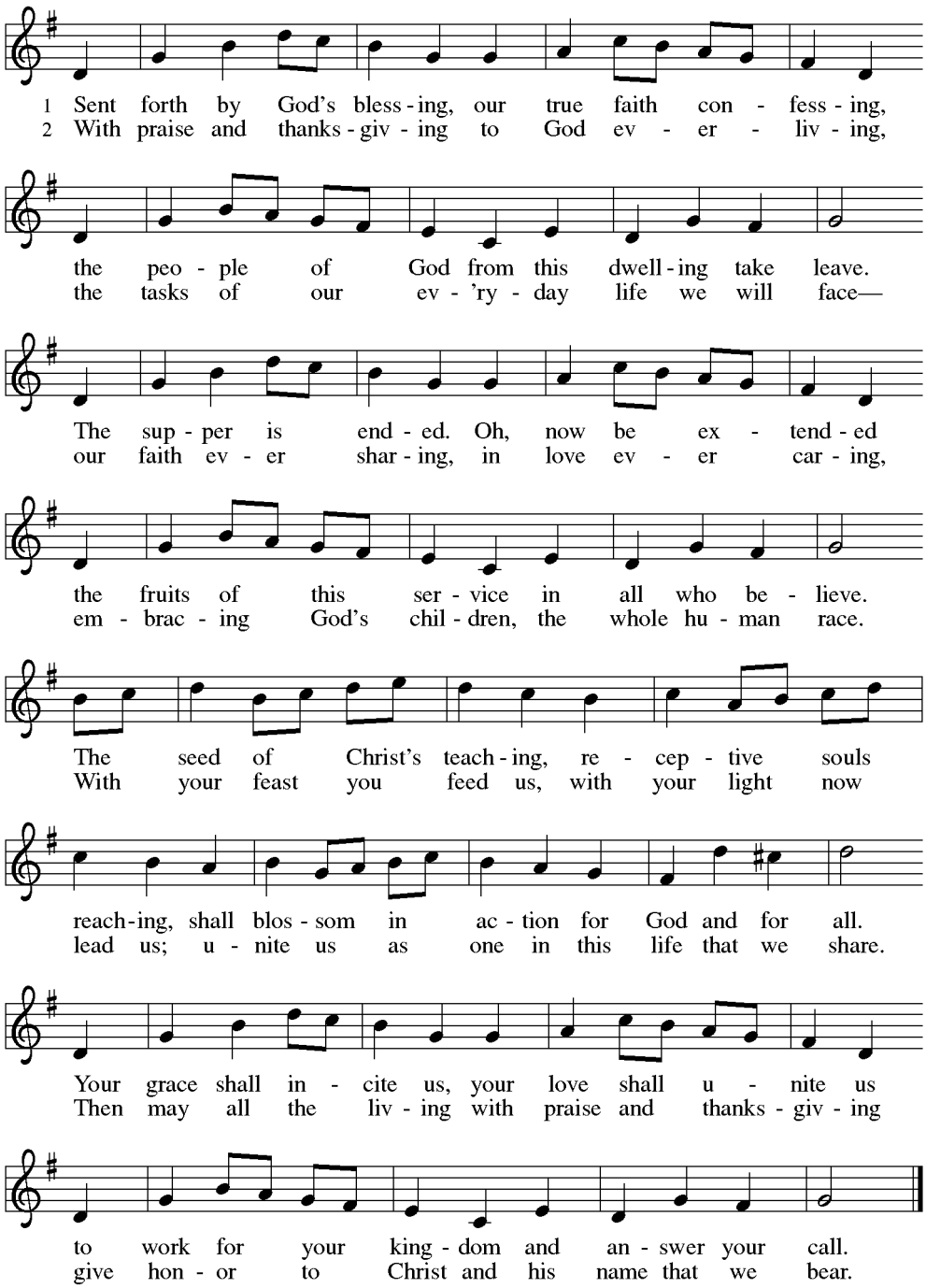
The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Sent forth By God's Blessing* ELW 547



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
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DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Calendar

This Week:

Sunday, Oct. 11	9:30 am Worship SP
	10:30 am Fellowship
Monday, Oct. 12	9:00 am Quilting OS
	9:30 am Quilting SP
Tuesday, Oct 13	Noon Worship Planning OS
Wednesday, Oct. 14	9:00 Community Kitchen OS
	9:30 am M&M's
	5:00 pm Bell Choir
	6:30 pm Bible Study SP
Thursday, Oct. 15	4:00 pm Community Kitchen SP

Next Week:

Sunday, Oct. 18	9:30 am Worship OS
	10:30 am Fellowship
Monday, Oct. 19	9:00 am Quilting OS
	9:30 am Quilting SP
	4-6 pm Chili Drive Thru SP
Wednesday, Oct. 21	9:30 am M&M's SP
	5:00 pm Bell Choir
	6:30 pm Bible Study S

Treats provided by Martha Koch

Announcements

Welcome to Pastor Paul Nelson from Waverly for leading our worship service this morning. We are so thankful that you can join us.

Join us in welcoming Becky Elsbernd with a potluck following the November 1st church service. Please bring a dish to share.

Greetings from the Our Saviors and St Paul Exploratory Committee. Please mark your calendars for October 25. After service that day we will be asking for your input using a table talk format. We have formulated three important questions that we will use as dialogue to help all of us process the thoughts and feelings we have as we move through the consolidation/merger process. By knowing what members are thinking, it will help with decisions the committee will be making in the near future. We hope you will attend----we promise we won't hold you hostage all morning! On behalf of the committee, thank you. Art Martell, Jerry Koch, Lee Olson, Lori Angell, Megan Slocum, Deb Stockberger

SAVE THE DATE-**Fall Field Trip to Cedar Falls** with NE IA Women of the ELCA on Saturday, Oct. 17. Bring a friend, spouse, children & grandchildren. Going to Sullivan Brothers IA Veteran's Museum (& Norris Carson Family Planetarium)/Lunch at Barn Happy/Threehouse Collaborative Campus Ministries. Carpooling available. Flyers on bulletin boards of both churches. Please

contact Chris VanDeventer for more details and to register for the lunch by Oct. 1.

We would like to extend a very grateful Thank You to everyone who helped with The Spaghetti Drive Thru Supper and Baskets/Bake Sale last Thursday. So many helped in so many ways. We appreciate each and everyone of you.

The Special Offering collected at our services in October will again go to cover the shipping costs of the over 500 school kits we put together for Lutheran World Relief! Thanks to all for supporting this mission!

St Paul Lutheran Church **Chili Drive Thru** Monday, October 19th 4-6 p.m. (or until gone), free will offering Includes-a 2 cup serving of chili, cinnamon roll & crackers. Bring own container for family size order.

Our Saviour's will be delivering Meals on Wheels Route #1, Oct. 26-Oct. 30. Sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall.

TRUNK OR TREAT-will be held Saturday Oct. 31 from 5:00 to 6:30 (come when you can) in the church parking lot at Our Saviour's. Members from **BOTH** churches **are invited to come and help** in this neighborhood outreach. If you are unable to come, but still want to support this effort, we invite you to provide candy/treats or money to purchase them. Mark your checks/envelopes "Trunk or Treats" or see Marily Martell (Feel free to bring coffee, hot cocoa and/or hand warmers).

A Note from Nathan Gelner: Please Do Not flick the light switches off and on. It causes me to have seizures from the light flicking. Thank you for being considerate to my needs. Nathan Gelner

Reminder: the deadline for turning in announcements for the bulletin is Wednesday by 8 a.m.

If you feel drawn to kneel during the service, please feel free to lower the kneelers and use them.

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