St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost– September 13, 2026
8:00 am – Spoken 10:00 am- with Music

The flowers at the altar are given in loving memory of Carolyn M. Waite & Marian J. Waite.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

(The people's responses are in bold.)

Prelude *Land of Rest* Dale Wood
(based on Hymn 304 "I come with joy to meet my Lord")

Processional Hymn 376 *Hymn to Joy*

Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.**

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria: Hymnal S-280 setting by Powell

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
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.**
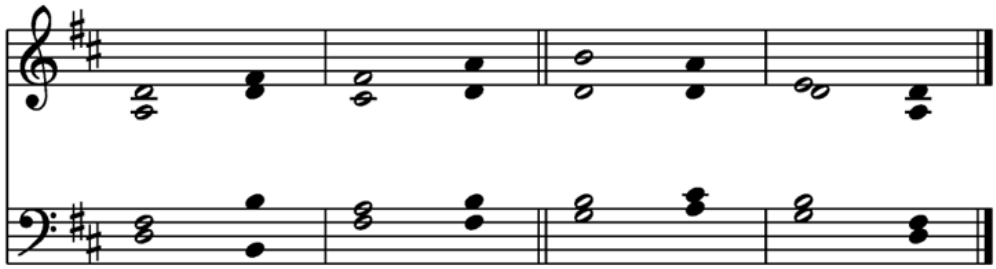
A Reading from the Book of Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114 *(8am: Read responsively by half verse/10am Sung by all)*

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of /Egypt, *

the house of Jacob from a people of strange /speech,

2 Judah became God's /sanctuary *

and Israel his do/minion.

3 The sea beheld it and /fled; *

Jordan turned and went /back.

4 The mountains skipped like /rams, *

and the little hills like young /sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you /fled? *

O Jordan, that you turned /back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like /rams? *

you little hills like young /sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the /Lord, *

at the presence of the God of /Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of /water *

and flint-stone into a flowing /spring.

A Reading from Romans 14:1-12

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 516 *Down Ampney*

The Gospel **Matthew 18:21-35**

Reader 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."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rev. John M. Fountain

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

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; remembering especially Samantha Mossey, Linda Martin, Arlene Serdakowski, Sue Clement, Charlie Cronin, Phil B., Jennifer, Don Horton, Joanne Eichinger, Samantha & Justin, Michael Heru, Dorothy Oulette, Baby Emma, Jillian, Patricia DaPonte, Richard Sipka, Gary Martorelli, Reed Ambler, and Rosalind Waterman.
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; remembering especially Jenna (Silvestri) Mitchell.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We thank you for all the blessings in our lives, especially for Beth DiPanni, Jordan Ross, Catherine Bowe, Blake Reynolds, Alison Schillaci, Susan Cerullo, Britt Morse, and Mallory Walsh who are all celebrating their birthdays this week. We also give thanks for Krystina & Dan Almon, Caroline & Dan Larkin, Pamela & Scott Woodward, and Judith and Greg DeGroot who are celebrating their anniversaries this week.

We also give thanks for the lives of Carolyn M. Waite & Marian J. Waite, in whose memory the altar flowers are given.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
People may add their own petitions

O God of mercy and peace, as we remember the attacks of September 11, 2001, we commend to your everlasting care all who died, all who mourn, and all whose lives bear the wounds of that day. We give thanks for those who responded with courage and compassion, and we pray for all who continue to serve in the cause of peace. Deliver us from fear, hatred, and the desire for vengeance; heal the divisions among the peoples of

the earth; and make us instruments of your reconciling love, that where violence has wounded, we may seek healing, and where darkness has fallen, we may bear the light of Christ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Exchange of the Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem *O God, beyond all praising* Gustav Holst
setting by Richard Proulx

Presentation Hymn 761 (verses 1 and 2): Green Hymnal *Wonder Love and Praise* *Holy Manna*

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A from *The Book of Common Prayer*)

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a proper preface is said.* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: Hymnal S-125 setting by Proulx

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**
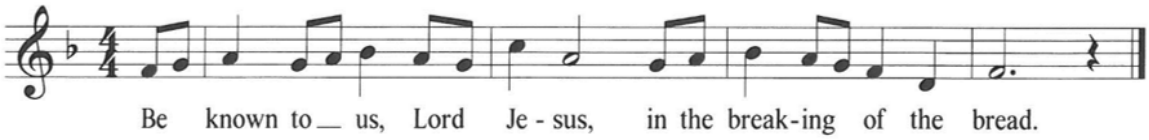
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

(*8am*) **The Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

(*10am*) **The Breaking of the Bread** (*refrain sung by all*) setting by Gary James



Choir: 1. The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. *Refrain.*
2. One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. *Refrain.*

Communion Invitation

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.
If you would like a blessing rather than communion, simply indicate so by folding your arms across your chest.

Communion Anthem *Praise* George Dyson

Communion Hymns **711** *Seek Ye First*
304 *Land of Rest*
712 *Dona nobis pacem*

Postcommunion Prayer

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Processional Hymn 594 *Cwm Rhondda*

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude *Festival Voluntary* Flor Peeters

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	8:00 Participants	10:00 Participants
Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. John M. Fountain	
Assisting Clergy	The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Malone	
Minister of Music	Rodney Ayers	
Livestream Operator:		Taylor Wilkey
Ushers:	Greg deGroot, Joe Cyganoski, Dede McGuire, Steve McGuire	Margaret Clifton, Bill Capron, Paul Brooks, Neal & James McNamara, Craig Stenning
Lay Eucharistic Ministers:	Stacey Nakasian, Judi Nichols	Deborah Collins, Bill Capron
1st Reading	Marcia Gladue	Julie Cronin
2nd Reading:	Leslie Gunther	Leila O'Connell
Prayers:	Harry Waterman	Mike Ferry
Acolytes:	Judi Nichols	Christoph Stretz, Bill Capron
Altar Guild	Marcia Gladue, Judy Horton, Dolores Isenberg, Barbara Marshall, Stacey Nakasian, Lyn Oberg, Jan Prifty, Cathe Rezendes	

For those serving in the Armed Forces

Trav de Groot, Scott Marcus, Bryce Groshardt, Emily Cronin,
Lt. Cm. Brad "BOSS" Mitchell, and Caroline Rezendes

Longterm Prayer List

Tom Gunther, Colin Beauvais, P.J. Deschenes, John W., Donna Jordan
Roz Waterman, Lisa Ferry, Ruth, Anne Cerullo, and Margaret Thomson

ST. LUKE'S NEWS

Good News for God's People

KICKOFF SUNDAY!

We are kicking off our church year with a Ministry Fair and registration for youth programs in the church auditorium after both of our services today. While you learn about our many ministries and/or register your children for Youth Faith Formation programs, grab some refreshments and spend some time in fellowship with each other!

Many ministries are on hand today to share information, stories, and inspiration about the wonderful, engaging, and faith-filled activities that participants enjoy through their respective programs. Visit, learn, and sign up to usher, feed, pray, heal, and sing your way through the year.

Important Dates:

- **Loaves & Fishes, September 19:** 9:30 AM @ St. Luke's then off to Woonsocket
- **First Day of Sunday School, September 20**
- **Welcome Brunch, September 20:** following the 10:00 AM service- *see E-news for more details!*
- **Lunch on the Hill, September 23:** 11:15 AM in the Dining Room
- **Fun & Faith Fridays Youth Group, September 25**: 6:00 PM in the Dining Room
- **Grief Support Group, September 26:** 10:00 AM in the Blackburn Room
- **Back to Basics Classes, September 27:** 11:30 AM in the Dining Room
- **CCK Dinner, September 28:** 5:30 PM in the Dining Room
- **Arkfull Coffee House Open Mic Night, October 2:** 6:00 PM in the Dining Room
- **TOT Men's Retreat at ECC, October 2-4:** *see E-news for more details!*
- **Blessing of the Animals, October 4:** 10:00 AM service
- **Women of Grace, October 5:** 7:00 PM in the Dining Room

Morning Prayer: Wednesday- Friday @ 8:30 AM in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, September 16:

- **Bible Study**: 10:00 AM in the Blackburn Room
- **Holy Eucharist *with Prayers for Healing*:** 12:00 PM in the Sanctuary
- **Storytime & Lamplighters:** 4:30 PM *(See Youth Faith Formation Newsletter for more details)*
- **Family Table:** 5:30 PM in the Dining Room

Register for Children & Youth Programs!

It's time to get your kiddos registered for another year of all things Children & Youth at St. Luke's! Our registration is for **everyone from birth through high school graduation** and includes Nursery, Sunday School, Wednesday programming, Youth Group, and special events throughout the year. Please complete a **separate form for each child** in your family. If you've registered with us in the past and **none of your child's information has changed**, you don't need to register again. We can't wait to spend another year learning, growing, laughing, and making memories together!

SCAN TO REGISTER

BACK TO BASICS - - Sunday, September 27 - November 15

Confirmation/Reception/Reaffirmation classes will be offered following the 10:00 AM Service in anticipation of the Bishop's visit on November 15th. More details to follow.

WOMEN OF GRACE - - Monday, October 5

Women of Grace welcomes you to a Bunco Party on Monday, October 5th from 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM in the St. Luke's Dining Room. **Roll the dice and have some fun! No experience needed!**

Please scan the QR code to RSVP. We look forward to seeing you there!!



New to St. Luke's? Welcome!

We're glad you're here! Fill out our Google Form by scanning the QR code, or fill out the Welcome Card in your pew to stay connected with St. Luke's.

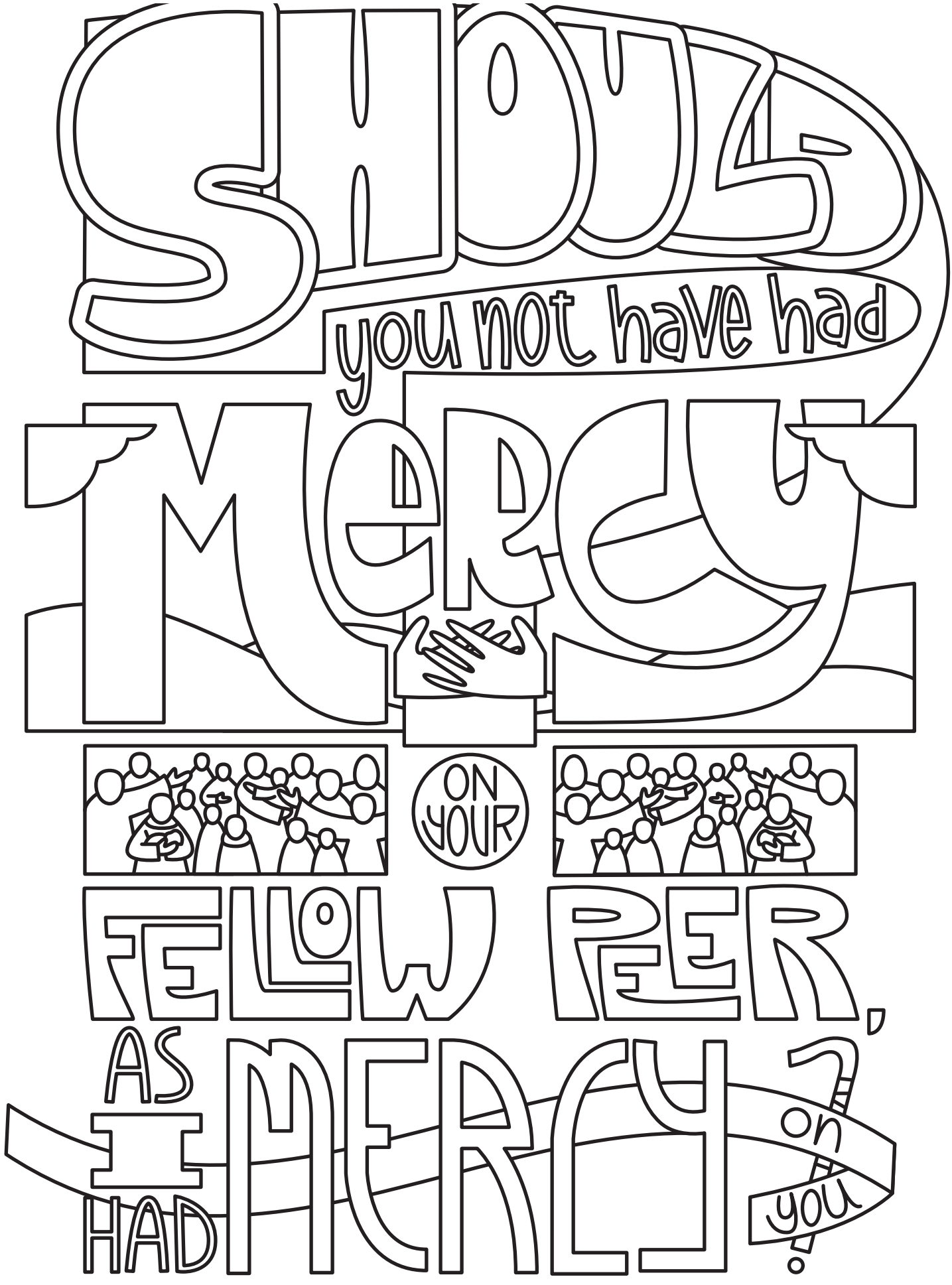
LOAVES & FISHES -- Saturday, September 19

Loaves and Fishes is a collaborative food ministry supported by St. Luke's and several local churches. Through your generous donations and support, we are able to continue serving our neighbors in need. On the third Saturday of each month, St. Luke's provides hamburgers and other meal items to individuals in Woonsocket. Guests receive a bagged lunch and a hot meal, and seasonal clothing is also available. Your generosity helps make this ministry possible and allows us to extend St. Luke's outreach and care to our wider community.

The next run is on September 19th and we are asking for short-sleeved T-shirts, shorts, body wipes, white socks and underwear for men and women. We have also added toiletries to include shampoo, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste. It is appreciated if all donations of food and clothing can be in the St Luke's kitchen by 9:30 AM on September 19, 2026.

Please see the September 11th E-newsletter for more details and to use the SignUpGenius link for donations.

Your generosity is most appreciated. It allows St. Luke's to continue helping those in need.


SHOULD
you not have had
MERCY
ON
YOUR
FELLOW PEER,
AS
I
HAD
MERCY
on
you?