

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 16th, 2026

Service Music: ELW, Setting 8 (ELW, page 184)

Year A, Lectionary 20 (ELW, page 45)



In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around

word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

WELCOME!

Guests, we are glad you have joined us today! If you would like to receive contact from the pastor or welcoming committee following this worship service, please fill out a card from the pew slot and put it in the offering plate.

Children's Church takes place during our worship service. The children are dismissed after *Blessing the Children* and brought back to their families after the *Prayers of Intercession*.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP – 8:55 a.m.

PRELUDE

The assembly rises in body or spirit at the invitation of the Presiding Minister.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin to God and look to God for mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God, **C: 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.**

KYRIE

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

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.

C: God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: Christ is in our midst. **C: He is and ever shall be.**

The assembly is seated.

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

This Little Light of Mine

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

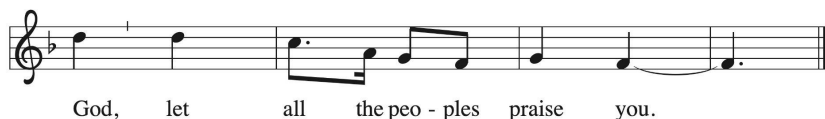
⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

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

PSALMODY: Psalm 67 (*read responsively*)



¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you. **[R]**

⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
**for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations
 on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
 let all the peoples praise you. **[R]**

⁶ The earth has brought forth its increase;
 God, our own God, has blessed us.

⁷ **May God give us blessing,
 and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe. [R]**

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

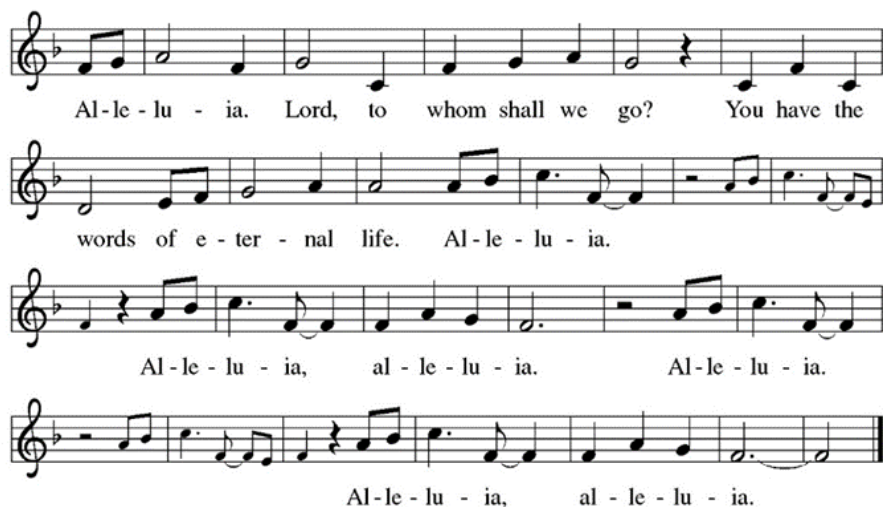
²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy.

³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

The assembly rises in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

P: The holy gospel according to **St. Matthew 15:10-28**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³ He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted." ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶ Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality,

theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly rises in body or spirit to sing the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 588 *There's a Wildness in God's Mercy*



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

APOSTLES' CREED

A: In prayer and devotion, we confess our faith with the whole church.

C: 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.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Share the peace of Christ with one another by shaking hands or with a word or sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A: For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Bring peace in war-torn areas, especially **Ukraine, Venezuela, Iran and the surrounding region.**

Keep safe those whose duty it is to protect others, especially **Anthony, Chris, Eli, Nathan, and Tyler**. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind in our congregation*. We also pray for friends and family of our congregation, especially **Amanda, Annette & Rick, Brenda, Donna, Drew, Elliot, Emmett, Hattie, Jane, Jason, Karen, Larry, Lylah, Mark, Michelle, Pat, Phil, Stacy, Steve, and Wally**. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: For the saints before us whose work is done, especially **Maxine Duhm**, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. We thank you for **Bernard**, whom we commemorate** this week. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

**See page 23 for congregational members.*

***See page 20 for commemorations.*

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Your offering may be placed in the plate as it is passed. We thank all who support God's ministry here and in the world.

Stand as the offering is presented at the rail.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS: ELW 185 Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.

Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me

with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,

and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: 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

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.

P: 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. You reveal your glory when you healed the troubled girl. We praise you for your abundance of grace and mercy. 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:

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

P: O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

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.

P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

P: Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **C: Amen.**

P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

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. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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

P: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

All are welcome here. **C: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly is seated.

Come, for Christ invites you. Communion today will be distributed at the altar rail (please stand or kneel, as you are comfortable), the ushers will direct you forward to receive the bread (which is gluten-free) and cup either wine (red) or grape juice (white).

Lamb of God



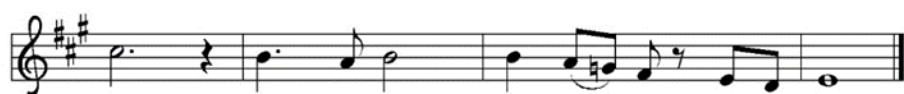
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



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, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 496 *One Bread, One Body*

Congregational Refrain

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

Leader:



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,



wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Refrain

COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 473 Holy, Holy, Holy

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra-zón te a - do - ra.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

Mi co - ra-zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to e-res Se - ñor.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

The assembly rises in body or spirit at the invitation of the presiding minister.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **C: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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**

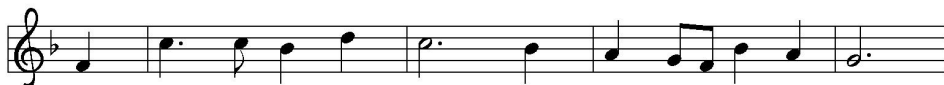
SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN: ELW 651 *O Praise the Gracious Power*



- 1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

Refrain



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

- 6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
 the love, the word, the tide.
 Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
 praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*
- 7 Oh, praise the living Christ
 with faith's bright songful voice!
 Announce the gospel to the world
 and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

P: Go in peace. Share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

8/22 Saturday Night Potluck - There will be a potluck following the 5PM service on August 22nd! Bring a dish to share while we fellowship together after the service!

8/29 No Saturday Service! - There will be no Saturday service on 8/29 to encourage attendance to our Christian Education meeting taking place on Sunday morning (8/30) following the 9:00 a.m. service. See bulletin insert for more details.

Christian Education - The Christian Education Committee is looking for fun, caring volunteers to help with planning extracurricular activities around the church for youths and adults! Please contact Justina Pessein if you're interested in getting involved at 563-940-3782. August 17th is the next meeting via Zoom - we'd love for you to attend!

Attendance last week:

Saturday: 25 Sunday: 73 YouTube: 6 Total: 104

Year to Date Financial Summary:

Contributions: \$126,511.81 Spending: \$121,616.26 Balance: \$4,895.55

Birthdays this week: 8/16 Diana Worley 8/18 Steve Miller II

8/20 Justina Pessein 8/21 Bob Jacob

Anniversaries this week: 8/20 Kelly & Deb Crooks

Flowers this week: The flowers today are given by Ann Larson.

We livestream our services on YouTube each week to help us worship together and stay connected even when we are not at full health or out of town!

YouTube Link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjqnqGF4g_QWtn_I2SqpL5Q

COMMEMORATIONS:

Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, died 1153

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Bernard, a Cistercian monk, was a man of great spirituality who wrote mystical works and criticized those whom he thought took an overly intellectual approach to the faith. He became an abbot, and wrote several hymns that are still beloved today.

Worship Assistants

August 16

Presider
Assisting Minister
Reader
Acolyte
Music Minister
Ushers
Altar Guild

9:00 AM Worship

Vicar Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Jason Forari
Amanda Southwell
Edi Southwell
Steve Abel
Melissa Forari & Anna Forari
Ellen Hogbin & Audrey Lovell

August 23

Presider
Assisting Minister
Reader
Acolyte
Organist
Ushers
Altar Guild

9:00 AM Worship

Vicar Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Justina Pessein
Kaylee Pessein
Velvet Collison
Linda Gross
Fritz Voss & Judy Larson
Pat Larson

The Fourth Quarter of Life

An Adult Education Study

This fall we will be studying a book called *The Fourth Quarter of Your Life: Embracing what Matters Most* written by Allen Hunt & Matthew Kelly.

If you're interested in participating, please sign up in the Narthex or contact the office at (563) 355-4161.

Participants will need to purchase the book.



The Fourth Quarter of Your Life: Embracing what Matters Most

Scan the QR code to purchase the book online.

WEDNESDAYS AT 10:00 A.M. STARTING SEPTEMBER 9TH

September 9	September 16	September 23
September 30	October 7	October 14
October 21	October 28	November 4
November 11		

NOTES

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Ed Arp, **Bev** Chappen, **Sandy** Henry,
Frieda Houldsworth, **Jeryl** Krumbholz, **Jim** Krumbholz,
Mary Meumann, **LaVonne** Mienke, **Shirley** Niewald

Family and Friends

Amanda (friend of Melissa), **Annette & Rick** (Steve & Sue Miller & Pat Sorenson's sister & brother-in-law), **Brenda** (Friend of Janene Anderson), **Donna** (Ed Arp's sister), **Drew** (Pat Larson's friend), **Elliot** (Gary and Eunice Grell's great grandson), **Emmett** (friend of Diana Worley), **Hattie** (Frieda's sister), **Jane** (friend of Deb Crooks),
Jason (Sherry Germanio's son),
Karen (Shirley's Aunt), **Larry** (family of Doug Larson),
Lylah (friend of Noa), **Mark** (friend of Jason Forari),
Michelle (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken),
Pat (Judy Larson's Sister-in-Law),
Phil (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother),
Stacy (Fritz' son's cousin), **Steve** (friend of Pat Larson),
Wally (Frieda's nephew)

Those Whose Duty it is to Protect Others

Anthony Karasek (Judy Larson's great nephew)
LT. Chris Tribble USN (Erik & Joleen Bakken's friend).
CPT Eli Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)
Nathan Pearson USAF (Jenna & Kane Schmidt's friend)
Tyler McLaughlin, First Responder (Family of Pat Larson)

In Memoriam

Maxine Duhm

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9AM Worship 10AM Council Mtg.	6:30PM Christian Ed. Zoom Mtg.	1PM Sarah Circle	6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry 11:30AM GANG 11AM Service at BHCC		5PM Worship 6PM Potluck
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9AM Worship 11AM Dixon Service		12-4PM Quilting	6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry		No 5PM Worship
30	31	9/1	9/2	9/3	9/4	9/5
9AM Worship 10AM Christian Ed. Open Mtg.			6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry 11AM Service at BHCC		5PM Worship
9/6	9/7	9/8	9/9	9/10	9/11	9/12
9AM Worship	4PM Social Ministry Mtg. <i>Labor Day Office Closed</i>	4PM Property Mtg.	6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry		5PM Worship