

St. Olaf Lutheran Church
Sunday, October 4, 2026
19th Sunday after Pentecost

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

Welcome & Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

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.

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.
Amen.

***Hymn**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW 803

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**

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

Special Music

In the Shadow of Your Wings

Sanctuary Choir

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

¹ I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

² He 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;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And 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.
⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!
L: Word of God. Word of Life
C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 80:7-15

⁷ Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
⁸ **You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;**
you cast out the nations and | planted it.
⁹ You cleared 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.
¹¹ You 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?
¹³ The 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;
¹⁵ behold and | tend this vine;
preserve what your right | hand has planted.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

L: Word of God. Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

***Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)**

pg 142

***Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus 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 amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P: The gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Kids sermon

Katie Bills

Sermon

Pastor Jim McColley

***Hymn**

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

ELW 729

***Apostles Creed**

pg 105

*** Prayers of Intercession**

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

***Peace** (*Feel free to share a handshake or hug*)

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Please share with one another a sign of Christ’s peace.

Offering: *Please consider giving an offering for the mission and ministry of St.*

Olaf. We can continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ with your support and generosity. God bless you. Also, please pass the attendance sheets down your row and fill out your info.

A Doxology for



World Communion

TUNE: "Old Hundredth" (8.8.8.8. Long Meter)

We've Gath-ered for the Gos-pel Feast__
Drawn from the West, South, North, and East__
U-ni-ted by Your Pres-ence, Lord__
One Loaf Bro-ken, One Chal-ice Poured__

Hea-ven's Fore-taste in Us Made Real__
May We Give Thanks at Ev-'ry Meal__
When from Christ's Ta-ble We Do Rise__
Bless Be the Bond Which U-ni-fies__

For God So Loves the Lost, Last, Least__
All in the North, South, West, and East__
Your Will Be Done, of This We Pray__
With Ev-'ry Breath, in Ev-'ry Day__

A__men__

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written for
"World Communion Sunday"
(or any other Eucharistic worship service),
by Rev. Jim Roth (2026)

***Offering prayer**

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.

*** Great Thanksgiving & Holy, Holy, Holy**

pg 144

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer**

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

***Prayer After Communion**

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.

***Blessing**

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

HymnRise Up, O Saints of God!***ELW 669*****Dismissal**

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Assisting in Worship

Presider: Pastor Jim McColley

Organist: Jason Swedlund

Reader: Lynda Mumm

Ushers: Randy Puls, Vera Hartman, Eileen Carroll, Doug Kinseth

Communion: Vera Hartman, Stacy Hendrickson, Lynda Mumm

Communion setup: Barb Long, Tammy Oester

Tech: Bob Younie

Required weekly offerings to cover expenses: \$11,975

9/27

Offering: \$7,966.95

Attendance: 92

September Offering: \$35,455

Required monthly offerings to cover expenses: \$51,890