

Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

1305 Thomas Dr. Bellevue, NE 68005



September 13th, 2026

8:00 am

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rite I

WELCOME EVERYONE!

If you are a guest today or are a member who has been away for a while, we are glad you joined us for worship today! Please let us know if you are joining us online by leaving a comment, or by emailing us so that we can say welcome and thank you.

Blessings! *Mother Margaret+*

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Church Office Hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-2:00pm.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE

WELCOME

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.***

All: **Almighty God, unto 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 thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

Celebrant: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

All:

**Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.***

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – Genesis 50:15-21

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?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, '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. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 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. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103:1-13

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 loving-kindness;

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 for ever.

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.

THE EPISTLE - Romans 14:1-12

Reader: A Reading from the Apostle Paul to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 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. Who are you to pass judgment on servants 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.

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. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

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. For it is written,

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

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL - Matthew 18:21-35

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him

and forgave him the debt. 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.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 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. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

MESSAGE

"Seventy times Seven!"

MM

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant: Please stand as we affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,**

and was made man.

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;

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.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's church and the world.

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, for **Sarah**, the Archbishop of Canterbury: **Sean**, our Presiding Bishop; **Scott**, our Bishop; **Margaret**, our Rector; and **Terri**, our Deacon; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy Holy Sacraments.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, pray for _____. In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, pray for _____. In the DR cycle of prayer, pray for _____.

And in the Parish cycle of prayer, pray for _____, for this gathering, and for all ministers and people.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land: our President **Donald Trump**; the Governor of the State, **Jim Pillen**; and the elected officials of our individual communities that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor those who are ill, shut-in, hospitalized or recovering especially: ____ Are there others?

And those with special concerns: _____. Are there others? And all those who, in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We ask that you be with the poor and oppressed, the unemployed and destitute, especially those who are hungry, cold, and in need of our help; those imprisoned or held captive, especially those who struggle to survive; and all those who in this life face danger, violence, oppression, or degradation of any kind.

We ask you to watch over all the members of our armed forces, those who are deployed especially: _____. Are there others? And all their families, until they are once again reunited in peace. We also ask that you protect all those who are traveling: _____. Are there others?

We give thanks for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: _____. Are there others? Those who are celebrating wedding anniversaries this week: _____. And for those occasions that you name at this time.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life: _____. Are there others?

We also bless thy Holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear especially: _____. Are there others? Beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Celebrant:

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. ***Amen.***

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sin unto Almighty God.

Celebrant and People:

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins

and wickedness,

which we from time to time most grievously have committed,

by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,

provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent

and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;

the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,

the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,

have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,

forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may ever hereafter

serve and please thee in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of thy Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Celebrant:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him. "God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

THE PEACE

Almighty God, whose will it is to hold heaven and earth in the peace of your kingdom, give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good thy vows unto the Most High. ***Amen.***

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer I

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: **It is meet and right to do so.**

Celebrant:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; according to whose true promise the Holy Ghost came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; united peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to thy Church the power to serve thee as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant:

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make

here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. ***Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant and People:

**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, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **grant us thy peace.**

All: **We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

ONLINE COMMUNION BLESSING

Celebrant and Deacon: We pray that those online will receive a Spiritual Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ. *Amen.*

COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING

Celebrant: The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**



The Nave Presence Candle is given by Jean Cook.

The Chapel Presence Candle is given by Ken Gomeringer.

Birthday Prayer: O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on this your servant, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness, all the days of their life through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Anniversary Prayer: O gracious and ever living God, look mercifully on these who have been joined together. Grant them your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their promises and vows; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Birthdays:

Kenneth C.
 Meagan J.
 Austin R.
 Kirk A.
 Joan C.
 Paige H.

Anniversaries:

Channing & Cammy W.
 Robert & Carol S.
 Darian & Lexi M.

WEEKLY MINISTRY TEAMS

		September 13th	September 20th
VPOD		Judy D.	Ken G.
Hospitality		Team 4	Team 1
Altar Guild		Team 1	Team 2
Spirit Hub		Outreach: Meals on Wheels (Kathy B.)	Vestry (Judy D.)
Altar Bread		Jan S.	Jan S.
LEMs	5:00 pm	Kathy B./Toby W.	Kristi S.
	8:00 am	Doug A.	Doug A.
	9:30 am	Jan S./Grace W.	Vince C./Margie C.
LEV		Team 3	Team 1
Recycle		Marcia A.	Susan H.
Acolytes 9:30am	C T T	Evelynn C. Vincent C. Mya H.	Olivia H. MacKenzie C. Amanda N.

CHS VESTRY 2026

Judy Darrell – *Sr. Warden*
 Ken Gomeringer – *Jr. Warden*

MEMBERS

Josh Cain
 Brian Caskie
 Margie Crawford
 Vince Cummings
 Rick Horejs
 Kristi Smith

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS & UPCOMING ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Building Manager: We are looking for a new Building Manager or Co-Managers. This is a volunteer position. If you feel potentially called to this ministry and may have some availability for the many needs that come up here in the church building, please let us know. Chris Darrell, who is currently in this role, will be willing to speak with you and give you the details of the position. We need someone to assume this role soon. Please consider this in prayer.

Adult Choir: Our adult choir rehearsals have started on Thursdays, from 6:00pm-7:30pm. Rehearsals will be two Thursdays a month. The schedule can be found online. If you have any questions about joining as a new member, please contact Mother Margaret at (240) 904-6171.

Finance Committee Meeting: The Finance Committee Meeting will be today, September 13th.

Change in Vestry Meetings: The Vestry meetings will now be held on the 4th Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be on September 24th at 6:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Mobile Food Pantry: The next mobile food pantry will be on Saturday, September 26th from 10:00-11:30am or until supplies last.

Pet Blessing: The Annual Pet Blessing will be Sunday, October 4th at 2pm on the church lawn.



Clothing Donation: In approximately 2 weeks, we will need a van or SUV to transfer clothing from Mother Margaret's home to Dignity Closet. The exact date is TBD. Please see MM+ or Deacon Terri.