



Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

October 4, 2026 Proper 22

Today's prayers are written by Pastor Joseph.

PRELUDE "Wonderful Peace" W.G. Cooper Belle Toh, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 19)*

Pastor: Heaven is declaring God's glory

People: The sky is proclaiming his handiwork

Pastor: The LORD's Instruction is perfect,

People: Reviving one's very being.

Pastor: The LORD's laws are faithful,

People: Making naive people wise.

All: Let us worship God!

HYMN #538 Hallelujah, Pelo tsa Rona

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION *(adapted from Philippians 3)*

Guide: Loving Lord, we serve by your spirit and boast in Christ Jesus. You have given us so much, and we have good reason to put our confidence in you, and in your faithful blessings.

People: You have the power to make all things subject to yourself and continue to lift us up not according to worldly or physical standards, but instead grabbing hold of us for your righteous and transformative love.

Guide: Yet our lives show an inconsistent faith. With deep sadness we must admit that we often live as enemies of the cross. We take pride in our disgrace, and our thoughts focus on earthly things. We revel in outrage instead of spiritual maturity.

People: Forgive our sinfulness! Transform our humble bodies so that we are like Christ's glorious body! Respond to us with grace, and we pray together in silence...

- Silent Confessions -

Guide: The righteousness we have comes from the faithfulness of Christ. Help us to pursue our upward call in Christ Jesus. Amen.

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL *(from 1 Timothy 1:15)*

Guide: This saying is reliable and deserves full acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

CHORAL RESPONSE *(in unison)*

#582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

ANTHEM "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing" William Allen Pasch

FAMILY SERMON Pastor Joseph

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reader: Heavenly Father, had you only forgiven our sins, that would have been enough, but you have also given us the gift of Holy Scripture. As we read its words, speak your Word to us, that we might feel your presence and know your will. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 21:33-46

Reader: "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a tower. Then he rented it to tenant farmers and took a trip. When it was time for harvest, he sent his servants to the tenant farmers to collect his fruit.

People: But the tenant farmers grabbed his servants. They beat some of them, and some of them they killed. Some of them they stoned to death.

Reader: "Again he sent other servants, more than the first group. They treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said.

People: "But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come on, let's kill him and we'll have his inheritance.' They grabbed him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

Reader: "When the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenant farmers?"

People: They said, "He will totally destroy those wicked farmers and rent the vineyard

to other tenant farmers who will give him the fruit when it's ready."

Reader: Jesus said to them, "Haven't you ever read in the scriptures, The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. The Lord has done this, and it's amazing in our eyes? Therefore, I tell you that God's kingdom will be taken away from you and will be given to a people who produce its fruit. Whoever falls on this stone will be crushed. And the stone will crush the person it falls on."

People: Now when the chief priests and the Pharisees heard the parable, they knew Jesus was talking about them. They were trying to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, who thought he was a prophet.

Reader: This is the Word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Isaiah 5:1-7

Reader: Let me sing for my loved one, a love song for his vineyard. My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug it, cleared away its stones, planted it with excellent vines, built a tower inside it, and dug out a wine vat in it.

People: He expected it to grow good grapes—but it grew rotten grapes.

Reader: So now, you who live in Jerusalem, you people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard: What more was there to do for my vineyard that I haven't done for it?

People: When I expected it to grow good grapes, why did it grow rotten grapes?

Reader: Now let me tell you what I'm doing to my vineyard. I'm removing its hedge, so it will be destroyed. I'm breaking down its walls, so it will be trampled.

People: I'll turn it into a ruin; it won't be pruned or hoed, and thorns and thistles will grow up. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.

Reader: The vineyard of the Lord of heavenly forces is the house of Israel,

People: and the people of Judah are the plantings in which God delighted.

Reader: God expected justice, but there was bloodshed;

People: Righteousness, but there was a cry of distress!

Reader: This is the Word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

SERMON "Vineyards" Pastor Joseph

HYMN #508 Come to the Table

MINUTE FOR MISSION World Communion Offering Ann Snodgrass

OFFERTORY "They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love" Peter Scholtes

***OFFERING** (*in unison*) "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"
*God, Whose giving knows no ending, from Your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, Costly cross, grave's shattered door:
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving You by loving all.*

DEDICATION (*unison*)

All: Blessed are you O God, king of the universe. We rejoice in the grace we have been given and seek to serve you by cheerfully giving these offerings to glorify and serve you. Use these offerings to pour out your love upon all people through your church. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation to the table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God...

Therefore we join our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever praise your name, saying,

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: Holy God, we thank you for...we ask all this in the name of your son our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying, "***Our Father, who art in heaven...***" (The Lord's Prayer p. 35 debts/debtors)

Affirmation of Faith - The Nicene Creed

Pastor: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

People: We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

Pastor: God from God, Light from Light, true God from True God, begotten, not made.

People: of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

Pastor: For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

People: For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

Pastor: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

People: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

Pastor: Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

People: We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

Pastor: We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

All: We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer After Communion

Vision & Mission

Pastor: The mission of Erin Church is to belong to the diverse family in Christ;

People: to love and accept all as God's children;

Pastor: to become disciples who embody and share the gospel;

People: and to serve our church and beyond.

All: Unified in Christ, we actively seek to create harmony in a diverse community through compassion, mutual respect, and love.

CLOSING HYMN #765 May the God of Hope Go With Us

BENEDICTION Pastor Joseph

DOXOLOGY (in unison) #606

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.*

POSTLUDE "Shine, Jesus, Shine" Graham Kendrick Belle Toh, piano

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

There is much to be anxious about in the world today. Even as some things measurably improve, the weight of worry can be oppressive. How can we hold on to the joy and justice of the gospel in our day-to-day lives? How can your church encourage you for the ministry to which all of us are called?

Monday Psalm 119:49-56

Tuesday Deuteronomy 6:10-25

Wednesday Proverbs 6:12-22

Thursday Mark 2:18-22

Friday Psalm 23

Saturday Isaiah 25:1-9

Sunday Philippians 4:1-9