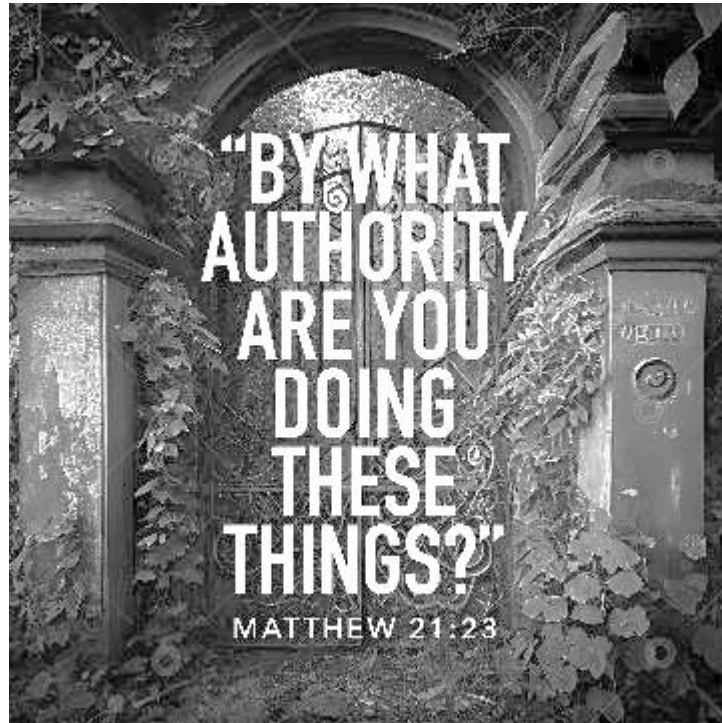


Worship Service for September 27, 2026

The Eighteenth 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**Welcome Table**

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta-ble, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv-er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Prayer of the Day

Together we pray: ***God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

Reading of the Word**First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

¹ The word of the Lord came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel.

⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall

die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

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

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

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9

¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.



Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

Children's Message**Gospel Acclamation**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (sing 3X, continues next page)

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.

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

Sermon**Share in the Worship Ministries of New Salem!**

YOU are invited to 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!)



Hymn of the Day**O Master, Let Me Walk with You**

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Prayers of the People

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

Sharing the Peace**Tithes and Offerings****Upcoming @ New Salem**

Mon, Sept 28	Volunteer @ Mobile Food Drop	10 a.m. – 12 noon
Wed, Sept 30	Choir Rehearsal	5 p.m.
Thurs, Oct 1	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
	Confirmation Class	5 p.m.
Wed, Oct 7	Choir Rehearsal	5 p.m.
	Evening Bible Study	6 p.m.
Thurs, Oct 8	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
	Confirmation Class	6 p.m.
Fri, Oct 9	New Salem Volunteers @ Food Shelf	9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Sat, Oct 10	Highway 71 Ditch Clean Up	9:30 a.m.

Offertory Hymn**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.

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

Communion Hymn #1**Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty**

- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev-ers bur-dened; find re - fresh-ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen-tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
 Come and know di - vine com-pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain

Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

Communion Hymn #2**Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways (continues next page)**

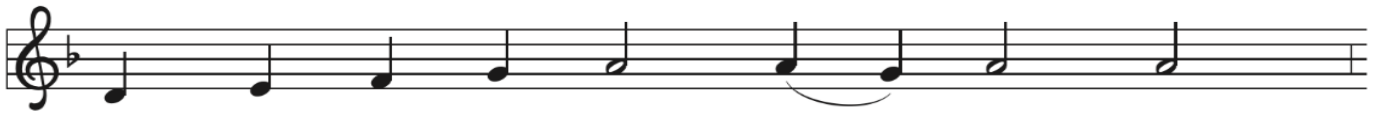
- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



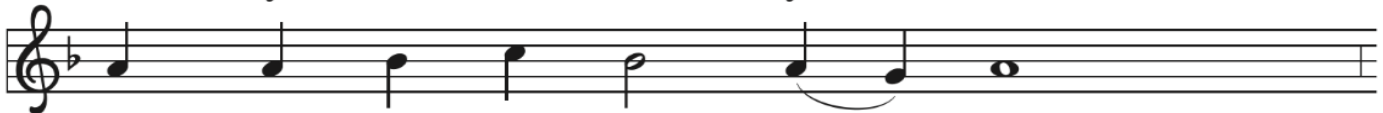
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
 let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Communion Hymn #3

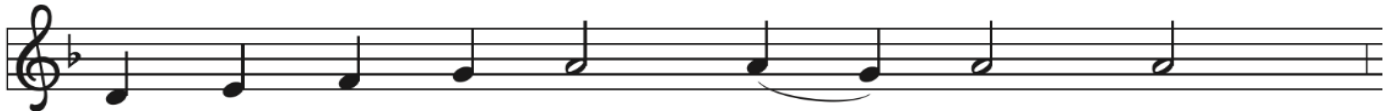
You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



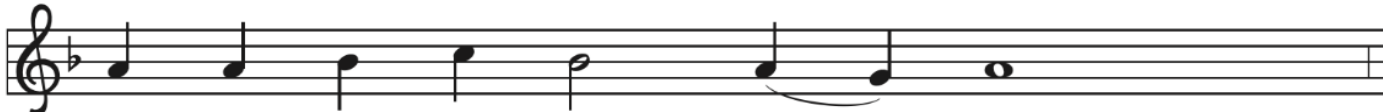
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



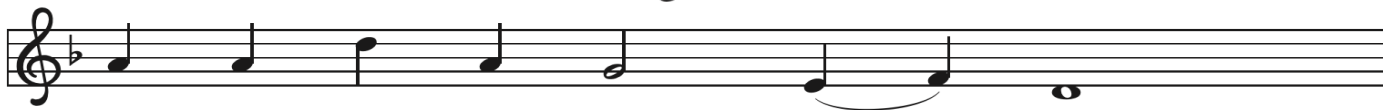
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



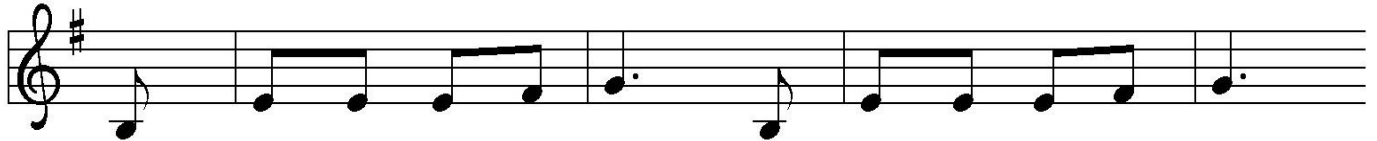
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil - grim guide.
 you, who are our death and life.

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****The Lord Now Sends Us Forth**

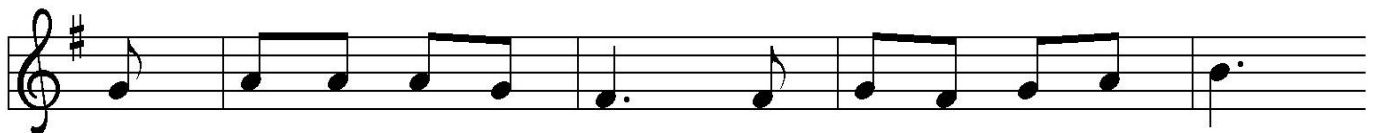
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,



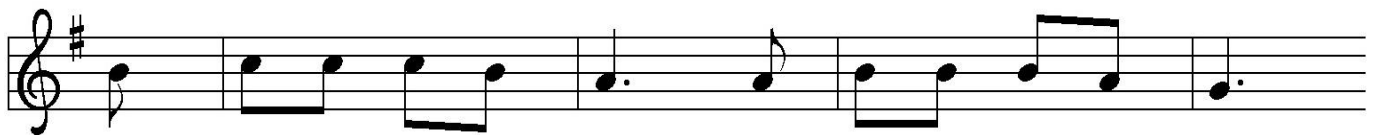
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.



The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain



to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;



that falls to you and me and all who are made free.



Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Today's Worship Leaders/Assistants**Presiding Clergy: Pastor Terry R. Hagensen****Ushers: Nora & Jerry Illies****Reader: Pat Sanford****Communion Assistant: Pat Sanford****Fellowship Host: Karin Lee****Social Media Coordinator: Nora Illies****Setting the Lord's Table: Sonya & Paul Kraft****Pianist: Cheryl Durant****Cantor/AV Services: Traci Schanke****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 (FINAL)****Total General Fund Income: \$16,971****(DEFICIT) for August (-\$3,189)****Total Expenses: \$20,160****9.20 General Fund Offering: \$1,527****Attendance/Social Media Engagement (as of 9.24.26)****Sunday, September 20 (in person/online): 56/30****YouTube Views: 1,472****Facebook reach: 87,715****YouTube Subscribers: 143****Announcements for the Week of September 27, 2026**

Traci's Office Hours This Week: Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Unless otherwise updated, this will be the set office schedule going forward.

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.

Evening Bible Study Starts October 7, 6 p.m.: The new evening Bible Study starts on Wednesday, October 7. The group will study the Scripture readings for the coming Sunday in a friendly and fun atmosphere. No need to prepare in advance (unless you want to!) and all are welcome to participate!

Food Shelf Dates in October: New Salem volunteers assist clients at the Food Shelf on Friday, Oct 9, 9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. and on Monday, October 12, 9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. and 12 – 3:30 p.m. For more information/sign up as a volunteer, contact Karin Snortland at ksnortland5@gmail.com or 612-940-7312.

Highway 71 Clean Up October 10, 9:30 a.m.: Meet at the church for New Salem's fall ditch clean up. Refreshments will be served, and remember, many hands make for light work!

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!

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.

Music Rights/Permissions for September 27

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Music: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985
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Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways – Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.
Music: William H. Havergal (1793-1870)

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd – Text: Sylvia Dunstan (1955-1993)
Music: French folk tune, 17th cent./Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth – Text and music: Anonymous, Central America, tr. Gerhard M. Cartford (b. 1923)/English Text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress



Boo! A signup sheet for Trunk or Treat 2026 is available on the rear table in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up to host a “trunk,” donate treats or assist at the event.

Missing Trunk or Treat 2026 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