

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



Tribute Penny • Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640)
National Museum, Warsaw

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (YEAR A)
OCTOBER 18, 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. each Sunday, and the Youth lesson is "Gifted and Called" starting at 9:30 a.m. on the third and fourth Sundays of each month.
- Octoberfest is scheduled for today after worship.
- A Worship & Music Team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at 5:30 pm.
- 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~ “PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY” (Green P. 543)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Psalm 67:3

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; trans, Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

Tune: Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a -
Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign -
Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend
Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore

tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal -
ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus -
you; Sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at -
him! All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be -

va - tion! Let all who hear Now to his
tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -
fore him! Let the a - men Sound from his

tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad a - do - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
might - y can do If with his love he be - friend you.
peo - ple a - gain. Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

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): O God, our refuge and strength, since you yourself are the author of our devotion, graciously consider the devout prayers of your Church. May those things which we ask in faith effectively follow by your grace; 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 45:1-7

¹Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: ²"I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the Lord, who does all these things."

(P): The Word of the Lord

(C): Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 96:1-9

¹Sing to the LORD a new song;*

sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

²**Sing to the LORD and bless his Name;***

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

³Declare his glory among the nations*

and his wonders among all peoples.

⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;***

he is more to be feared than all gods.

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;*
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.

⁶Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!*

Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

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

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his name;*
bring offerings and come into his courts.

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;*
let the whole earth tremble before him.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

(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 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

(P): The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated

HOMILY FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE FIRST TWO WORDS OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

"Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."
(Matt. 22:21)

Please stand

Take My Life, that I May Be 406

1 Take my life, that I may be Con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;

Take my mo - ments and my days; Let them flow in cease - less praise.
 Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 It shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 It shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 At thy feet its treasure store;
 Take myself, and I will be
 Ever, only, all for thee.

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 image shows a musical score for the hymn "Let the vineyards be fruitful". It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence at the end of the fifth staff.

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

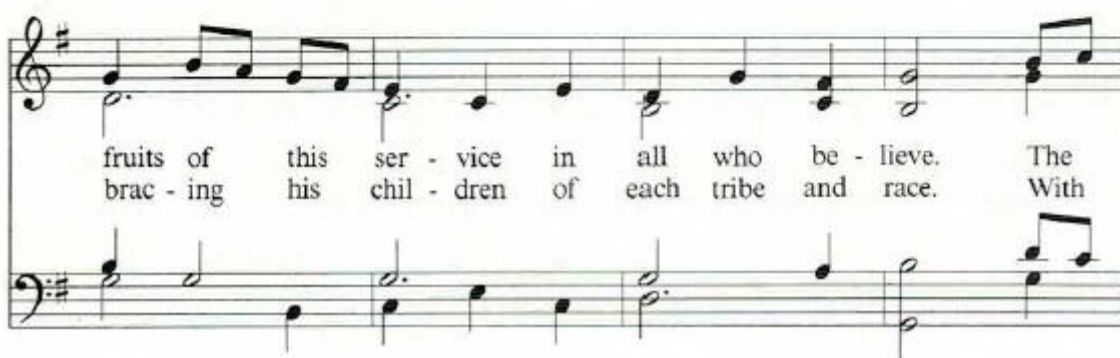
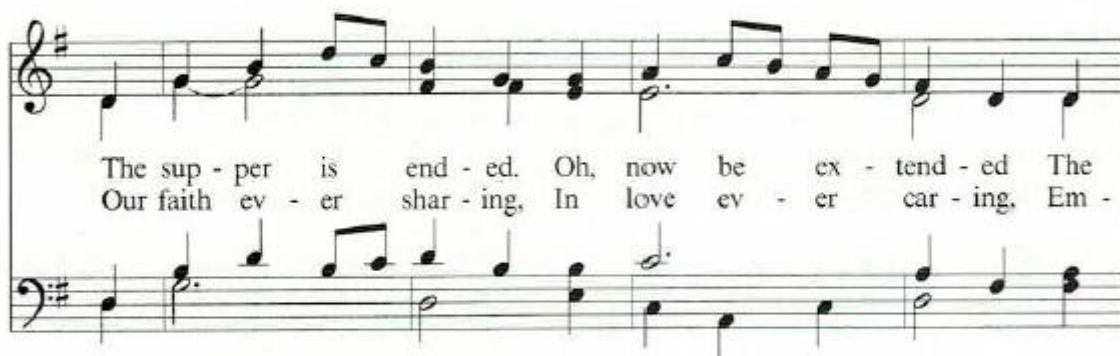
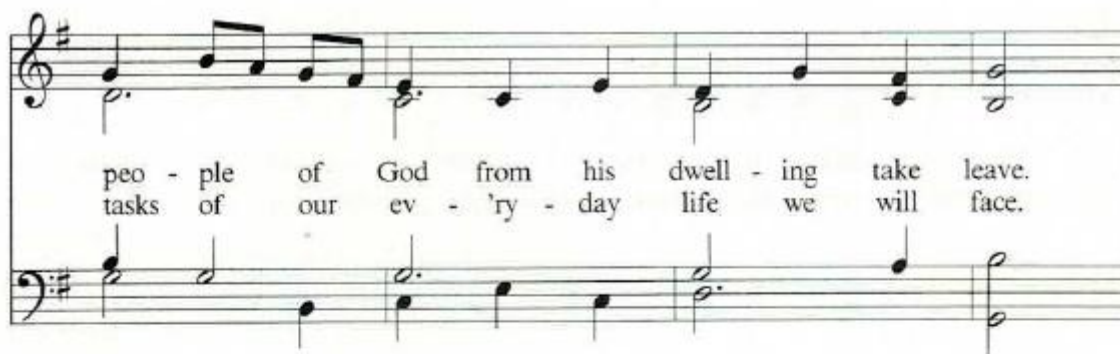
(P): The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

(C): **Amen**

SENDING HYMN ~ "SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING" (Green, P. 221)

221 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Sent Forth by God's Blessing'. It is written for two voices, Soprano (1) and Alto (2), and piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: '1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, Our true faith con - fess - ing, The' and '2 With praise and thanks-giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing, The'. The piano part provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines.



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:	Chris Briggs
Acolyte & Crucifer:	Matthew Chubbs and Jacob Hart
Music & Facebook Monitor:	Rhonda White
Hospitality:	Oktoberfest Celebration
Offering Count Team:	Rhonda White and Denise Moore
Altar Flowers:	Carol Agee, in honor of her father Jesse Edgar
