Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church

E.L.C.A.



In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

21st Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 18th, 2026

Bulletin Donated By: Dennis & Sharon Peterson in Honor of their Family

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.

21st Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 18th, 2026

Ministers: ***You, All Members of -G.A.***
Pastor: **Jaime Decker**

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Prelude Music:
Welcome/Announcements

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: 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.

L: 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. **C: Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn** *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* ELW #759

***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.**

***Prayer of the Day**

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Word

First Reading **Isaiah 45:1-7**

1 Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations
before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be
closed: 2 I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and
cut through the bars of iron; 3 I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret
places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. 4 For
the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though
you do not know me. 5 I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you,
though you do not know me, 6 so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west,
that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. 7 I form light and create

darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

R: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

Psalm (Please Read Responsively) Psalm 96:1-13

1 Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

2 **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

3 Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

4 **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

6 **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

8 **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."**

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12 **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**

13 You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

R: Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. 9 For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

R: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation Pg. 205

Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-30

P: The Gospel according to_____ **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. 16 So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with

partiality. 17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" 18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19 Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. 20 Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" 21 They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." 22 When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away. 23 The same day some Sadducees came to him saying there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question: 24 "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies childless, his brother shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.' 25 Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married and died childless, leaving the widow to his brother. 26 The second did the same, so also the third, down to the seventh. 27 Last of all, the woman herself died. 28 In the resurrection, then, whose wife of the seven will she be? For all of them had married her." 29 Jesus answered them, "You are wrong because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. 30 For in the resurrection people neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels of God in heaven.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Hymn of the Day *We Give Thee But Thine Own* ELW #686

***The 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 the People

Response: **Your Mercy Is Great.**

Sharing The Peace

Offering

Ways To Give Offering: In Person, Venmo and Online www.galutheranchurch.org







Because you give…
we worship, fellowship, learn, serve and grow.
Thank you for your generosity!

Offering Song *Give Thanks* **Gray #170**

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

Meal

Holy Communion

*Great Thanksgiving	Pg. 206
*Holy, Holy, Holy	Pg. 207
*Words of Institution	Pg. 207

***Lord's Prayer** Pg. 208

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

***Invitation to Communion**

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

*Communion Distribution (All Are Welcome to Receive Communion Here at GA Church)

***Lamb of God** Pg. 208

***Post Communion Blessing**

*** Post Communion Prayer**

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.**

Sending

Blessing

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** *Christ, Be Our Light* ELW #715

***Dismissal**

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C: To Share the Good News of God's Word and serve the community and the world. Thanks be to God.

*Postlude

Mission Statement of Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church (Adopted in 2022)

To share the Good News of God's Word and to serve the community and the world.

Matthew 22:39 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

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We celebrate weekly Holy Communion. We welcome all who believe in the Risen Christ and who find in the sacrament our Lord's real presence for the forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life. If you receive communion in your home congregation, you are invited to receive it here at G.A. Red wine and white grape juice will be offered to you in Christ's name. You may choose your preference. If you are unable to receive wheat bread, or wine, be sure that in a single element you receive the Presence and all the gifts of the sacrament.

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