



Sunday, October 18, 2026

21st Sunday after Pentecost

**The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
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FACEBOOK PAGE – Please “Like” us on
East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Facebook!
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Ministers of East Koshkonong ~ All the people of God

Presider ~ Pastor Eric Hanson

Organist ~ Judy Rusch

Assisting Minister ~ Carolyn Lien

Acolyte ~ Dalton Rockney

Lector ~ Trudy Spike

Greeter ~ Karen Hayes

Ushers ~ Curt & Linda Hanson

Offering Counters ~ Jean Lehr, Cheryl & Eric Nuenthel

Sermon One with Children

Gathering Hymn- God Is Here! #526

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

**we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot
free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you.**

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,

all you who are weary

and are carrying heavy burdens,

and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him and the gates shall not be closed: ² I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

L: Word of God, word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 96:1-9 [10-13]

¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song; sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

³ Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods. R**

⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD hon- or and power.

⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD. R**

⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: “The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity.”**

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that ¹ is therein.

¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³ You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples ¹ with your truth. **R**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit,⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath

.L: Word of God, word of life **.C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-22

P: The holy gospel according to **Matthew 22: 15-22**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites?” ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away. **P:** The gospel of the Lord **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Two

Hymn of the Day You Servants of God # 825

NICENE CREED

A: With the whole church let us confess our faith:

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering *especially* Marlene, Ron, Danelle, Judy, Mary Lou, Lisa, Landon, Ed, Kathy, Cherie, Gary, Barb, Lindsay, Betsy, Jim, Robert, Karen, Terry, Pat and Wilma. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Noisy Offering-For Sunday School Mission Project for ELCA World

Hunger

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

P: 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, 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.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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.

Invitation to Communion

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

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Sending Song Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! #413

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God

Calendar

October 18, 2026

Sunday, 9:00a.m. Worship Service

9:40a.m Fellowship

Befrienders meeting after Worship Service

Wednesday, October 21

5:30p.m. Worship

6:30p.m. Confirmation

Sunday, October 25, 2026

9:00a.m. Worship Service

9:40a.m Fellowship

Announcements

We are glad you joined us! We hope that you will experience the good news in mind, body, and spirit s we pray, listen, sing and share the peace of Christ and the meal of Holy Communion. You are invited to worship in as many ways as you are comfortable and able.

In this bulletin, **bold print** indicates congregation's responses.

Our Worship Service will be live streamed on the internet.

Please take a moment to fill out the communion card in the back of the pew or the one you were given.

The EKLC Health Ministry will have an AED refresher class immediately following church services on Sunday, Oct. 25 in Friendship Hall. No medical background necessary.

See you then!

EKLC once again will be participating with other local congregations in contributing to the Thanksgiving Holiday Baskets that are distributed through the Cambridge Food Pantry. This year, we will be collecting 50 20-ounce cans of apple pie filling and 50 cans of 30-ounce PIE READY pumpkin pie filling. Collection box will be in the Narthex through November 1.

GIVE PLUS

You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLC by following the directions below. All donations are secured through Vanco. Thank you for your generous offering in this way! **Online giving directions**, you may set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation.

Go to www.eastkoshkonong.org and click on Donate. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 2: Download the GivePlus app on your smartphone for either Android or iOS. If needed, create an account with your email address. Sign into your account and search for "East Koshkonong Lutheran Church." Select the plus "+" sign and complete the form.