

Worship Service for September 13, 2026

The Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost



Welcome and Announcements

Let us prepare our hearts for worship.

Confession and Forgiveness

In remembrance of our Holy Baptism, we begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Beloved people of God, if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's mercy and grace, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

Brief silence for reflection.

Together we pray: **Heavenly Father, Maker of heaven and earth, we come before you acknowledging our brokenness. We confess that we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have often focused on our own desires instead of your will. We have failed to love you with all our hearts, and we have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. "In your mercy, create in us clean hearts, and send your Holy Spirit to renew us and lead us in the way of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Beloved people of God, through the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, God forgives all our sins and grants us grace to walk in the way of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Trusting in God's abundant grace, let us go forth to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn**Before the Waters Nourished Earth**

1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
 2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
 3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
 4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness



ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
 E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
 par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
 still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -



u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
 mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
 faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
 gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

Prayer of the Day

Together we pray: ***O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

Reading of the Word**First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21**

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

² **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits—**

³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;

⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ **O Lord, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.]

⁸ **Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹ you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹² **As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ 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. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves 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.

⁵ 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. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ 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. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (sing 3X)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ 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.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ 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. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

Sermon

Welcome to New Salem - we are blessed to have you worship with us today!



If you are looking for a church home, please contact Traci Schanke in the church office at 218-586-2262 or via email at newsalem@paulbunyan.net. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book outside the church office.

Website: newsalemlutheran.org

YouTube Channel: New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN

You Are Invited to Share in the Worship Ministries of New Salem

Serve as a reader, proclaiming God's Word; as an usher, welcoming all who gather for worship; as a communion assistant, helping share the Lord's Supper with God's people; host the post-worship fellowship hour; or join the choir and lift your voice in praise. These ministries are an important part of our worship life and a wonderful way to serve God and one another. Please consider sharing your gifts! Please watch your email in the coming weeks for an invitation - or you can sign up using the sheets available on the rear table in the narthex! (Choir rehearsals are 5 p.m. on Wednesdays - no need to sign up, just join us!)



Upcoming @ New Salem

Mon, Sept 14	New Salem Volunteers @ Food Shelf	9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. & 12 – 3:30 p.m.
Tues, Sept 15	Team/Council Meetings	6 p.m./7 p.m.
Wed, Sept 16	Choir Rehearsal	5 p.m.
Thurs, Sept 17	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sun, Sept 20	Service Group Meeting Immediately Following Worship	
Wed, Sept 23	Choir Rehearsal	5 p.m.
Thurs, Sept 24	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.

Hymn of the Day**Where Charity and Love Prevail**

- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
 3 Let us re-call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
 4 Let strife a-mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
 5 Let us for-give each oth - er's faults as we our own con-fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem-bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.

Prayers of the People

Hear us, O God. *Your mercy is great.*

Sharing the Peace**Tithes and Offerings****Offertory Hymn****As the Grains of Wheat**

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
 2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

may we share the pres-ence of your love.
 all cre-a-tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

Offering Prayer

Together we pray: *Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with your blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, fill us with grateful and generous hearts, that we may praise you through our words and actions and respond with love to those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Together we pray: *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.*

Sharing Christ's Meal

Service Group Meeting - Sunday, September 20

The New Salem Service group will meet immediately following worship on Sunday, September 20. Topics to be discussed include:

- Determining a second bank account signer
- Fall Bazaar/Craft Event on November 14
- Ditch Clean-Up
- Leadership/Volunteers/Ideas
- Other topics as needed

ALL are welcome to attend the meeting and participate in the Service Group's projects and events!

Communion Hymn #1**When We Are Living**

Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,
 1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 3 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find



y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.
 and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord. . . .
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace, . . .
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind; . . .



Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
 Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 and when we help them, or when we feed them,



so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

Communion Hymn #2**Our Father, We Have Wandered (continues next page)**

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
 com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par-don, and in peace.

Communion Hymn #3

In the Singing



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

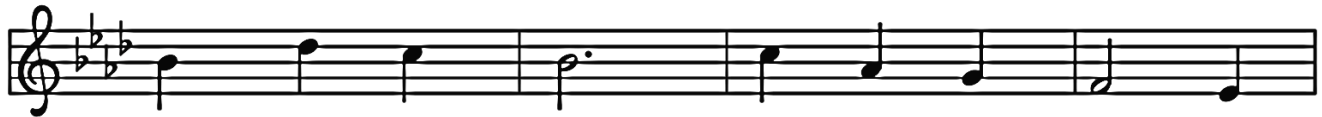
Together we pray: ***Life-giving God, you nourish us with your Word and strengthen us with your grace. By the power of your Holy Spirit, deepen our faith and guide us in the way of Jesus. Send us forth to love our neighbors, serve those in need, and share your grace through our words and actions; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

Benediction**Sending Hymn****God's Work, Our Hands**

1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Today's Worship Leaders/Assistants

Presiding Clergy: Pastor Terry R. Hagensen
Ushers: Kathy and Steve Flaot
Reader/Communion Assistant: Karyn Lutz
Fellowship Host(s):
AV Services: Traci Schanke

Social Media Coordinator: Nora Illies
Setting the Lord's Table: Sonya & Paul Kraft
Pianist: Cheryl Durant
Cantor/Choir Director: Annalise Aakhus

New Salem Lutheran Church - Terry R. Hagensen, Pastor

7491 Island View Drive NE, Turtle River, MN 56601

Office Tel: 218-586-2262/Office Email (Traci Schanke): newsalem@paulbunyan.net

Website: newsalemlutheran.org

YouTube Channel: New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN

August Income vs Expenses (PRELIMINARY)

Total General Fund Income: \$16,971

Total Expenses: \$20,160

(DEFICIT) for August (-\$3,189)

9.6 General Fund Offering: \$3,502

Attendance/Social Media Engagement (as of 9.3.26)

Sunday, September 6 (in person/online): 68/26

Facebook reach: 85,060

YouTube Views: 1,419

YouTube Subscribers: 143

Announcements for the Week of September 13, 2026

Traci's Office Hours This Week: Mon, 9/14, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Tues 9/15, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Wed, 9/16, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Thurs, 9/17, 12 – 5 p.m.

September's Mission Partner: This month New Salem is lifting up the work of **Village of Hope** (not to be confused with Hope house), and urges you to consider the various ways you might support this valuable area ministry. You can send your check to New Salem and indicate it is for **Village of Hope**, or donate online at www.bemidjivillageofhope.org See page 13 of the Worship Guide for more information.

Need Medical Equipment?/Have Medical Equipment?. If you are in need of medical equipment, call and/or come to the Bemidji Senior Center (216 3rd St NW, 218-751-8836, in downtown Bemidji) Mon – Fri 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. to see what is available through the HELP program (Home Equipment Loan Program). The item(s) can be checked out and used as long as needed. The Senior Center also accepts used-clean-workable equipment. The Disabled American Veterans (15th Street NW, 218-556-4592, in Bemidji) also has equipment to loan. The DAV has electric hospital beds/etc.; the Senior Center **does not** have any electrical equipment to loan out. You do not have to be a veteran borrow the DAV equipment.

Fall Bazaar – Saturday, November 14! Mark your calendars for New Salem's Fall Bazaar on Saturday, November 14 and start working on your wonderful crafts for New Salem's table! Watch for additional details in upcoming bulletins and emails.

Offering Reminder: Please remember to indicate on your check/offering envelope how you wish your gift to be credited. Unmarked offerings/those marked "general" go toward New Salem's annual operating expenses; gifts marked for other entities are credited as such in your giving record and sent to those organizations. Thank you for supporting the missions and good works of New Salem!

Music Rights/Permissions for September 13

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service and include the printed music in this worship guide has been obtained from *ONE LICENSE*, License #A-726224; credits are as follows:

Before the Waters Nourished Earth – Text: Jeanette M. Lindholm (b. 1961)

Music: Irish melody/Text © 1996 Jeanette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah – Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio (b. 1954)

Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Where Charity and Love Prevail – Text: Latin hymn, 9th Cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf (1916-1997)

Music: attr. Lucius Chapin (1760-1842)/Text © 1960 World Library Publications

As the Grains of Wheat – Text: Didache, 2nd century; Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

Music: Marty Haugen/Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

When We Are Living – Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger (b. 1942)

St. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla (b. 1931); tr. George Lockwood (b. 1946)/Music: Spanish traditional Spanish text, sts. 2-3 © 1983 Abingdon Press and tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company

Our Father, We Have Wandered – Text: Kevin Nichols (1923-2006)

Music: Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612); arr. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Text © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.

In the Singing – Text: Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)

Music: Carlton R. Young (b. 1926)/Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company

God's Work, Our Hands – Text: Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954), © 2009 ELCA, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Music: David N. Johnson (1922-1987), © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Boo!



Trunk or Treat 2026 is coming –
mark your calendars!

2 – 4 p.m. Saturday, October 31 (Halloween!!!)



More details to come – watch your email and the
sign-up table in the Fellowship Hall for more
information –decorate your car and join the fun!
Missing this event would be a GRAVE mistake!



New Salem's Highlighted Mission Partner

September 2026

Village of Hope



Village of Hope provides safe, secure emergency housing for families 24 hours/day ~ 7 days a week. We are open 365 days a year.

The environment that a family experiencing homelessness comes into is very important. We work to create a calm, safe environment in which families can build a future.

What is our definition of family? Each family is unique and has their own composition.

They do need to be looking to move into a house together.

Each family has their own apartment. This preserves the family unit and provides privacy.

We have single moms with kids, single dads with kids, sisters raising kids together, grandparents raising kids and couples. Every combination possible!

There is no "one size fits all" solution for homelessness. Every family has unique barriers and requires a intervention that fits. The case manager will begin this process by talking with the family and helping them set goals they want to achieve and looking at strengths and barriers to overcome. Then the networking starts! We work with many agencies and organizations to create the family future.

Many families come to Village of Hope already working, but if they are not and that is a goal, we assist them in finding the right fit, filling out applications and working with the employer. Community contribution is a powerful human need and we recognize and support that.

Because graduation is one factor in success, attending school is very important at Village of Hope. We work with the district 31 Homeless Liaison for transitions to help kids stay in their own school or get them registered if school is new. Keeping the routine of attending school is a goal.

Life skills are the skills that many people take for granted, like managing money, shopping, cooking, running a home and maintaining social networks. Some people experiencing homelessness do not have all of these skills, either because they never acquired them or because they lost them through extended periods of homelessness. Helping those experiencing homelessness acquire life skills can help them move on from homelessness and resettle into the community. By working together, and building relationships, we start to rebuild their confidence and hope.

God's Work, Our Treasure—SEPTEMBER 2026

This month New Salem is lifting up the work of a mission partner, the **Village of Hope**, and urges you to consider the various ways you might support this valuable ministry.

You can send your check to New Salem and indicate it is for the **Village of Hope**

Please prayerfully consider how you might support the work of this important ministry.

bemidjivillageofhope.org

Sermon Notes/Weekly Assignment