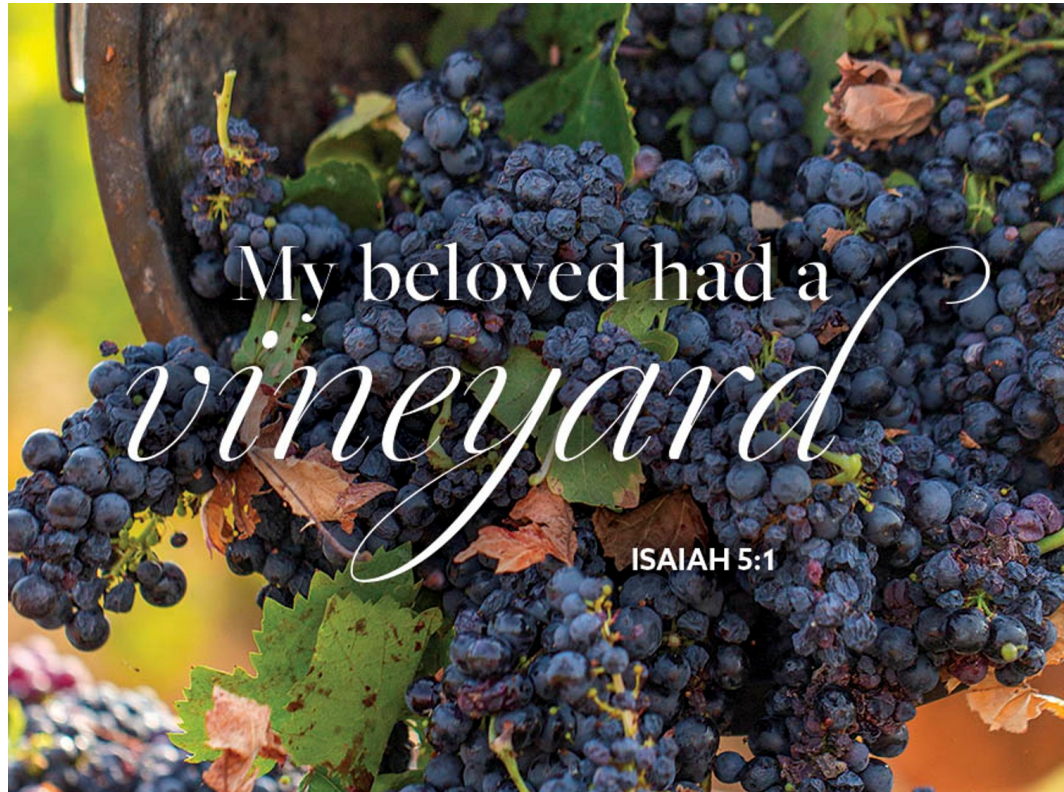


October 4, 2026—19th Sunday After Pentecost

University Lutheran Church & Lutheran Campus Ministry

10:00 AM Worship Service



340 East 15th Street
Tempe, AZ 85281

480-967-3543 † info@ulctempe.org † ulctempe.org

University Lutheran Church intends to provide a safe & welcoming environment for all of God's people, regardless of sexuality, gender identity, gender expression, life situation, race, family status, size, shape, & place in the world. We are committed to racial equity & justice for all God's children. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation registered with ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation. Thanks be to God for the blessings we have & the differences we share!



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor José Valenzuela

Please rise... in body, or spirit, or both.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

**C 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.**

P 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.**

GATHERING HYMN

O GOD, WHO GIVES US LIFE



1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
2 O God, who calls your peo - ple out to ven - ture and to dare,
3 O God of cov - e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:
your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.



de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
when we de - spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,



Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

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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.**

KYRIE

Vocal Lead top staff; Congregation bottom staff.

Ky - ri - e e -

le - i - son. Chri - ste e -

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

le - i - son. Ky - ri - e,

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste, Ky - ri - e,

Ky - ri - e, Chri - ste,

Chri - ste, Ky - ri - e,

Ky - ri - e, Chri - ste,

glo - ri - a.

glo - ri - a. 3 De -

glo - ri - a.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

AS THE DEER RUNS TO THE RIVER

1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.

we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.
 God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
 Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.

Refrain

Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Please be seated.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 5:1-7

¹ I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

PSALM 80:7-15

The Psalm will be sung responsively.



- ⁷ Restore us, O [|] God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.
- ⁸ **You have brought a vine [|] out of Egypt;**
you cast out the nations and [|] planted it.
- ⁹ You cleared the [|] ground for it; it took root and [|] filled the land.
- ¹⁰ **The mountains were covered [|] by its shadow**
and the towering cedar trees [|] by its boughs.
- ¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils [|] to the sea, and its branches [|] to the river.
- ¹² **Why have you broken [|] down its wall,**
so that all who pass by pluck [|] off its grapes?
- ¹³ The wild boar of the forest has [|] ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have [|] grazed upon it.
- ¹⁴ **Turn now, O [|] God of hosts, look [|] down from heaven;**
- ¹⁵ behold and [|] tend this vine; preserve what your right [|] hand has planted.

SECOND READING

PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

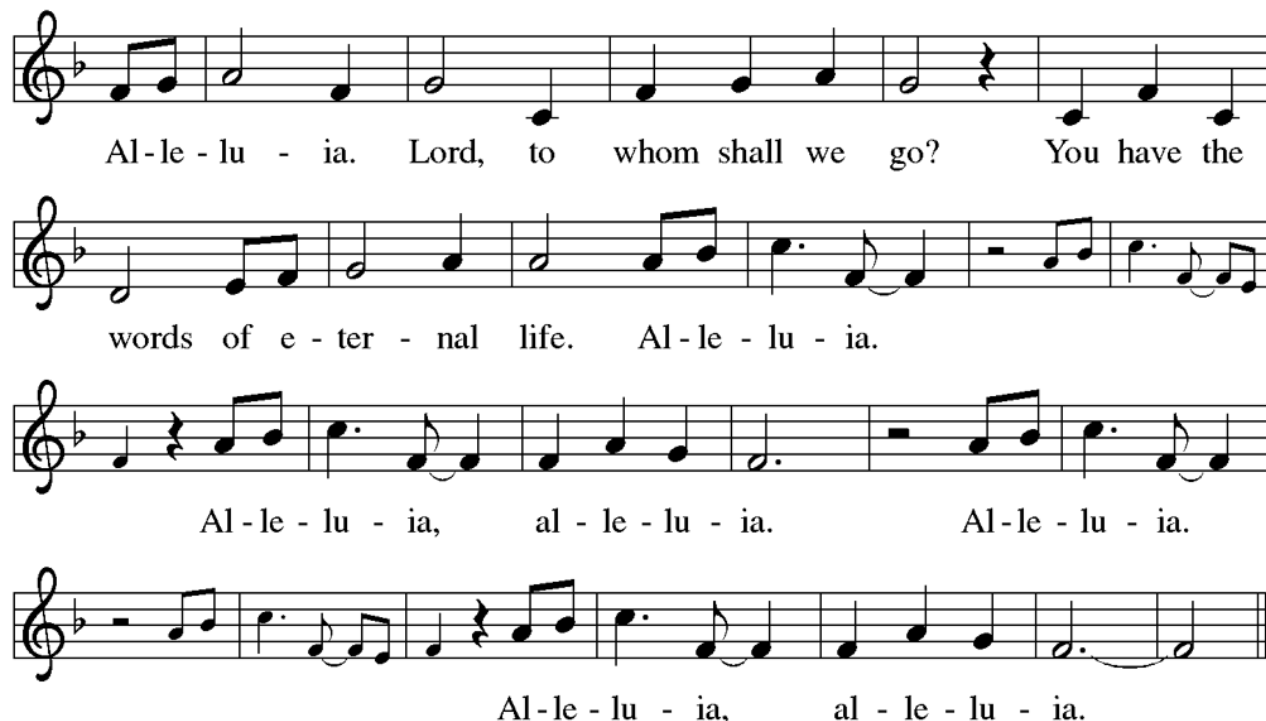
[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Please rise... in body, or spirit, or both.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 21:33-46

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ³³ "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'

³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

⁴³ "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor José Valenzuela

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please rise in body, or spirit, or both when the Hymn of the Day begins.

HYMN OF THE DAY

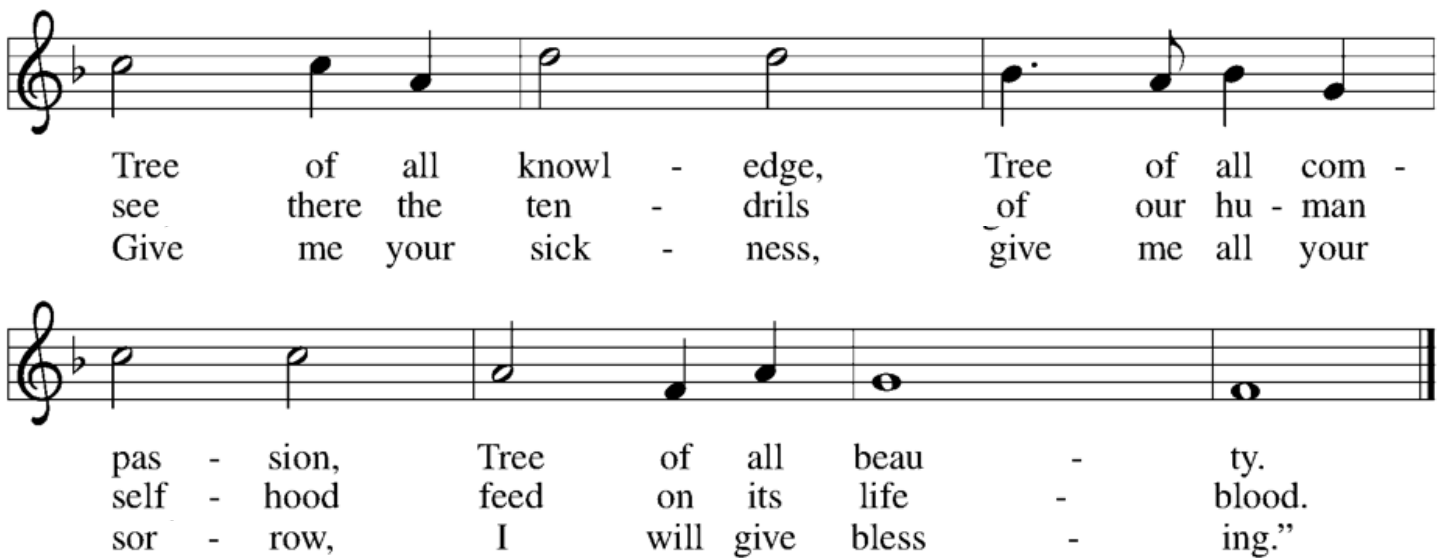
THERE IN GOD'S GARDEN



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: SHADES MOUNTAIN, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

Text © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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

P Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers, the Pastor says:

P Hear us, O God.

The congregation responds:

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

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.**

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always. **C** **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

Please rise, in body, or spirit, or both.

MEAL

OFFERING

We invite all followers of Jesus to give an offering for the mission of the church through our website at ulctempe.org or by placing it in the offering box near the entrance of the Sanctuary.

OFFERING PRAYER

C **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, & our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty & our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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 & forever. Amen.**

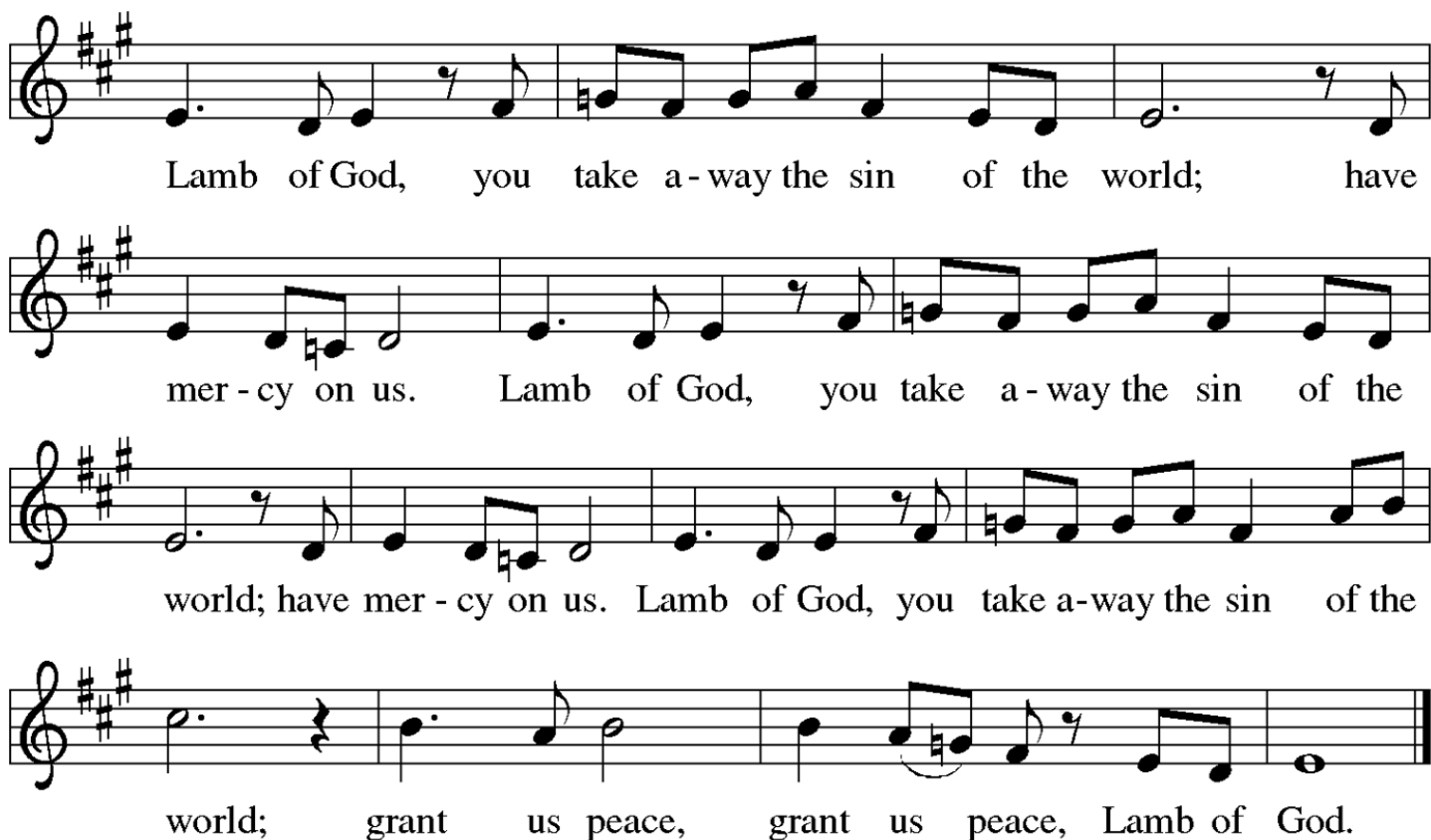
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Please be seated.

We invite to the Table of the Lord all followers of Jesus. Lutherans affirm that around this table through bread and wine Christ Jesus is present with us. We offer communion with individual cups for wine or white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers also available.

LAMB OF GOD



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, Lamb of God.

THE DISTRIBUTION

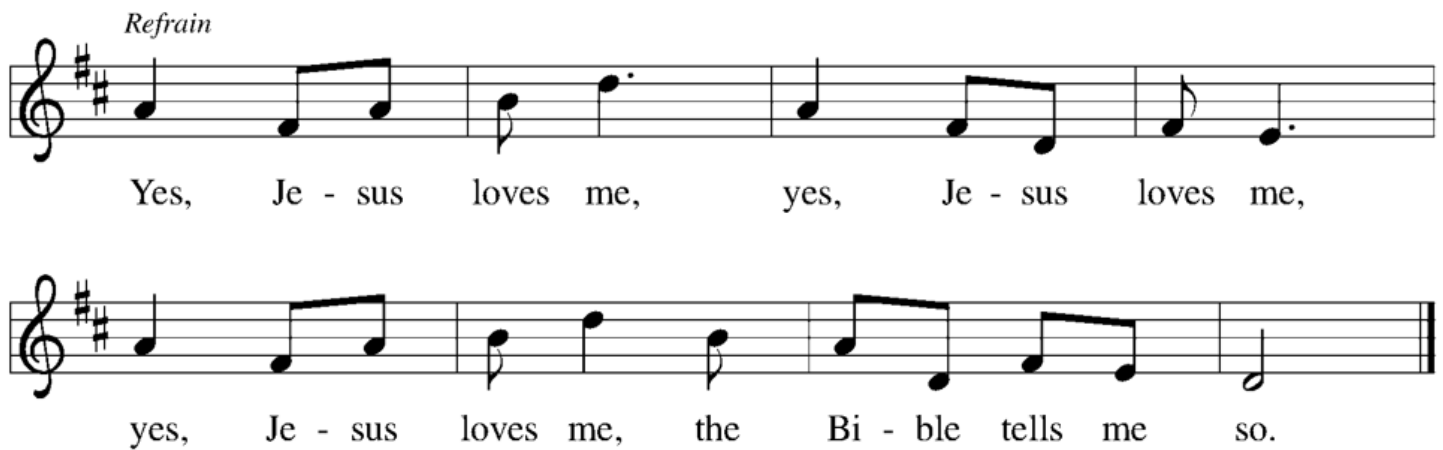
COMMUNION HYMN

JESUS LOVES ME!



1 Je-sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi-ble tells me so;
2 Je-sus loves me! he who died heav-en's gates to o-pen wide;
3 Je-sus loves me! he will stay close be-side me all the way;
lit-tle ones to him be-long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a-way my sin, let his lit-tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,
yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.

Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

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

C Amen.

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

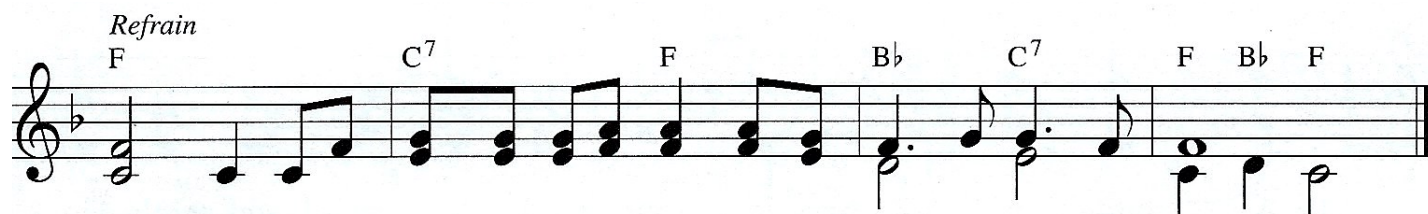
C Amen.

P The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

THY WORD IS A LAMP



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,
2 I will not for - get your love for me and yet my



still you're there right be - side me, and noth - ing will I fear as
heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing. Je - sus, be my guide and



long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.
hold me to your side, and I will love you to the end.



Text: Amy Grant, b. 1960
Music: THY WORD, Michael W. Smith, b. 1957; arr. Keith Phillips
© 1984 Meadowgreen Music Co./ Bug and Bear Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

SENDING

P Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C Thanks be to God.



TODAY IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Rev. José Valenzuela
Music Director	Elizabeth Tomboulion
Vocal Lead	Jacob Hilliker
Altar Care	Kristin Tollefson
Greeter	Gail Fisher
Reader	Lori Zurcher
Communion Assistants	Lori Zurcher Beth Wootten
Livestream	Alexander Webber
Coffee & Refreshments	Katherine Stevens

OFFERING

For your convenience, an offering box is located near the church entrance for your financial gifts to the ministry of Christ through University Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministry.

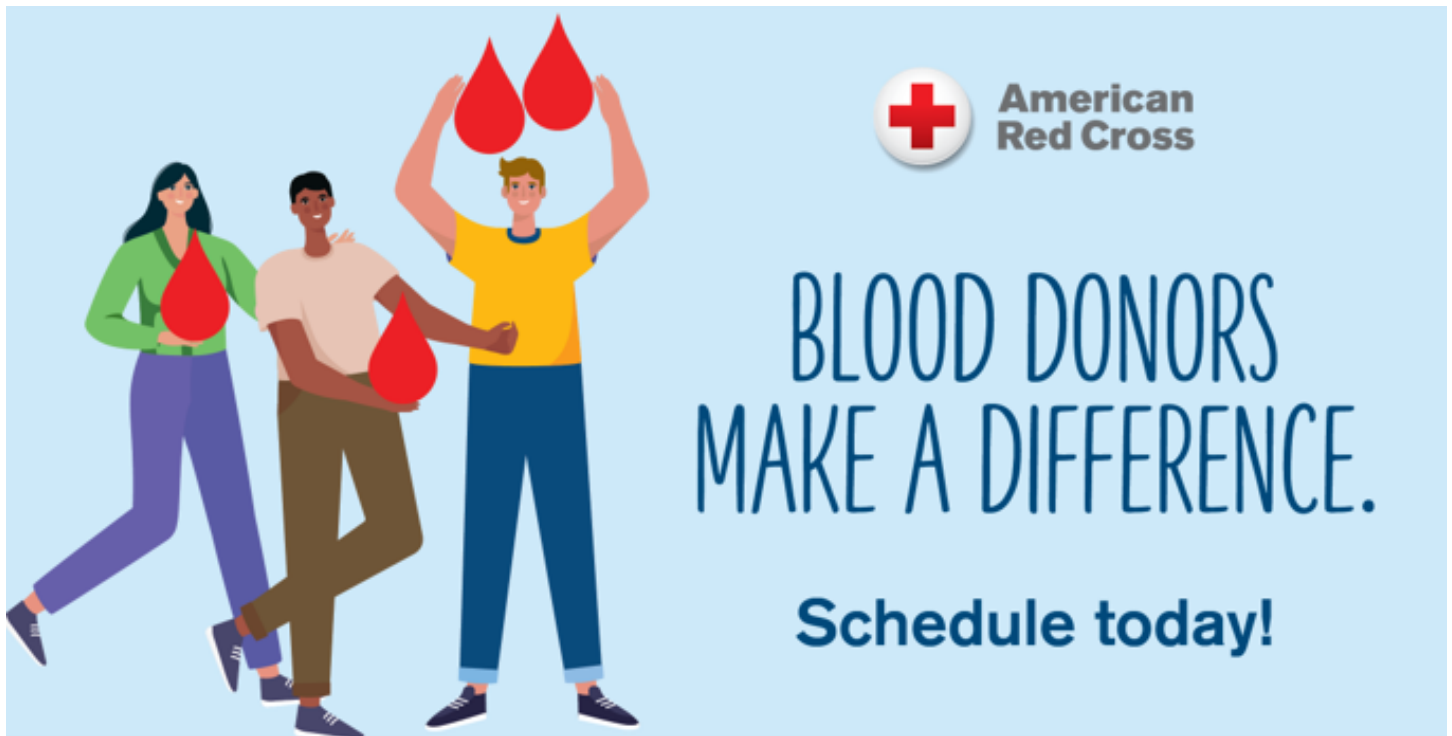
You can also donate online on our website: **ulctempe.org**
ULC also has text giving!
Text your donation to:
480-878-7977. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & CAMPUS MINISTRY

Sun, Oct 4	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary/Livestream)
	11:00 AM	Coffee & Refreshments (Campus Center)
	11:00 AM	Free Student Lunch (Campus Center)
	11:15 AM	Constitution & Bylaws Congregational Meeting (Campus Center/Zoom)
Tue, Oct 6	8:00 PM	AA (Campus Center)
Wed, Oct 7	12:00 PM	CORA Meeting
	5:00 PM	LCM Bible Study (Campus Center Library)
	5:30 PM	Free Student Dinner (Campus Center)
	6:30 PM	Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary)
Thu, Oct 8	8:00 PM	AA (Campus Center)
Sun, Oct 11	10 AM-3 PM	American Red Cross Blood Drive (Campus Center)
	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary/Livestream)
		<i>NO REFRESHMENTS Due to Blood Drive</i>
		<i>NO STUDENT MEAL—Fall Break</i>

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY!

After over two years, the combined Constitution and Bylaws are ready for review! We are meeting to approve these changes to our governing documents **today after worship at 11:15 AM. Participation is welcome in person and over Zoom.** Thank you in advance for your participation & active involvement in our church life.



Blood Drive

Sunday, October 11, 2026

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

University Lutheran Church

Campus Center

340 E 15th St

Tempe, AZ 85281

For an appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org

Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

ULC Prayer List

Lynn & Family

Kristin

Layna

Will

Ana

Chris

Adam & Family

Spencer

Al

Hilliary

Diane & Gary

Viv

David & Linda

Larry

Brian

Lulu

Rhys

Dorothy & Katherine

Ken, Julia, & Dwight

Madlyn

Pedro

Katy

Diane & Lori J

Roseanna

Faye

Jason & Daughters

Ruth

Sarah & Family

Want to learn more about becoming a ULC member?

To learn more about how to join Christ's church at ULC, please reach out to Pastor José at info@ulctempe.org or 480-967-3543.