

# VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Sept. 17, 2023  
10:30 AM Worship**

Vashon Lutheran Church  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Sept. 17, 2023

**PRELUDE**

Marita Ericksen

*In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.*

**CANDLELIGHTING**

Frank Ericksen, Acolyte

**GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jack Kirkman, Lay Leader

*Congregation stands as able*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

Rev. John Michael Barich

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✙ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✙ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn (next page):*

*ELW, #452*

## Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;  
 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,  
 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,  
 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;  
 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.

so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
 to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
 one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.  
 with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
 A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984  
 Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829  
 Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.  
 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** Congregation sits

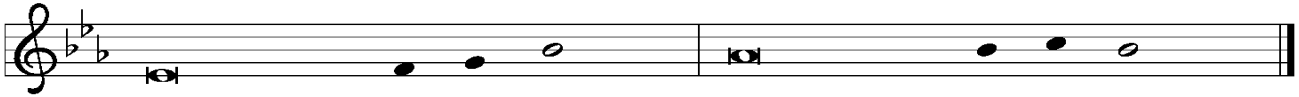
**FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21**

Judy Carr, Lector (L)

Lector: A reading from Genesis, Chapter 50.

L: Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph’s brothers said, “What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?” So they approached Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this instruction before he died, ‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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Bless the LORD, | O my soul, \*and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.

**Bless the LORD, | O my soul, \*and forget not | all God's benefits—**

who forgives | all your sins \*and heals all | your diseases;

**who redeems your life | from the grave \*and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;**

who satisfies your desires | with good things \*so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.

**O LORD, you provide | vindication \*and justice for all who | are oppressed.**

You made known your | ways to Moses \*and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.

**LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**

**\*slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;**

you will not al- | ways accuse us, \*nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.

**You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**

**\*nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**

For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,

**\*so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.**

**As far as the east is | from the west,**

**\*so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**

As a father has compassion | for his children,

**\*so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12**

Judy Carr, Lector

L: A reading from Romans, Chapter 14.

L: Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” So then, each of us will be accountable to God. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

*ACS, P. 14*

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35**

Rev. John Michael Barich

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 18. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had

happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.” The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation sits

**MESSAGE:**

Rev. John Michael Barich  
Congregation stands as able

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

**ELW, #359**

### Where Charity and Love Prevail

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.  
Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842  
Text © 1960 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All Rights Reserved.  
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**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:**

Harriet Shull Nelson, Assisting Minister (A)

A: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A: We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations, that they uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. For those strained financially; for all living with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or otherwise afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy We lift up all those in need, either silently or aloud...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for this congregation. Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

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

P: (At the end of passing of the peace) Now is the time for the sharing of our gifts to God.

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY RESPONSE (next page):**

**ACS, #970**



## We Come Now to Your Table, Lord

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'We Come Now to Your Table, Lord'. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread. We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed. You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed: and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.' The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature.

Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop  
Music: LIVING BREAD, St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932–2013  
Text and music © Caribbean Conference of Churches

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### OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray. **God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

*Congregation stands as able*

### 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 our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE:

P: 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:

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

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION/LORD’S PRAYER/COMMUNION:**

P: 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.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

P: **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.

Communion Hymn #2:

ELW, #612

## Healer of Our Every Ill

*Refrain*

Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,  
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your  
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is  
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,  
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

*Refrain*

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.  
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.  
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.  
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

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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** (*next page*):

P: Let us pray. Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **C: Amen.**

**BLESSING:**

P: The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you bless you now and forever. **C: Amen**

*Sending Song:*

*ELW, 779*

### Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5  
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

**DISMISSAL:** P: Go in peace. God is at work in you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:**

Marita Ericksen

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Worship Assistants Today:

Guest Pastor – Rev. John Michael Barich  
Assisting Minister – Harriet Shull Nelson  
Lector – Dr. Gary Koch  
Communion Assistant – Sindy Rice  
Usher – Jim Dam  
Musician – Marita Ericksen  
Cantor – Nancy Spears  
Communion Set Up – Sindy Rice

Worship Assistants next week (9/24/23):

Guest Pastor – Rev. John Michael Barich  
Assisting Minister – TBA  
Lector – TBA  
Communion Assistant – TBA  
Usher – Jim Dam  
Musician – Dinah Helgeson  
Cantor – Nancy Spears  
Communion Set Up – TBA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Rev. John Michael Barich for your participation in worship today at VLC!

Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779) with your prayer requests.

IFCH Dinner Program: VLC provides five hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM the fourth Thurs. of the month. Contact Patte Wagner: [pattewags@aol.com](mailto:pattewags@aol.com) to help.

The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies – 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network – 206-604-3253. Email: [contact@vashoncarenetwork.org](mailto:contact@vashoncarenetwork.org); website: [www.vashoncarenetwork.org](http://www.vashoncarenetwork.org)

Prayer & Healing Service – Rev. Jeff Larson PhD is offering a healing service on the first Weds. of the month, beginning Sept. 6, at 6:30 PM, in the sanctuary. All are welcome!

Sat., Sept. 16, 2023, we're having our annual rummage sale. Please leave items near the back entrance of the fellowship hall, but don't block the door. No clothing items. ??, Call June Langland at 206-463-5850.

The Vashon Care Network is hosting the Christine Jovanovich Memorial Seminar on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2:00–3:30 PM at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 16100 115<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW. Guest speaker is Robin VanHyning, MSN, RN, CEO, Cornerstone Healthcare Training Company, LLC. Topic: “Speaking of Your Mind”; Understand the Many Manifestations of Dementia & Alzheimer’s. For more information: [www.vashoncarenetwork.org](http://www.vashoncarenetwork.org).

All adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities are invited to a Harvest Party Sun., Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2-4 PM. Hosted by Hershey Housing with Granny’s grant funds. Our goal is to create social opportunities for this community & this will be our first. Any adults with IDD are welcome to come with their caregiver to enjoy music, crafts & snacks. Blythe Deines, phone: #719-650-1364; email: [hersheyhousing@gmail.com](mailto:hersheyhousing@gmail.com).

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

**SUNDAY**

1<sup>st</sup>  
10:30 AM  
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Food Bank Sunday  
Worship  
AA Group

**MONDAY**

10:00 AM

Intercessory Prayer Group

**TUESDAY**

2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 AM – noon

Quilt Sewers Group  
Vashon Quilting Group

**WEDNESDAY**

1<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 AM – noon

1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 PM

Sept. 20, 7:00 PM

Lutheran Quilters Group  
Prayer & Healing Service  
VLC Council Meeting

**THURSDAY**

Sept. 28, 5:00 PM

IFCH Dinner prepared by VLC, served at VPC

**FRIDAY**

7:00 – 8:30 PM

AA Group for Men



**Vashon Lutheran Church**

**P.O. Box 2930, Vashon WA 98070**

**Street Address:**

**18623 Vashon Hwy. SW 98070**

**Church Office Hours:**

**Tuesday – Friday 12 PM – 3 PM**

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**Website: [www.vashonlutheran.org](http://www.vashonlutheran.org)**

## Hymns for Sept. 17, 2023

ELW, 452	Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death
ELW, 359	Where Charity and Love Prevail
ACS, 970	We Come Now to Your Table
ACS, p. 40	Be Known to Us, Lord
ELW, 612	Healer of Our Every Ill
ELW, 779	Amazing Grace