

Joy Lutheran Church of Rockwall, Texas
302 N. Goliad - Rockwall, Texas 75087
(214) 716-7539 • www.joylutheranchurch.org

North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

North Texas/Oklahoma Mission District

*Bringing Joy to the
Heart of Rockwall*

We are a community of faith, formed
in the grace and joy of Jesus Christ.

We are a people involved in God's
sure and unfolding promise to mend
His creation through the life, death
and resurrection of His Son, Jesus
Christ, and in the power of the Holy
Spirit.

We are a church under the cross of
Christ, shaped by the ancient rhythms
of Christian worship, fellowship and
service to others.

COME SHARE THE JOY!

Our Pastor

Rev. Martin Moore
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(979) 551-6222

Our Council President

Rhonda White
rhondawhite08@gmail.com



NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (YEAR A)
OCTOBER 4, 2026



Our Members, Guests and Visitors

We are all on a journey of faith; God does not expect us to make the journey alone.

Please contact us if we can be of help in any way.

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Prelude

You may use this time to prepare your heart for worship

- Welcome! Whether you are a longtime member or visiting for the first time, you are a gift from God to us. Guests, please fill out the card on the back of your pew and place it in the offering plate later in the service. May the love of Christ comfort you, and the love of His people encourage you!
- All who are baptized and desire to share in the Body and Blood of our Lord are welcome to receive Communion.
- Children in worship are a blessing! A worship bag (filled with coloring pages and crayons, children's bulletin, etc.) is available at the back of the sanctuary to use during worship. Ask an usher if you need assistance.
- We've started an Artists' Gathering, which includes drawing, painting, crafts, etc., every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please come join us in the Fellowship Hall.
- Adult Sunday school studying "The Final Apologetic" starts at 9:15 a.m. and the Youth lesson is "Gifted and Called" starting at 9:30 a.m.
- Helping Hands collections for the Food Bank is today. If you are unable to donate non-perishable food items, cash is always welcome.
- The Young at Heart Luncheon is at 11:45 a.m. on October 14th at *Onassis* in Rockwall.
- Octoberfest is scheduled for Sunday, October 18th after worship. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.
- A Church Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st at 6:00 pm.
- Reformation Sunday is October 25th at 10:30 am. Remember to wear red.
- Please remember to review the Blessing Board to volunteer for various ministries.

“O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.” (Psalm 96:9)

Please stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN~ “IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE” (Green P. 526)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise, In
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light, Nor
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small; In
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light; Thine

light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes, Most
want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might; Thy
all life thou liv - est, the true life of all; We
an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight; All

bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days, Al -
jus - tice like moun - tains the high soar - ing a - bove Thy
blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree, And
laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see Tis

might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As the Pastor says the Invocation, the Sign of the Cross ✠ may be made in remembrance of our baptisms.

Pastor (P): "In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
Congregation (C): Amen

(P): "Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord." **(C): Amen.**

(P): "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

(P): "Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another." ...

(P): Most merciful God,

(C): We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

(P): In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

(C): Amen

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 ~ (Green, P. 78)

(P): "In peace, let us pray to the Lord." **(C): Lord, have mercy.**

(P): "For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord."

(C): **Lord, have mercy.**

(P): "For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord." (C): **Lord, have mercy.**

(P): "For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord." (C): **Lord, have mercy.**

(P): "Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord." (C): **Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE: "THIS IS THE FEAST"

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All
Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(P): The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

(P): Generously pardon and give peace to your faithful people, O Lord, that being cleansed from every sin, we may be free and glad to serve; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

(C): Amen

Please be seated

HOLY WORD

(God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song)

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He 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; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And 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. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

(P): The Word of the Lord

(C): Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING

80:7-18*

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;*

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

⁸You have brought a vine out of Egypt;*

you cast out the nations and planted it.

⁹You prepared 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.**
¹¹You 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?**
¹³The 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; behold and tend this
vine;***
preserve what your right hand has planted.
¹⁵They burn it with fire like rubbish,*
at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.
¹⁶**Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,*
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**
¹⁷And so will we never turn away from you,*
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
¹⁸**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;***
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING
Philippians 3:4b-14

^{4b}If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:
⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a
Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the
church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I
counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because
of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have
suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain
Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes
from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness
from God that depends on faith — ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his
resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that
by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I
have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my
own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider
that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and
straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of
the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

(R): The Word of the Lord

(C): Thanks be to God!

Please stand for the Reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ "ALLELUIA"



THE HOLY GOSPEL

(P): The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st Chapter.

(C): **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46

³³{Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people,} "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." ⁴²Jesus 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 marvelous in our eyes'? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

(P): The Gospel of the Lord.

(C): **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated

HOMILY FOR THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE STONE THE BUILDERS REJECTED – THE PARABLE OF THE TENANT FARMERS

“When therefore the *owner* [kyrios, ‘lord’] of the vineyard comes,
what will he do to those tenants?” (Matt. 21:40)

“And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and
when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” (Matt. 21:44)

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ “MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHIN LESS” (Green, P. 294)

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

*And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you
to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen and establish you. 1 Peter 5:10*

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

My hope is built on nothing less Than
When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood Sus -
When he shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh

3 Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; When all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, Clothed in his righ - teous -

6 own I claim, But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name. On
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, He then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

9 Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Please Remain Standing

APOSTLES' CREED

(P): "With the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed."

(C): I BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I BELIEVE in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 CHURCH

(P): Confident in God's steadfast love through Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

(P): ... Lord in your mercy. **(C): hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

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

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

(P): "The peace of the Lord be with you always." **(C): And also with you.**

(P): "Let us share that peace with one another."

Please be seated as the gifts and offerings are collected

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Please stand as the gifts and offerings are brought forward

Please be seated [after sharing the peace - ushers will collect offering]

GATHERING & PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

*As the gifts are brought forward to the altar,
we will sing the Offertory Response*

Please stand.

"LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL"

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and
dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come." The score ends with a double bar line.

OFFERING PRAYER

(P): Let us pray.

(C): Gracious and Merciful Father, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please remain standing

THE HOLY MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(P): The Lord be with you. (C): And also with you.

(P): Lift up your hearts. (C): **We lift them up to the Lord.**

(P): Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (C): **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

THE PROPER PREFACE

(P): "It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:"

SANCTUS - HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Please remain standing.

HOLY MEAL

(God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(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.

(P): 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.'

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes.

(C): Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

(P): Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of His resurrection, we await His coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

(C): Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(P): Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of His resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

(C): Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

(P): Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

(C): Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(P): Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

(C): 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

Please be seated

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

(P): Come, for all has been prepared.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We invite all baptized believers to come forward and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children are invited to come with arms folded across their hearts to receive a blessing from the pastor. Both the elements of wine and grape juice are offered. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher and communion will be brought to you.

Please stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

(P): May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **(C): Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(P): Let us pray: "We give you our thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord."

(C): Amen

Please remain standing.

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SENDING

(God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.)

BLESSING

(P): 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.

(C): Amen

SENDING HYMN ~ "PRAISE & THANKSGIVING" (Green, P. 409)

409

Praise and Thanksgiving

1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things
 2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve you, That with our
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for your chil - dren, By your wise
 4 Then will your bless - ing Reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, Free - ly con -

liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the
 neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work
 guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -
 fess - ing Your gra - cious hand. Where all o - bey you, No one will

or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Blos - som and wood.
 with you, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.
 joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know your care.
 hun - ger; In your love's sway you Nour - ish the land.

DISMISSAL

(P): "We are called by Christ"

(C): **To JOYfully share Jesus and ourselves with our neighbors.**

(P): "Go in peace. Share the good news."

(C): **Thanks be to God.**

OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING:

Greeter:	Inez Roach
Ushers:	Dennis Chubbs and Bobbie Chubbs
Altar Care:	Denise Moore
Lector & Communion Assistant:	Wendy McCrillis
Acolyte & Crucifer:	Matthew Chubbs and Jacob Hart
Music & Facebook Monitor:	Rhonda White
Hospitality:	Marcia Matarelli
Offering Count Team:	Rhonda White and Denise Moore
Altar Flowers:	Inez Roach in celebration of her son and grandson's birthdays
