



RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 6, 2026

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship Leader	8:00 & 9:15 AM: Pastor Steve Chellew
Organist	8:00 & 9:15 AM: Shary Evavold
Scripture Reader	8:00 AM: Pam Nielson 9:15 AM: Maycie Anderson
Projectionist	8:00 AM: Donny Kjos 9:15 AM: Lisa Chellew
Videographer	9:15 AM: Andrea Brand
Ushers	8:00 AM: Trevor Eide, Claire Shepard 9:15 AM: Corey Feine, Jim LaCroix, Donnie Kjos
Altar Guild	Faye Heiden, Jess Heiden, Lacey Drinkall, Kim Benson

5:30 PM **NO MONDAY COFFEE HOUSE WORSHIP (LABOR DAY)**
No service on holiday Mondays.

LIVESTREAM If you are not able to attend live worship, please join us at 9:15 a.m. on You Tube (Search for Rushford Lutheran Church)
Previous services are also available for viewing

OFFERINGS Offering plates are located at the door. There is no collection during the service. See our church website for electronic options for supporting our mission and ministry.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

OPENING HYMN (Please stand)

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

Reclaim 14

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

**Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit;
Let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.**

**Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

KYRIE (Lord, have mercy.)

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 32:1-7 (ESV)

Pastor: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

People: Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Pastor: For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

People: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Pastor: I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;

People: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Pastor: Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;

People: Surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

Pastor: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;

People: You surround me with shouts of deliverance.

OLD TESTAMENT (Please be seated)

Ezekiel 33:7-9 (ESV)

Lector: A reading from the prophet Ezekiel, chapter thirty-three, verses seven to nine.

⁷ “So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 1:1-11 (ESV)

Lector: A reading from Second Corinthians chapter one, verses one to eleven.

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God that is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵ For as we share abundantly in Christ’s sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. ⁶ If we are afflicted, it is for your

comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. ⁷ Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort. ⁸ For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. ⁹ Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. ¹⁰ He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. ¹¹ You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL (Please stand)

Matthew 18:1-20 (ESV)

¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ² And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³ and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶ but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷ “Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸ And if your hand or your foot causes you

to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰ “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹² What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴ So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵ “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY (Please be seated)
Reclaim 224

When Peace Like a River

**When peace like a riv-er at-tend-eth my way;
When sor-rows, like sea bil-lows, roll;
What-ev-er my lot, Thou hast taught me to say:
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”**

**It is well...it is well...With my soul...With my soul...
It is well, it is well with my soul**

**Though Sa-tan should buf-fet, though tri-als should come,
Let this blest as-sur-ance con-trol,
That Christ hath re-gard-ed my help-less es-tate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.**

**It is well...it is well...With my soul...With my soul...
It is well, it is well with my soul**

**My sin – oh, the bliss of this glorious thought –
My sin – not in part, but the whole, -
Is nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!**

**It is well...it is well...With my soul...With my soul...
It is well, it is well with my soul**

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trum-pet shall sound, and the Lord shall de-scend;
“E-ven so” – It is well with my soul.

It is well...it is well...With my soul...With my soul...
It is well, it is well with my soul

TODAY’S MESSAGE

The God of All Comfort

2 Corinthians 1:1-10 (ESV)

PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE (Please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Each petition ends with: Lord, in your mercy,
To which we respond: **Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

(Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25)

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION (Please be seated)

COMMUNION HYMN

Thine the Amen

Reclaim 41

**Thine the amen, thine the praise,
Alleluias angels raise,
Thine the everlasting head,
Thine the breaking of the bread,
Thine the glory, thine the story,
Thine the harvest then the cup,
Thine the vineyard then the cup
Is lifted up, lifted up.**

**Thine the life eternally,
Thine the promise let there be.
Thine the vision, thine the tree,
All the earth on bended knee,
Gone the nailing, gone the railing,
Gone the pleading, gone the cry,
Gone the sighing, gone the dying,
What was loss lifted high.**

**Thine the truly, thine the yes,
Thine the table, we the guest,
Thine the mercy all from thee,
Thine the glory yet to be,
Then the ringing and the singing
Then the end of all the way,
Thine the living thine the loving,
Evermore, evermore.**

**Thine the kingdom, thine the prize,
Thine the wonder full surprise,
Thine the banquet, then the praise,
Then the justice of thy ways,
Thine the glory, thine the story,
Then the welcome, to the least,
Then the wonder all increasing
At thy feast, at thy feast.**

**Thine the glory in the night,
No more dying only light,
Thine the river, thine the tree,
Then the Lamb eternally,
Then the holy, holy, holy,
Celebration, jubilee,
Thine the splendor, thine the brightness,
Only thee, only thee.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

(Please stand)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN (Please be seated)

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Reclaim 206

**Pre-cious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light,
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.**

**When my way grows...drear,
Pre-cious Lord, linger near,
When my life is... al-most... gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.**

**When the dark-ness ap-pears
And the night draws ...near,
And the day is... past and... gone,
At the riv-er I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.**

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US TODAY

OFFERING

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS Pat Volkman, Stacy Johnson, Arlene Wenzel, Angela Lowrie, Family of Pat Nelson, Claire Olstad

PRAYER CONCERNS Please contact Pastor Steve by emailing steve.chellew@gmail.com or calling 507.703.1221. You may also call the church office at 507-864-7152

FIRST COMMUNION Holy Communion is offered for students as young as fifth grade here at RLC. An informational First communion Class will start on Wednesday, September 9th at 5:00 p.m. in the Quilting Room. Classes will be held on September 9, 16, 23, 30. First Communion Sunday will be at the 9:15 a.m. service on October 4th. Students who have not taken the class but are past the fifth grade are also encouraged to attend before they start taking communion. At least one parent is required to attend with their student.

CONFIRMATION CLASS Regular classes begin Wednesday, September 9th and will be held at 6:00 p.m. throughout the year. During the season of Lent classes will be held at 7:00 p.m.

RALLY SUNDAY September 13th our preschoolers will be recognized at the 9:15 AM service and those that have not already, will receive their Storybook Bible and a blanket made by our Junior Youth Group students.

PRAISE TEAM RESUMES: Students in 3rd grade & up are invited to join the RLC Praise Team beginning Sunday, September 13th. Rehearsals are right after Sunday School: 11:15 AM-12:15 PM. Performances are typically on the second Sunday of the month, and include some special occasions

and holidays. All ages and abilities are welcome, and older students with experience are encouraged to play an instrument. Contact Kristin with questions!

KICKBALL KICKOFF: Youth groups fall kickoff for students in 7th-12th grade will take place at Highland Prairie on Sunday, September 13th at 4:00 PM. There will be a kickball tournament and cookout, and more! Come with good shoes, ready to have fun!

DEAR WOMEN OF THE AUGUSTANA DISTRICT, Resurrection Lutheran Church in Mankato is thrilled to host this year's Augustana District Women of the Word gathering on Saturday, September 19th. Our goal for this day is simple: to offer you a space to recharge, reflect, and connect. Through uplifting worship, inspiring speakers, and interactive breakout sessions, we hope this day truly fills your cup and brings you joy, relaxation, and fresh inspiration! Information and registration sheets are on the table outside of the church office.

SEEKING THRIVENT PARTNERS FOR YOUTH PROJECTS: Are you a Thrivent member? If you don't already know, you are likely entitled to funds to help with TWO projects per year. RLC Youth has some upcoming local missions that would greatly benefit from your partnership, including projects at Good Shepherd/Bremmer Suites, Ronald McDonald House, SEMCAC Senior Dining, and more! If you would like to help students serve our community, please contact Kristin at kristinburdey@gmail.com or 507-459-0731.

ORGAN RESTORATION PROJECT We are currently working with Moe Pipe Organ company of Wadena, MN, to upgrade and modernize our organ console. Our pipe organ was installed in 1914 and donated to the church by the Julsrud family. It is a Reuter organ with 14 ranks and 825 pipes. Much of the electrical wiring and switching that connects the console (player part) with the organ (pipe part) is original wiring from 1914. The project will update wiring and switching, and convert the organ to a MIDI system. Whereby we will be able to record hymns for playback. Or order digital files to play through our organ. The project is being paid for by funds set aside over the past few decades in our Endowment Fund.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND living in assisted living at Bremmer Suites: Jeanette Brown, Carol Mierau, Bettie Bunke, Arnie Agrimson and John Brand.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND living at Good Shepherd Nursing Home: Dorothy Wunderlich, Susan Sanders, Alice Sievers, Esther Sorum, Bette Eide, Joyce Gilbertson, Rena Laumb, Verdayne Jorde, Lyle & Rose Smith, Ken and Carol Kingsley.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND living at area nursing homes: Avis Frederick (Houston), Marlys Morken (Winona), Roger Cone (Rochester).

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND still living in their homes: Marilyn & Keith Connaughty, Nina Austin, Dorothy Magaard.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE DEALING WITH LONG-TERM ILLNESS/CANCER Arlene Wenzel, Stacy Johnson, Pat Volkman, Donna Boyum, Corrine Hill, Shirley Helgemoe.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

8:00 AM & 9:15 AM Worship Service / Communion

Coffee served by Priscilla Circle – in the Fellowship Hall

10:15 AM Bible Study

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

LABOR DAY

NO Coffee House Worship

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

9:00 AM Ladies Mission Work

9:00 AM Men's Helping Hands

5:00 PM First communion Class

5:00 PM Endowment Committee

6:00 PM Family Education Committee

6:00 PM Youth Committee

6:00 PM Confirmation Class

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

RALLY SUNDAY

8:00 AM & 9:15 AM Worship

Coffee served by Priscilla Circle – in the Fellowship Hall

10:15 AM Adult Bible Study

11:15 AM Praise Team

4:30 PM Junior Youth Group

6:00 PM Youth Group



**"WHEN YOUR
HOPE IS IN GOD,
HE WILL
ALWAYS
DELIVER."**

James MacDonald

[2 CORINTHIANS 1:10]

