

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
WOV Setting Five – Bread of Life
Sunday, September 13, 2026**

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** (WOV p.10)

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our 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. **Amen.**

***ENTRANCE HYMN:** "When Morning Gilds the Skies" LBW (green) 546

***APOSTOLIC GREETING (WOV p.28)**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***KYRIE (WOV p.28)**

Kyrie eleison:

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison:

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison:

Lord, have mercy.

***HYMN OF PRAISE (WOV p.29)**



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



① Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
 I Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
 I II For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.
 I Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



***PRAYER OF THE DAY** (WOV p.30)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace, that, pursuing what you have promised, we may share your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Children's church dismissal: All children are invited to the Nursery at this time.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 (spoken responsively)

[¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

- ² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.**
- ³ He forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;
- ⁴ **he redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and lovingkindness;**
- ⁵ he satisfies you with good things,
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- ⁶ **The LORD executes righteousness
and judgment for all who are oppressed.**
- ⁷ He made his ways known to Moses
and his works to the children of Israel.]
- ⁸ **The LORD is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.**
- ⁹ He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- ¹⁰ **He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- ¹² **As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us.**
- ¹³ As a father cares for his children,
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (WOV p.31)**



***GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before

him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** "Come Down, O Love Divine" LBW (green) 508

***APOSTLES' CREED** (WOV p.32)

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

**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**

***THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (WOV p.34)**

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Move your church throughout the world away from judging and despising others. Lead us to embody the forgiveness you have given us in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The endless beauty of your creation reminds us of your mercy. Protect those who care for farms and ranches. Guide those who lead us to wonder at your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Raise up leaders to hold all in authority accountable for any misuse of the power entrusted to them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ground this congregation in the welcome you show us in forgiving our sin. Inspire each of us to welcome others for your honor and glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With you is found the joy and promise of eternal life. Keep us in that joy as we remember all those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

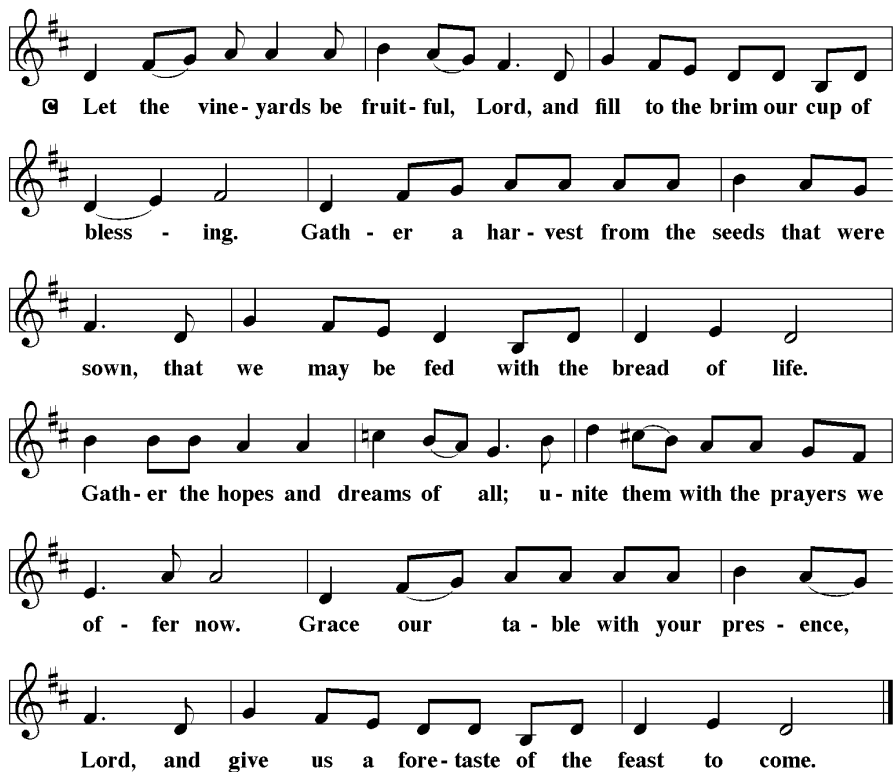
***PEACE (WOV p. 34)**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE (WOV p.35)**



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 now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER (WOV p.35)**

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves,
our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for
the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

***GREAT THANKSGIVING (WOV p.36)**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

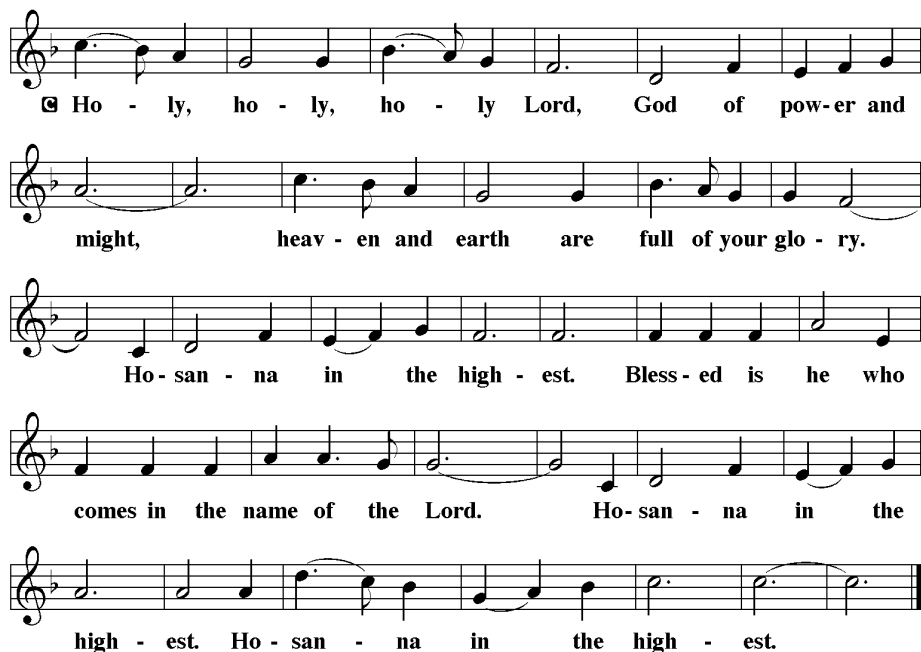
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE (WOV p.36)

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING (WOV p.37)

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER (WOV p.39)**

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**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.**

***COMMUNION HYMN (WOV p.39)**



☒ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

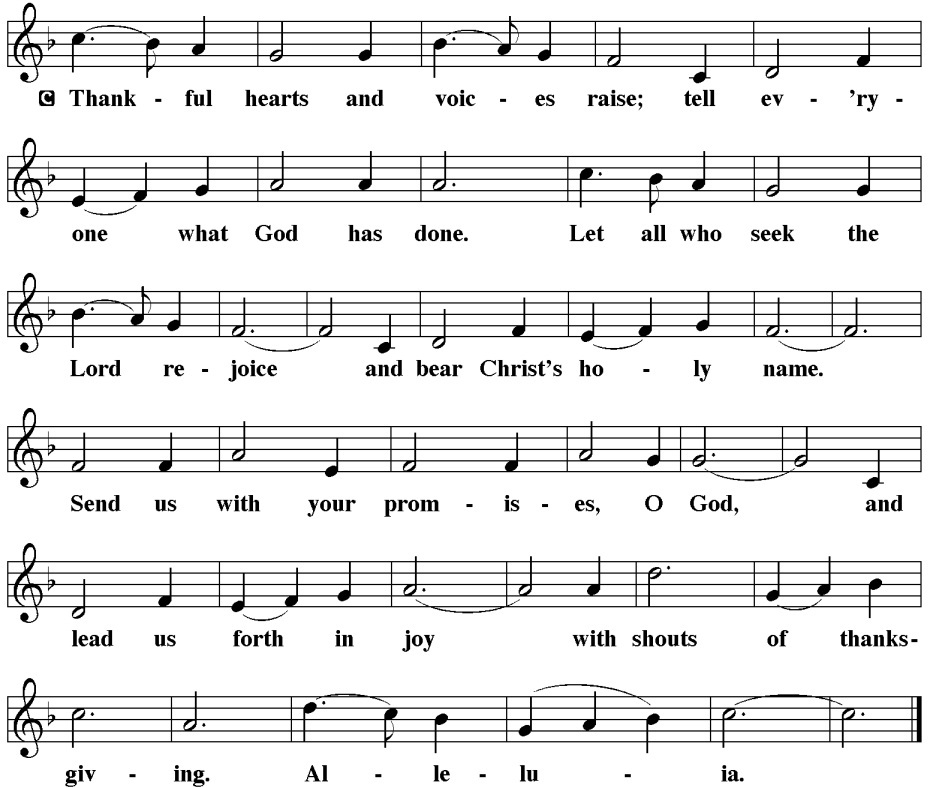
COMMUNION (WOV p.39)

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND CANTICLE (WOV p.40)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (WOV p.41)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

Amen.

***BLESSING (WOV p.41)**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen

***SENDING HYMN: “Son of God, Eternal Savior”**

LBW (green) 364

DISMISSAL (WOV p.41)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Today’s communion elements are presented to the glory of God, by Evie Roser.

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 9/20/2026

Jonah 3:10-4:11, Ps 145:1-8, Phil 1:21-30, Matt 20:1-16

PRAYER REQUESTS

Dottie Devlin, Edna Garver, Dolly Fletcher, Emery Lynn Grove, Tom Bailey,
Mary Rose Lawhead, Barbara Townley, Barry Keller, Susan Scheungrab,
Shirley Seitz, Donna Chandler, Keith Copenhagen, James Thompson,
Joann King, Trey Tomaschko, Lou Tomaschko, Beth Hennessey,
Suzanne Becker, Chad Smith, Tim Myers, Bonni Whitman, Sandy Fair

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Zion! We are glad you are here today. After worship, you are invited to a time of fellowship with coffee and snacks in the social hall directly beside the sanctuary.

Communion is offered every Sunday. Wine and apple juice are both available. All are welcome.

Today we welcome Rev. Angela Zimmann to lead us in worship.

Today we also welcome Gwen Trout to lead us musically from the organ.

Brenda will only be in the office on Monday and Tuesday this coming week. The bulletin for next Sunday will be printed on Tuesday afternoon. Brenda will return to the office on Monday, 9/21.

Prayer List: Please let Brenda know (office@zionglenrock.org or 717-235-3276) when people should be added or taken off the prayer list. Thank you.

The Nursery is available for children 5 years and under. Kelley Fisher can be contacted regarding Children’s Church at kellyfish23@gmail.com or 410-598-0586.

The Loose Change offering plate is available every Sunday. At the end of the month, the total collected for that month will be sent to the chosen organization. **Our loose change collection for September will benefit Glen Rock Emergency Medical Services.**

Services are recorded and streamed live each week on Zion Lutheran Church’s Facebook page. It is possible during the recording that people attending the service will be filmed. If you have any concerns about being filmed, please contact the office at 717-235-3276.

Announcements for the weekly bulletin are due to the office by early Tuesday morning so bulletin work can be completed by the end of the day on Tuesday. This schedule allows time for the bulletin to be sent to the presiding pastor for the upcoming week and allows the website committee time to post the bulletin on Zion’s website. Announcements can be emailed to Brenda at office@zionglenrock.org.

PERSONNEL at ZION

- Darryl Engler, Organist
- Brenda Davis, Administrative Assistant
- Kelley Fisher, Treasurer
- Chad Fisher, Sexton
- Donna Price, Council President.....momcat05@gmail.com or 410-746-3535
- Rick Freda, Council Vice President.....rickfreda@yahoo.com or 302-864-5700

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tom Bailey, Jeff Brown, Rick Freda, Jeff Hoffman, Gail Prego, Donna Price, and Jen Webb

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Supply Pastors:

September 13: Rev. Angela Zimmann
September 20: Rev. Peter Rustico
September 27: Rev. John Teitman
October 4: Rev. Peter Rustico
October 11: Rev. Paul Haack
October 18: Rev. Martin Zimmann
October 25: Rev. Gail Wolling

Assisting Ministers:

September 13: Diane Bortner
September 20: Donna Price
September 27: George Brown
October 4: Jeff Brown
October 11: Jeff Hoffman
October 18: Butch Hengst
October 25: Diane Bortner

Lectors:

September 13: Nate Rogers
September 20: Donna Price
September 27: Jen Webb
October 4: Kayla/Nate Rogers
October 11: Chad Fisher
October 18: Rachel Foltz
October 25: Susie Hengst

Council Offering Duty:

September – Tom Bailey and Jen Webb
October – Jeff Brown and Donna Price

Altar Care:

September – Donna Price
October – Linda Beegle



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