

VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH

WE INVITE YOU TO BRING YOUR OWN SPIRITUAL JOURNEY
TO WORSHIP WITH US.

NO PART OF YOU NEEDS TO BE LEFT AT THE DOOR.

GOD'S LOVE IS INCLUSIVE, EVER ABUNDANT, AND MEANT
TO BE EXPRESSED THROUGH OUR ACTIONS IN THE WORLD.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!



Vashon Lutheran Church
12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 31, 2025, 10:30 AM

PRELUDE *Abbot's Leigh, Prelude & Chorale, by Carl D.N. Klein* Carl Kishline

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS Gail Larson, Lay Leader

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS Rev. John Michael Barich

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

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **C: Amen.**

CANDLELIGHTING Acolyte

Gathering Hymn (next page):

ELW, #526, v. 1, 3 & 4

God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er and mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en;
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company.

Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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:

ACS, p. 31



Song of Praise:

ACS, p. 31



PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray. O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

Congregation sits

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7a

Ben Killian-Scott, Lector (L)

Lector: A reading from Proverbs, Chapter 25.

L: Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 112 – (SPOKEN; Congregation speaks the dark print)

P: Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

C: Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

P: Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

C: Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

P: It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

C: For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

P: They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

C: Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.

P: They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

C: The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Ben Killian-Scott, Lector

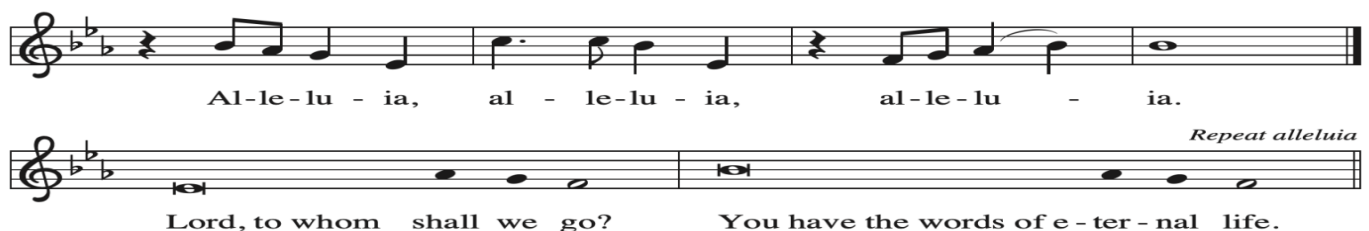
Lector: A reading from Hebrews, Chapter 13.

L: Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** *Please stand as able*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

ACS, P. 31



GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Rev. John Michael Barich

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 14. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit

Message:

Rev. John Michael Barich

Congregation stands as able

HYMN OF THE DAY:

ELW, 522

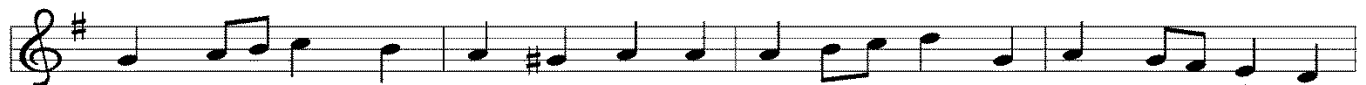
As We Gather at Your Table



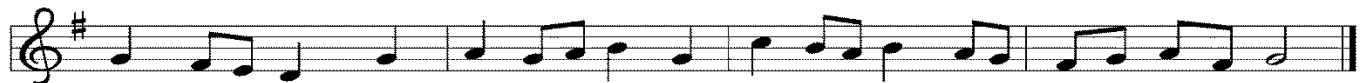
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

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

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

APOSTLES' 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. *Please sit.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Nancy Lee Spears, Assisting Minister (A)

A: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A: For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations, we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: Children of God, what is on your hearts this morning? What else shall we pray for? (*Prayers of thanksgiving/petition may be offered aloud here*)....Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **C: Amen.**

P: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **C: And also with you. Share the peace.**

P: Now is the time for the sharing of our gifts to God.

OFFERING RESPONSE:

ELW, #481 (sing 2 times)

Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942
Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956
Text and music © 1991 Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695;
and Juniper Landing Music, admin. Word Music; and Word Music (ASCAP). Used by permission.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray.

C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

Rev. John Michael Barich, Cantor, A cappella

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and half notes with slurs. The lyrics are printed below each staff.

PREFACE: (Rev. Barich Chants, A cappella)

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,

al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resur - rec - tion

opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.

And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,

we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

Detailed description: This block contains nine staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and half notes with slurs. The lyrics are printed below each staff. The first staff begins with a C-clef and a key signature of one sharp. The subsequent staves begin with a C-clef and a key signature of one sharp. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

From *All Creation Sings* copyright © 2020. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # _____.



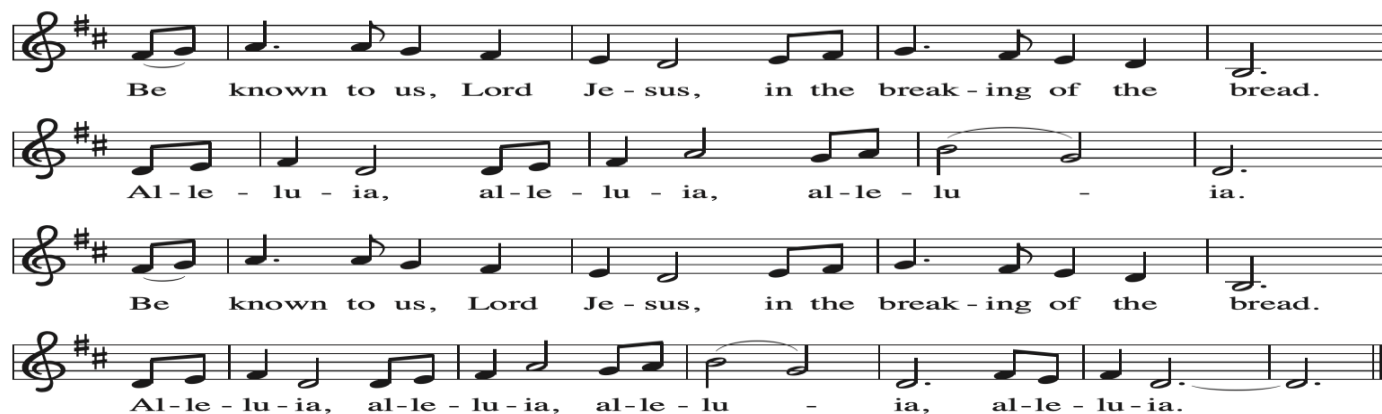
WORDS OF INSTITUTION/LORD'S PRAYER/COMMUNION: Rev. Meredith Harmon

PH: 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.

PH: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: Rev. Meredith Harmon
**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.**

PH: **Invitation to Communion:** This is the table, not of this church, but of Jesus Christ. It is
 made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who
 have much faith, and you who have little; come, you who have been here often and you who
 have not been here in a long time. Come, you who have never been before; come, you who have
 tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the church invites you; this is
 Christ, and he invites you to meet him right here.

Congregation Sits




Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.

While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Rev. Meredith Harmon

PH: Let us pray. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **C: Amen.**

BLESSING:

Rev. John Michael Barich

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace. **C: Amen**

Sending Song:

ELW, #631, v. 1, 3 & 4

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-

faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,

pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

DISMISSAL: P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Come Unto Him, All Ye That Labor, by. G. F. Handel* Carl Kishline

Copyright © 2025, Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS004030. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Worship Assistants Today:

Guest Pastors –Rev. JM Barich, Rev. M Harmon
Assisting Minister – Nancy Lee Spears
Lector – Ben Killian-Scott
Communion Assistant – Rev. Meredith Harmon
Usher – Jim Dam
Musician – Carl Kishline
Communion Set Up – Gail Larson

Assistants next Sunday 10:30 AM (9/7/2025):

Guest Pastor – Rev. John Michael Barich
Assisting Minister – Harriet Shull Nelson
Lector – Reidar Dittmann
Communion Assistant – Janet Williams
Usher – Jim Dam
Musician – Marita Ericksen
Communion Set Up – TBA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Rev. John Michael Barich & Rev. Meredith Harmon, for participating in worship today!

No Sunday Bible study group today. It is postponed until Sept. 7, and will be led by Roger Gebhard.

Contact Gail Larson (206/852-4967) with your prayer requests.

IFCH Dinner Program - VLC provides hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM the fourth Thurs. of the month. Contact Cheryl Weise: cheryl.weise@gmail.com.

The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies – 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network – 206-473-8715. Email: contact@vashoncarenetwork.org; website: www.vashoncarenetwork.org

VCN FAMILY CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP - Vashon Care Network invites you to join other family caregivers in a safe, supportive space to share the experience of caregiving. Thursdays, 6:30–7:30 PM at VLC. ?? Call Tory Hayes, 206.304-4544, victoriansmith@comcast.net.

The Vashon Old Friends Club will officially open at the Presbyterian Church, Wednesday, Sept. 17. The Club is a place of fun and friendship for adults with memory loss or cognitive change. It provides a healthy break for their caregivers. It will be offered **every Weds., 9:30 am– 2:30 pm.** Together, coordinators will craft each day around art, games, gentle exercise, music, and good food to engage members' strengths, and foster community, friendship, and joy. As we move into fall, we'll update the larger community about the Old Friends Club. If you are a caregiver or know someone with cognitive challenges and want to learn more, please submit a **Program Interest Form** available on the Vashon Care Network website: www.vashoncarenetwork.org. **Volunteers** are a key element of program success. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Laurretta Hyde, laurettahyde721@gmail.com.

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY

1st

Sept. 7, 9:45 AM – 10:15 AM
10:30 AM
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Food Bank Sunday
Bible Study w/ Roger Gebhard
Worship Service
AA Group

MONDAY

4th, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

VCN Board Meeting

TUESDAY

2nd, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
3rd, 10:00 AM – noon

Quilt Sewers Group
Vashon Quilting Group

WEDNESDAY

1st, 9:00 AM – noon

Lutheran Quilters Group

THURSDAY

Sept. 25, 5:00 PM

6:30-7:30 PM

IFCH Dinner at Vashon Presbyterian Church
VCN Family Caregivers Support Group at VLC

FRIDAY

7:00 – 8:30 PM

AA Group for Men

SATURDAY

September 20, 3:00 PM

VLC Council Meeting, In Person



Vashon Lutheran Church

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 2930

Vashon WA 98070

Street Address:

18623 Vashon Hwy. SW

Church office hours:

Tuesday – Friday noon – 3 PM

Phone: (206) 463-2655

Email: vlc98070@centurytel.net

Website: www.vashonlutheran.org

Hymns for August 31, 2025

ELW, 526, v. 1, 3 & 4	God Is Here!
ELW , 522	As We Gather at Your Table
ELW, 481	Come to the Table
ELW, 807	Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
ELW, 631, v. 1, 3 & 4	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling