

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
13047 Greenwood Ave N, Seattle, WA 98133
Worship for Sunday, 30 August 2026
+ 14th Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community

Prelude

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Please Stand

We gather at this font, O God,
creator of oceans and rivers, rain and snow.
We praise you for Bitter Lake, Piper's Creek, Elliott Bay, Shilshole Bay,
Puget Sound, and for the water you provide us each day.

We praise your Spirit, hovering over this font.
We bless you for this cleansing water of rebirth,
this flood of endless mercy,
and for all the baptized around this blue planet.

All the waters are yours, O God,
even stagnant rivers, wells nearly dry,
and lakes that are merely puddles.
We beg you to heed the cries of everyone suffering from drought and
wildfires in the Pacific Northwest.
As you saved Hagar and Ishmael in the desert,
so now save all those creatures dying of thirst, smoke, and fire.
Pour down rain and fill up the wells so that all of creation may live.

We ask you, almighty Provider,
to give us the water we need,
and we praise you for the sustenance you grant at this font.
By the water of our baptism empower us
to pour out ourselves for others
and to safeguard the waters of your earth.

To you, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Sea of holiness, Spring of salvation, Cloud of mystery,
be all praise and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.

You may be seated.

Gathering Hymn #879

For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.



Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

Apostolic Greeting

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

P: Let us pray:

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

First Reading Jeremiah 15:15-21

O Lord, you know;
 remember me and visit me,
 and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
 know that on your account I suffer insult.
Your words were found, and I ate them,
 and your words became to me a joy
 and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
 O Lord, God of hosts.
I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
 nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
 for you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unceasing,
 my wound incurable,
 refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
 like waters that fail.

Therefore thus says the Lord:
 If you turn back, I will take you back,
 and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
 you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
 not you who will turn to them.

And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 26:1-8

Please Read Responsively

Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

**Test me, O Lord, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

**I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**
singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

Second Reading Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Please Stand

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Matthew 16:21-28

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th Chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

“For the Son-of-Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son-of-Man coming in his dominion.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
 goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
 friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
 deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
 day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

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Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Blessing of Backpacks

Prayers and Peace

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

From your place in the congregation, feel free to share a sign of peace with other members of the assembly.

Offering

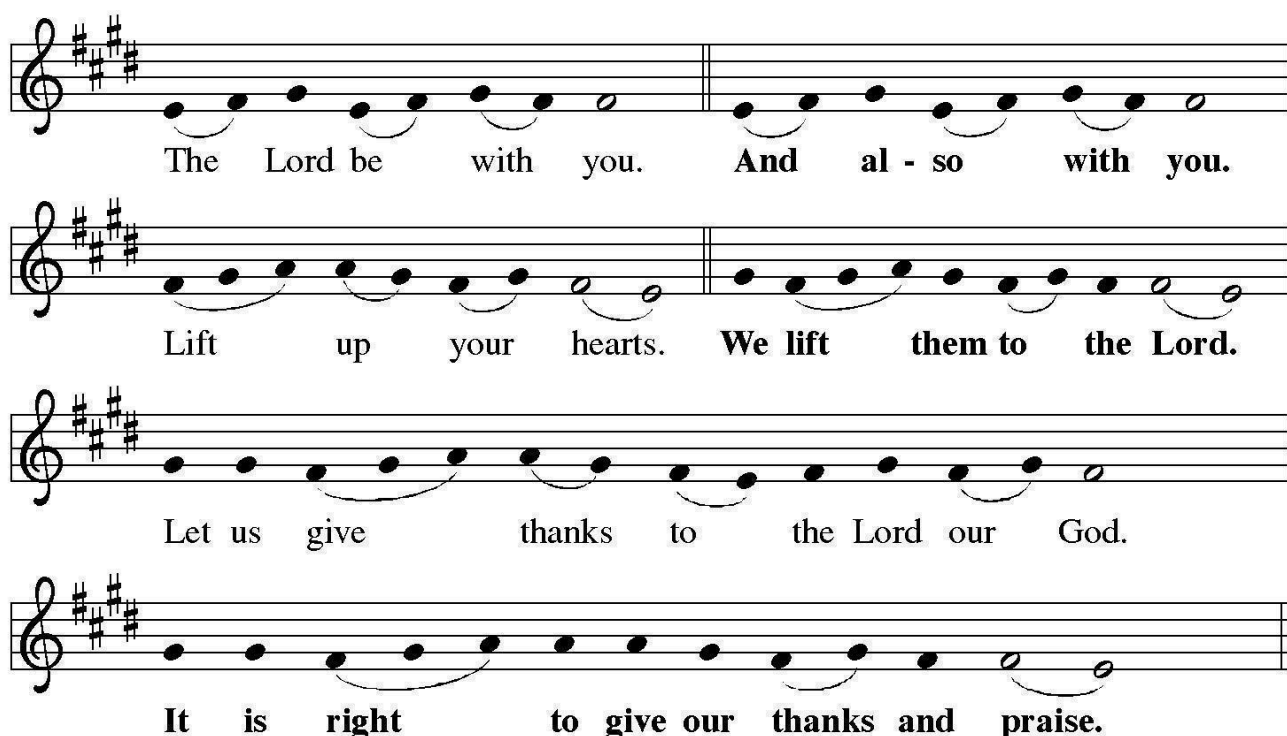
Offertory

Offertory Prayer

Please stand

P: 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.
C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



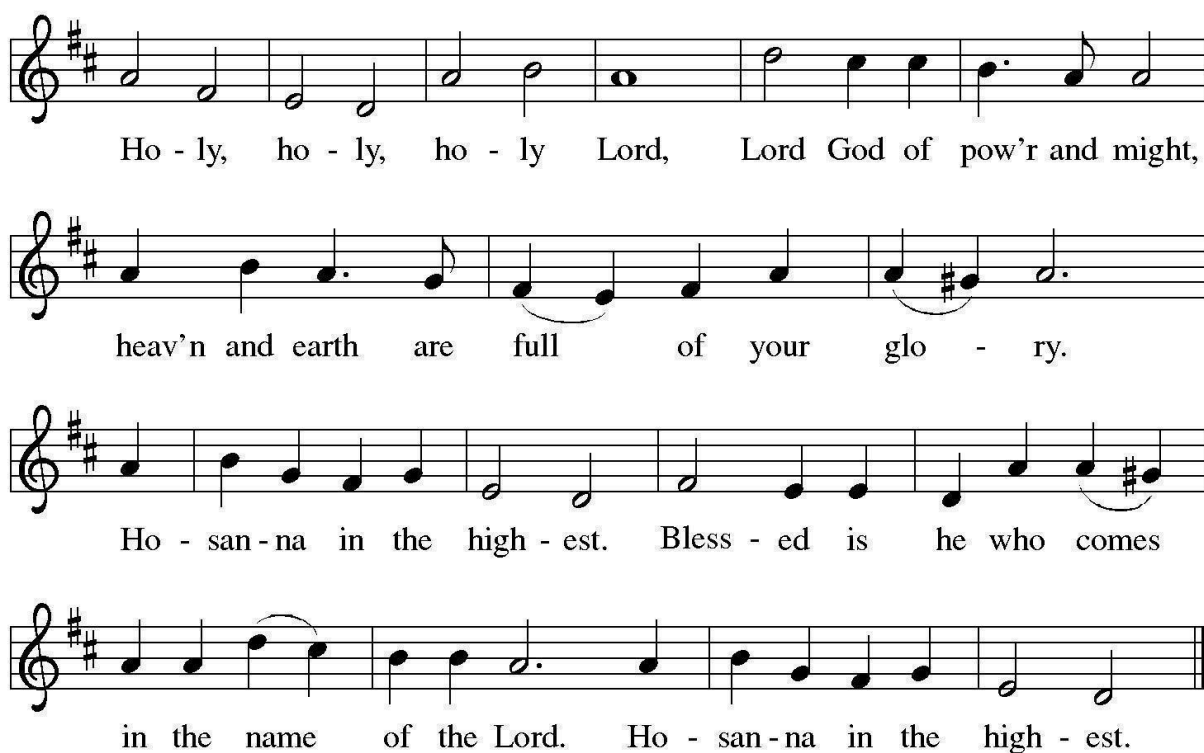
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
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 all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Liturgy

Holy God, mighty and merciful,
your people praise you, saying:
Your mercy endures forever.

Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,
granting them life and calling them to flourish,
setting the sign of your bow in the clouds,
the colors of your love and faithfulness.
Your mercy endures forever.

Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you bound yourself to your people of old,
blessing them with family outnumbering the stars
and calling them to be a blessing to others,
showing them steadfast love in every generation
and calling them to be a light to the nations.
Your mercy endures forever.

Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved,
grafting us into your living Vine,
and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember his life laid down and lifted up
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless us to be a blessing.
Make us a sign of your faithfulness.
Send us to tend and cherish the earth
and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With all the saints in light,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus,
in your Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Distribution of Holy Communion

You may be seated

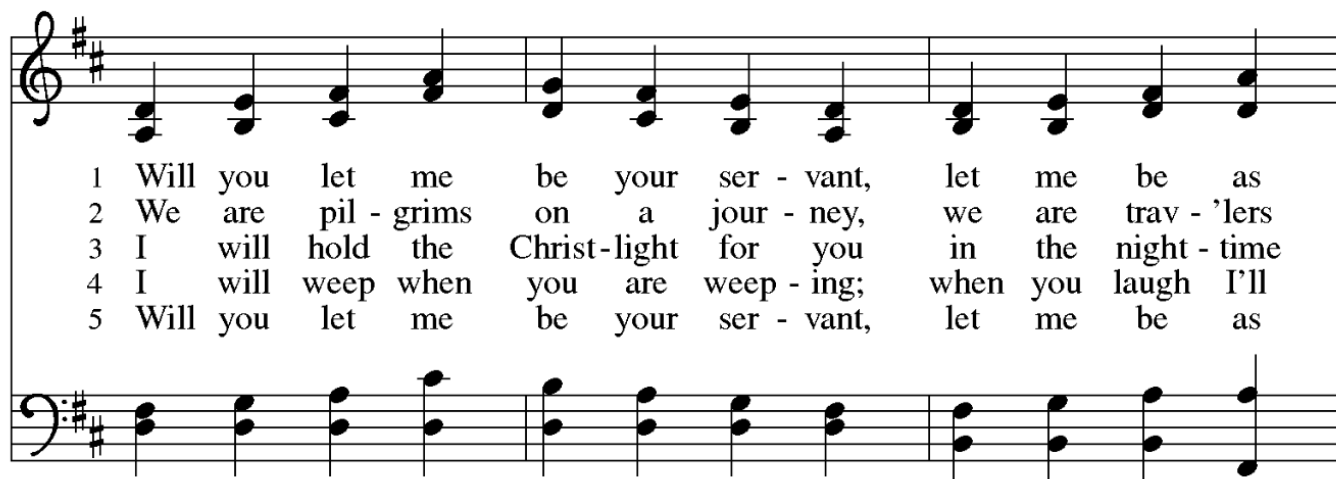
Please proceed up the center aisle to pick up a piece of bread from the Presiding minister and a glass of either wine or grape juice from the assisting minister.

There will be a basket off to the side where you can dispose of your used cup. The communion bread is all gluten free, but does contain honey. All are welcome to receive from Christ's table.

You may also come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing.

Communion Hymn #659

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928

Text and music © 1977 Scripture In Song, c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music (ASCAP),

c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

Communion Hymn ACS #1062

Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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Post-communion Prayer

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.

Sending Hymn #710

Let Streams of Living Justice



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home-land bright-ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
Text © 1989 William Whitla.

Postlude

Dismissal

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Today's Worship Leaders:

Pastor Sara Funkhouser

Julie Moe

Lesley Morical

Laurie Meade

McFarland Family

Vicki Cook

Preacher/Presider

Musician

Communion Assistant

Usher

Lectors

Altar Care

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: *Genesis 1:1-2:4a*

Psalm: *Psalms 148*

Second Reading: *Acts 17: 22a, 24-28*

Gospel: *John 1: 1-5*

Announcements:

Take Us Out to the Ballgame! Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in going to a Seattle Mariners game with Luther Memorial this Fall. We are happy to share that we will be heading to the game on **Saturday, September 5th!** The game is at **6:40 P.M.** against the Athletics. Our seats will be in right field, with minimal stairs. We have reserved 23 spots, 3 of which are ADA seats, but can always add more if there is even greater interest. As the game gets closer, we will coordinate heading down to the game together on the Link from church, for those who are interested in doing so. If you are interested in attending, please submit your name and payment to the office. Suggested donation is \$30, but we will be able to assist any who need help covering the cost. Please contact Pastor Sara if you have any questions. We're excited for this outing together! If we still have tickets available, we will be opening them to others for purchase on August 31st to make sure that we fill all our seats.

Pippin at 12 Ave Arts: Our former musician, Cynthia, who was with you all last Sunday is inviting anyone who is interested to see her in Reboot Theatre Company's performance of Pippin, starting September 11th!

Book Club: Our next book club meeting will be on Saturday, September 26th at 10:30 A.M. on Zoom. We will be reading the book Saoirse by Charleen Hurtubise. All are welcome to join!

School Supply Drive: As we prepare for our Blessing of the Backpacks this Sunday, and the start of the school year, we will be hosting a school supply drive at church for the next few weeks to donate to our neighbors at Broadview-Thomson. They are specifically in need of adult sized backpacks for the middle school students, but any other supplies are greatly appreciated!

Seattle Teacher's Union Authorizes Strike: At their meeting last night, the Seattle Teacher's Union voted overwhelmingly to authorize a strike if a contract is not agreed upon by September 1st. In the event that the teachers and staff in the Seattle School District go on strike again this year, as during previous such times, we will be opening the church for them to use the bathroom and take a break from walking around outside the school. We will plan to provide refreshments for them again too, so please feel free to drop off any pastries, individual snack packets, bags of coffee and/or containers of creamer, chocolate, etc. Even if they do not end up striking, the start of this school year has already been draining for many of the teachers and staff, so if you would like to drop off any treats for them, Pastor Sara would be happy to deliver them across the street. Any little thing we can do to help them feel supported is greatly appreciated!

Popsicles for the 1st Day of School: As we have done in previous years, we are going to pass out popsicles to the students at Broadview-Thomson on the first day of school. The 1st day of school is currently planned for September 2nd, however this could change in the event of a strike by the teachers. Please arrive by 2:15 P.M. All are welcome to join Pastor Sara for this time of joy and celebration! We will do our best to keep you updated about when the school year will officially begin.

Food Pantry Donations: We will not be having specific food pantry donation themes this summer, but any donation you make is still greatly appreciated, as the need for food in our community remains high. Thank you so much for your generosity! Below are some specific items that are always requested:

- Canned chicken
- Canned fish
- Shelf stable milk
- Ramen noodles
- Canned fruit or fruit cups
- Bread
- Tortillas
- English muffins
- Bagels
- Tortillas
- Anything else that you find which is a good buy

Upcoming Events

30	AUG, SUN	● 10:30 – 11:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship Sanctuary
		● 4 – 6pm	Skandia Society Rehearsal Celebration Hall
		● 6:30 – 7:30pm	NA Pink Progress Club Celebration Hall
31	AUG, MON	● 6:45 – 7:45pm	NA - Afterparty Group Celebration Hall
1	SEP, TUE	● All day	Jian Zhang on Vacation (Day 1/2) LMLC Office
		● 1 – 3pm	Quilting Group - Elaine Celebration Hall
2	SEP, WED	● All day	Jian Zhang on Vacation (Day 2/2) LMLC Office
3	SEP, THU	● 6 – 9:30pm	Sound Harmony Sanctuary
4	SEP, FRI	● 12 – 1pm	Pause for Prayer Zoom
		● 6 – 8pm	NAMI Library
5	SEP, SAT	● 12 – 2pm	Narcotics Anonymous Celebration Hall
		● 6:40 – 9:40pm	Take Us Out to the Ballgame LMLC Office

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