



## *Welcome to Worship!*



*15th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 21, 2025—10:00 a.m.*

*Worship Leaders: Pastor Carol Garman  
Pianist: Laurie Noelke*

### Order of Worship

(ELW—Evangelical Lutheran Worship—red hymnal; WOV –With One Voice—blue hymnal)

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

***Merciful God, we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.***

Gathering Song

*“Day by Day”*

ELW 790

Greeting

**c: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

**God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Blessing of the Backpacks

*Congregation to children:*

**We rejoice in this step in your journey with God. We pray God will guide you, your family, and us as you use this Holy Bible in your home, in your church school classes, and in our worship. We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word.**

First Reading

Amos 8:4-7

Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Celtic Alleluia"</i>	ELW 174
Gospel	Luke 16:1-13	
Sermon		
Hymn of the Day	<i>"There is a Wideness in God's Mercy"</i>	ELW 588
Apostles' Creed		ELW pg 105
Prayers of Intercession	God of grace, <b>receive our prayer.</b>	
Peace		
Offertory Song	<i>"We Give Thee But Thine Own"</i>	ELW 686
Offering Prayer	<b>c: Amen.</b>	
Words of Institution		
Lord's Prayer		ELW pg 112
Invitation to Communion		
Communion Hymn	<i>"Let Us Break Bread Together"</i>	ELW 471
	<i>"Blessed Assurance"</i>	ELW 638
Post Communion Blessing	<b>c: Amen.</b>	
Prayer after Communion	<b>c: Amen.</b>	
Blessing	<b>c: Amen.</b>	
Sending Song	<i>"Be Thou My Vision"</i>	WOV 776
Dismissal	<i>Go in peace. Do not lose heart.</i>	<b>c: Thanks be to God.</b>
Postlude		

## Announcements

Birthdays this week: Nicole Lepsch, Bob Cottrell, Hannah Wegner, James Hansen, Morgan Jostad, Stan Schwier, Lila Sutherland, Ruth Jostad, Richard Pedretti

Noisy Offering: This month we are focusing on Suicide Prevention and raising awareness of this and other mental health issues. We plan on donating our Noisy Offering to two different organizations: #WillPProject and the La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative. More information about these organization may be found in the September Currents. Last week-end we collected \$65! Let's keep making some noise!

HCLC Outreach and Service project: All are invited to help assemble LWR personal care kits after worship TODAY! Instructions and materials will be provided. Thank you to everyone who donated items for the kits.

Sunday School: will meet on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Thank you to the Education team and teachers that are helping with the program this year!

Confirmation will have a Student/Parent meeting on Wednesday, September 24 at 6 PM. Class will begin October 1st from 6-7:30 p.m. We will meet the first three Wednesdays of each month!

Outreach ministry request: Our young adults recently completed "My Favorite Things" forms, and we'd love to gather some of those items and send them a care package in October. Please consider contributing an item from the list to help with this effort. We'll also have a container for cash donations, which will go toward buying any remaining gifts. This is a great way to invest in our young adults who are the future of our church!

These are the items we are looking for: Gift cards: Culvers; Chik fil A; Jersey Mike's; Qdoba Candy: 100 grand bar; Twix; Nerd gummy clusters; Milk chocolate bars; Starburst minis. Snacks: Goldfish; Cheez its; Microwave popcorn; Pretzels, Baked Cheetos; Oatmeal Crème Pies, Ritz cracker chips!!

Scrap & Crop Event: Shari & Jodi are hosting a scrapbooking and crafting event at HCLC on October 3 & 4. The cost is \$30. For more information see our Weekly E-News or contact Shari. RSVP needed by Sep. 28.



**Save the Date &  
Sign-up for  
Trunk or Treat in the  
Gathering Space**

#### *In Our Prayers:*

We pray for friends and family of those who have recently passed: Harvey Miller, Charles Severson, Ray Cook, Madilyn Vang.

We pray for Jackson Ammerman (grandson of Les and Susan Kolbo), Gayle "Susie" Johnson, Laurie Gillespie, Cathy Braund, Diane Jostad, Betty Bender, Stacey Fredricks, Robin Ruhbusch, Mike & Pat Martin, Laurie Noelke, Megan Sacia Ulrich, Perry Voshage, Marjorie Lee, Jean Latham, Joan Vaughn, Bridget Ferk, Thelma Severson, Katie Wier, Phoebe & Bill Kitzke, Gayle Kuespert, Beulah Sanders, Cary Heyer, Jenny Lee, Mary Dokkebaken, Karla Johnson, the Coats family.

## Welcome to Worship!

Thank you for being here today. We want you to feel at home when you are here at HCLC, so please remember:

### As you participate

Bolded words on the screen are for you to speak.

Even though the pastor indicates when to stand up or sit down, that is not mandatory. We do not judge when it's done differently. Move around as you need to and please worship as *your* body demands it.

### Offering

The offering is our way of showing that when we come to the table we bring ourselves as well as all we have been given by God to be blessed for service in God's world.

The offering plate is passed around during the offering song.

The cake pan is for our Noisy Offering. Each month we choose a cause to support.

Offerings can also be made through our website or by using this QR code. Thank you for the many ways you support HCLC and our mission.



## Holy Communion

**All are welcome** to the table today when communion is offered. It is not our table, but Jesus is the host. So, in this place **all** are welcome to Jesus' table.

**Pre-packaged communion kits**, regular **and gluten-free**, are available for communing in your seats or bringing them forward with you. The ushers will have them in a basket.

**Communion in the front aisle** will be baked bread and both wine and juice (the wine is red, juice is clear).

### Kids

We welcome kids to participate fully in any part of the service! You may pass the offering plate or noisy offering, and we have activity bags as you enter church.

An **AED is available** in case of an emergency. It is located just outside the sanctuary doors.

***Please join us for coffee and fellowship each week after service. Guests and members please take a moment to fill out the Welcome Card in the pew. We want to know how we can best minister to you.***

**Halfway Creek Lutheran Church ELCA**  
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**Website: [halfwaycreek.org](http://halfwaycreek.org)**  
**Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thu: 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**  
**Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.**

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**HCLC Vision Board Members:**

*President: Bette Pedretti*

*Vice President: Nicole Stumlin*

*Secretary: Amy Noel; Treasurer: Carrie Payne*

*Members: Andrea Baxter, Nancy Holley, Michelle Olson, Wayne Atchley, Ema Nedoba, Oliva Nedoba*