SOLI DEO GLORIA

Mountain Reformed Church

September 20, 2026

17th Sunday After Pentecost



Your Church for Worship and the Arts!

WORD | CONNECTION | MUSIC

Welcome to Mountain Reformed Church!
We are so grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today! The vision of our church is to provide an open door to relationship with God for all through worship, teaching God's Word, and by celebrating with music and the arts. Our mission is simple: All Glory to God! Our church is independent and multi-denominational, with a theology based in the reformed way of being Christian. Please see our website at www.mountainreformed.org for more information about our church.

Prayer of Meditation
O God who knows our every need before we can even ask, you provide all our needs and some of our wants. You bless us all. Make us truly thankful and empower us to bless others from the gifts you have given us, for the glory of your name. Amen.

Questions for Reflection
In the stories in Jonah 3:10–4:11 and Matthew 20:1–16, we find others resentful of God's generosity toward the "undeserving." Both stories end with a question worth pondering. God asks Jonah: "Should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city?" and the landowner asks the grumbling all-day workers: "Are you envious because I am generous?" How do these stories of God's generosity invite us to think about our own lives?

Membership Directory
It's time for an updated directory! Please check the Membership Directory (located at each of the Ushers' tables) and *initial next to your name* once you have confirmed and corrected your information. Bob Enoch will also be taking photos each Sunday! Thank you for your help in updating your information. Edits/updates and photo submission deadline is TODAY!

Fall Craft Fair
The Fair dates are: November 8 & 15. We invite you to let those creative juices flow. All proceeds go toward the cost of our Fabulous Cantata! Please text or email Melanie McCally with what you plan to donate. Feel free to invite friends and family who are crafters, to donate items and to attend the Cantata! Email: melmccally@gmail.com or text: 210-452-2885. Thanks for your brilliant skills and talents you share so freely.

Pastor on Call
The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm is the Pastor on Call. If you would like to get in touch, feel free to email eugenegrimm@me.com or call 928-925-6057.

***A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS BULLETIN IS AVAILABLE AT THE USHER'S TABLE.**

ORDER OF WORSHIP
September 20, 2026 – 10:30 AM
17th Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering
Words of Greeting and Life of the Church

L: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you!
L: This is the day that the Lord has made;
C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Prayer of the Day

Prelude *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* arr. Larry Shackley

[The music shared in today's service is offered to the Glory of God. In an effort to maintain the reverent flow of worship, we invite you to receive each offering prayerfully and refrain from applause during the service.]

(Please stand as you are able)
Call to Worship

L: Whether we embrace God's call in our lives
or try to avoid it, *Jonah 3:10–4:11*
C: God is gracious and merciful, *Ps. 145:8;*
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. *Jonah 4:2b*
L: Whether we are longtimers or latecomers
in the life of faith,
C: God is gracious and merciful, *Matt. 20:1–16*
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
L: Whether our lives in Christ are comfortable
or bring hardship, *Phil. 1:21–30*
C: God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
We praise God's name forever and ever!

(Please remain standing)
Opening Hymn #32 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* MADRID

(Please be seated)
Call to Confession

Because we do not always live our lives *Phil. 1:27*
in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ,
we confess before God and one another
our sins and shortcomings.
In repentance,
let us turn toward God's grace and mercy.

[silent confession]

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of abundant goodness, *Ps. 145:7*
we confess that we want your grace
for ourselves
but often wish punishment or exclusion
on others. *Jonah 3:10–4:11*
We judge the efforts and motives of others
while ignoring the faults of our own.
Forgive us, we pray,
when we let jealousy overtake us.
Forgive us, we pray,
when we are petty even in the presence
of your generosity. *Matt. 20:1–16*
Forgive us, we pray,
when we feel slighted by you.
May we ask once again for your mercy?
Will you help us to be more merciful toward one another?
We pray in the name of Christ Jesus,
by whose grace we are saved. Amen.

(Please stand as you are able)
Gloria Patri, Hymn #670 GLORIA PATRI (GRETOREX)

Declaration of Pardon

L: God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving,
grace beyond our ability to earn it.
C: God has granted us the privilege of believing in Christ; *Phil. 1:29*
therefore we will live as grateful and forgiven people!
Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace
(Please be seated)

Anthem *The Apple Tree* Richard Jeffrey
Lyndi Peacock, flute

The tree of life my soul hath seen, Laden with fruit and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be, Compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel, By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see, In Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the Apple Tree.

I'm weary with my former toil - Here I will sit and rest awhile,
Under the shadow I will be, Of Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* arr. Eric Carlson

(Please stand as you are able)
Doxology, Hymn #668 OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

(Please be seated)

The Word

The Lesson Jonah 3:10-4:11 (ESV)

10 When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

4 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. **2** And he prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. **3** Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." **4** And the Lord said, "Do you do well to be angry?"

5 Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. **6** Now the Lord God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. **7** But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. **8** When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." **9** But God said to Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" And he said, "Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die." **10** And the Lord said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. **11** And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?"

L: The Word of our Lord.
C: Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Acclamation *Glory to God* MACHU-PICHU
(call and response)

The Gospel Matthew 20:1-16 (ESV)

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. **2** After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. **3** And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, **4** and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' **5** So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. **6** And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' **7** They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' **8** And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' **9** And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. **10** Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. **11** And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, **12** saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' **13** But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? **14** Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. **15** Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?'**16** So the last will be first, and the first last."

P: The Gospel of our Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon "Check Your Attitude" Pr. Dan Storvick

(Please stand as you are able)
Hymn of the Day #626 *I Love to Tell the Story* HANKEY

Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed

L: Christian, what do you believe?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.*

The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God
the Father almighty.
From there 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.

**Or, "he descended to the dead"*
***the whole Christian church of all times and all places*

(Please be seated)
Prayers of Intercession

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

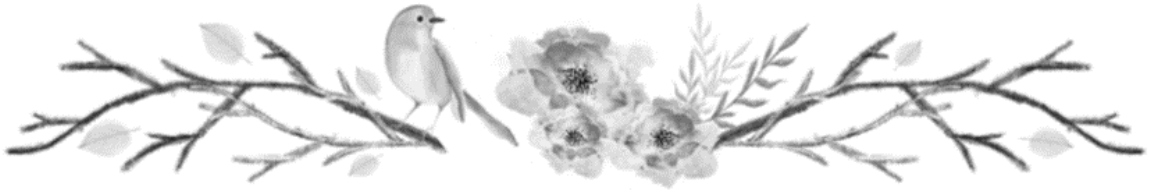
Sending
Charge

Benediction

Parting Hymn #384 *The Servant Song* BEACH SPRING

Postlude *With the Lord Begin Your Task* arr. Jacob Weber

A prayer partner will be available in the Prayer Corner immediately following worship.



Flowers today celebrate Margie Grimm's 83rd birthday!

Assisting in Worship:
Piano/Organ: Ruth Breiling
Flute: Lyndi Peacock
Liturgist: Craig Burns
Ushers: Margaret Gerard & Carol Miller
Sound Technician: Joe Place
Camera Operator: Charlie Simpson
Greeter: Karen Thorstad
Prayer Partner: Sue Ann Edwards

MRC Name Badges
If you would like an MRC name badge, please send your name as it should appear to Gina Steverson: gina@mountainreformed.org and she will have one made.

Prayer Chain
Lyndi Peacock handles publishing prayer requests for MRC via email. Each Thursday, she sends a prayer newsletter that goes out to approximately 70 recipients who faithfully pray for those with needs. Updates and new or urgent requests are sent as Lyndi receives them throughout the week. If you have a prayer request that you would like published, or if you would like to receive the Prayer Chain emails, please reach out to Lyndi via email melyndapoplin@gmail.com or via call/text 928-899-2085. We also have Prayer Request cards available for filling out at the Usher's Table, which can then be placed in the Offering Plate.

Flowers
Sheri Simpson coordinates our Flower Ministry. If you would like to commemorate a special occasion by providing flowers, please ask an usher to guide you to the flower sign-up chart.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls serve as a tangible reminder of God's love for those who are walking through difficult times. A prayer shawl can bring great comfort! They are lovingly created by women in MRC. Shawls can be given in celebration of milestones. Please let us know if you have someone who needs a prayer shawl! Recipients do not have to be local. Anyone with a love for knitting or crochet is welcome to participate. Please email Sharon: sharonctom@yahoo.com.

Check Your Attitude

Matthew 20:1-16

Pastor Storvick

This parable–the earthly story with a heavenly meaning–is about attitude. It is about God's attitude toward us, and our attitude–what it is and what it should be–toward each other.

God's attitude: Grace "God's Riches at Christ's expense."
Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? (20:15).
The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love (Psalm 103:8).
God desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4).
The Lord is . . .patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him (John 3:16-17).
Food for Thought: *On a scale from one to ten, do I revel in his grace or try to earn his favor?*

Our attitude as believers: It <u>should</u> be the same as God's.
Let the same attitude be in you that was in Christ Jesus (Philippians 2.5).
'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. (Luke 15:6-7).
'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner. **Resentful:** *"who repents"* (Luke 15 9-10).
Food for Thought: *Do I tend to rejoice or resent when a "Johnny-come-lately" gets saved?*

What our attitude often <u>is:</u> "Attituditis"
Resentful: *When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said', and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'* (20:11-12).
Worldly or even satanic: *"Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things"* (Mark 8:33).

Self-righteousness: See my merit badges?
Peter said, Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have? (Matthew 19:27).
Condescending toward the less Godly. I'm certainly better than_____!
To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men--robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' (Luke 18:9-12).
Envious of their sinful lifestyle. I wish I had what they have!
Are you envious because I am generous? (Mat 20:15).
Envy makes the bones rot (Proverbs 14:30).
Do not let your heart envy sinners (Proverbs 23:17).
You have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts. . . Where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind (James 3:14, 16).
Food for Thought: *Which symptom of attituditis plagues you most?*

The Late-hired Workers' Attitude: Lost, Frustrated and Puzzled
'Why are you standing here idle all day?' [7]They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.'
(Mat 20:6-7).
How are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? (Romans 10:13-14).
Food for Thought: *Can you name some idle workers—folks who've yet to be recruited for the joy of new life in Christ?*

Change in Your Attitude. Antidote for "attituditis."
Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few" (Matthew 9:37).
I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord (Philip. 3:8).
I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh (Ezekiel 11:19).
Food for Thought: *Am I all in or just dabbling in this new life that the Lord offers?*

Join the ~~Work~~ JOY Party!
*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly (*John 10:10).
I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete (John 15:11).
The joy of the LORD is your strength (Neh. 8:10).
Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross (Hebrews 12:1-2).
Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance (Luke 15:7).
Food for Thought: *Check your attitude and come to the party. And on the way, invite someone to come with you*



Mountain Reformed Church
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9/13/2026 Worship Attendance: 100

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Rev. Dr. Daniel Storvick: dastorvick@gmail.com; 928-710-0835
Rev. Dr. Andy Martinez: adaynotseenb4@gmail.com; 336-466-5017
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