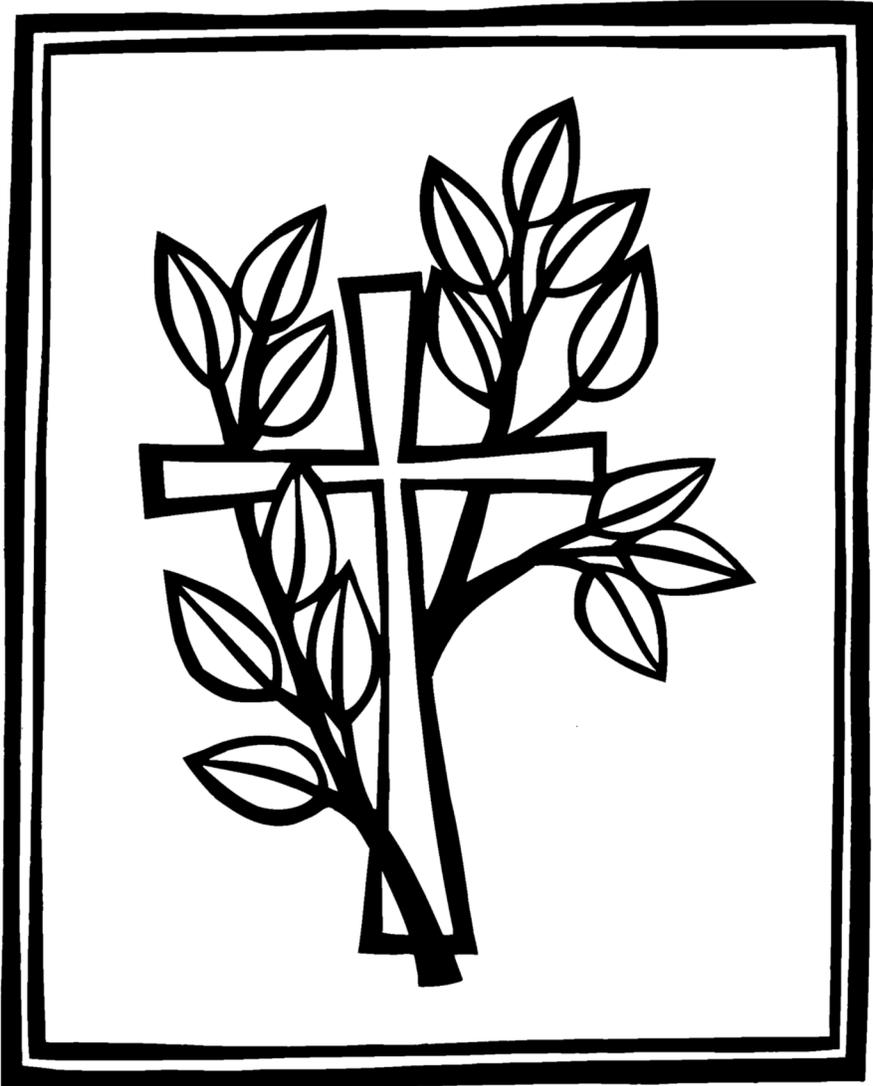


# Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 3, 2023



MEMORIAL  
**LUTHERAN**  
CHURCH

# Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 3, 2023

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

**Prelude:** *“Prelude on THAXTED”* - setting by John Behnke  
*Lois Theesfield, organ*

## Welcome

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
+ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.  
**Amen.**

Let us come before God in humility,  
confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.  
We are overwhelmed  
by the world’s violence and suffering.  
We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.  
For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.  
For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.  
For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.  
Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God’s compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen.**

## Gathering Song: "God is Here Today" ACS #993, sing twice through



*Dios es - tá a - quí, tan*  
God is here to - day; as

*cier-to co-mo el ai - re que res - pi - ro, tan*  
cer - tain as the air I breathe, as

*cier-to co-mo la ma - ña - na se le - van - ta, tan*  
cer - tain as the morn - ing sun that ris - es, as

*cier-to co-mo que le can - to y me pue - de o - ír.*  
cer - tain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Text: Javier Gacías Mateo, b. 1956; tr. C. Michael Hawn, b. 1948

Music: DIOS ESTÁ AQUÍ, Javier Gacías Mateo

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The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Lector: Mike Coverdale

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know;  
remember me and visit me,  
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;  
know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy

and the delight of my heart;  
for I am called by your name,  
O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,  
nor did I rejoice;  
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,  
for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing,  
my wound incurable,  
refusing to be healed?  
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,  
like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD:  
If you turn back, I will take you back,  
and you shall stand before me.  
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
you shall serve as my mouth.  
It is they who will turn to you,  
not you who will turn to them.

<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people  
a fortified wall of bronze;  
they will fight against you,  
but they shall not prevail over you,  
for I am with you  
to save you and deliver you,  
says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21**

*Lector: Mike Coverdale*

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

<sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

<sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Children at Heart Sermon

### Gospel Acclamation



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

### Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

The Gospel according to Matthew  
**Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

### Sermon

**Hymn of the Day: "Take up Your Cross, the Savior Said" ELW #667**

## **Apostles' Creed**

**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.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **Offering**

**Music Voluntary:** *"Grazioso"* - G.P. Telemann  
*Lois Theesfield, organ*

### **Offering Prayer**

God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.  
We bring your gifts to the table,  
that all might be fed.  
Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

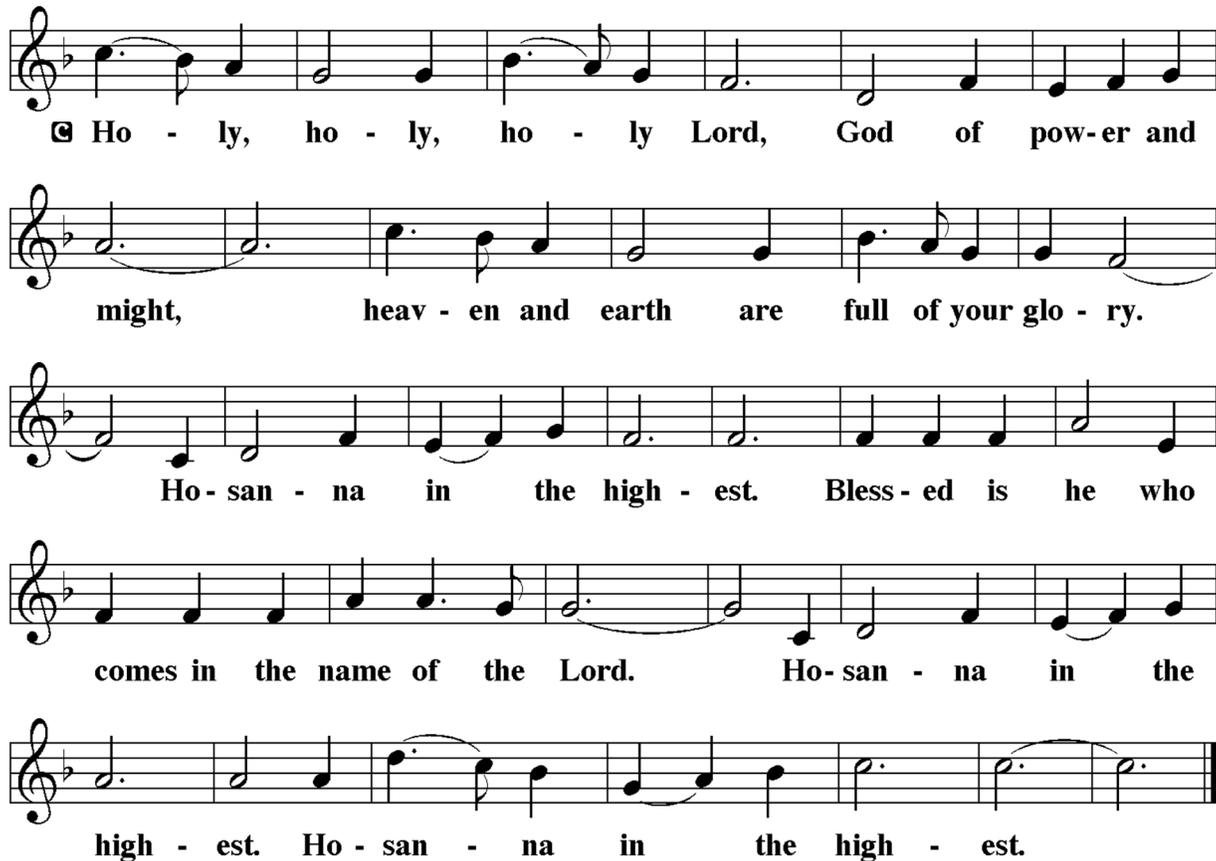
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Eucharistic Prayer

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;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
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 - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

### Lord's Prayer

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,  
forever and ever. Amen.

### Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites you to this table.  
Come, eat and live.

### Hymns during Communion

"Lamb of God" WOV Setting 5  
"Spirit Open My Heart" ACS #1043

## 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.

# Spirit, Open My Heart

*Refrain*

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

- 1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
- 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
- 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and  
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and  
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

*Refrain*

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.  
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.  
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

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Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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### **Prayer after Communion**

Blessed be your name, O God,  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

### **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

The God of glory,  
+ Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: "Let Streams of Living Justice" ELW #710**

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: "Praeludium" - Dietrich Buxtehude**  
*Lois Theesfield, organ*

## Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email [pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org](mailto:pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org) or [emily@mlcnevada.org](mailto:emily@mlcnevada.org), or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

*Please keep Nancy Christian and family in your prayers following the death of her husband, +Larry Christian*

*Please keep Norma Jean Smith and family in your prayers following the death of her son, +Darrel Smith*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +Tina Palmisano following her death (sister-in-law of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch)*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +Georgiann Grant following her death*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +David Blumer following his death*

Andrea & John Snyder	John Bass	Norma Dannan
Wayne Kinyon	<i>son-in-law of Ron &amp; Gloria Jacobson</i>	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Kathy Lynn Johnson	Carol Vincent	Jami Tharp
Christina King	Cassie Harrell	Fred Samuelson
Sherry Kluever	Jean Smith	Jaylee Bartleson
Dick Settle	Annette Dalthorp	Sheila Collingwood
Kim Elliott	Ellie Lynch	<i>mother of Lyndsey De Vos</i>
Jenny Adelmund	Ernie Ruhde	Judy Coverdale
Jan Seibel	Sierra Parr	Family and friends of
Jeanie & Jerry Gibson	<i>cousin of Kim Stieler</i>	+James Stephens
Marsha Kane	Janet Jacques	George Forsyth
Pr. Marcia Kisner	Easton Farrington	Janeen Driscoll
Marlene Waddell	Janice Hartz	Lynn Harris
<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>	Connie Krupp	Julie Sutherland
Sandy Muesburger	Jackie Byers	Jan Cook
<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>	
	Donna See	

## Announcements

### **Attention Youth and Families: Introducing *Wednesday Night Live!***#

Calling kids and youth of all ages of Memorial Lutheran! **You're invited!** This year we are starting something new... We want to invite you to bring a friend and join us for *Wednesday Night Live!* Come and engage with God, Scripture, and other young people each Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30 PM.

### **What will each night look like?**

We'll all gather together in the Sanctuary for a time of opening before going into more age-specific groups. After the opening we will head into our small groups to go deeper with the Bible lesson for the day in various ways. We're looking forward to a variety of activities including art, games, service activities, and more. The plan is for the groupings to be as follows: pre-K/K, 1st/2nd, 3rd/4th, and 5th/6th, 7th-9th grade Confirmation students will go with Pastor Kathleen and remaining High Schoolers will go to Youth Group. Before the evening wraps up we'll head back to the big group to close our time out together.

### **Do I need to bring anything?**

For most of you the answer is "Nope, just yourself and hopefully a friend!" If you are a Confirmation student, however, please bring your Bible with you.

### **What if I can't make it every single Wednesday?**

No problem. We just hope you'll make it as often as you can. Activities tend to be more fun when more people show up. If we try to show up for each other we'll all help each other to have a positive experience.

### **Will there be anything happening for kids on Sunday mornings this year?**

Yes! After kids have had an opportunity to enjoy a treat in the Fellowship Hall after church, they will be invited to watch the Whirl video based on the week's lessons in the Chapel. There will be conversation about the day's Bible readings and what it means for us today.

### **How do I get signed up for Wednesday Night Live?**

You can grab a registration form at church or you can fill out the online form here: <https://bit.ly/459i0xu> or by visiting [mlcnevada.org](http://mlcnevada.org).

*Can't wait to see you at Wednesday Night Live!*

## God's Work Our Hands Next Sunday, September 10

Bring a friend and join us as one of more than 8,700 congregations engaging in service work to make a positive change in our community, build and deepen relationships, and share God's love. We will have a shortened 9:00am worship service, followed by the activities below (choose what fits you best!)

Following our service activities, all are invited to a church picnic! Hot dogs and buns will be provided; please bring a side or dessert to share.

### Service Activities

- Sanctuary and other cleaning (washing windows, etc.)
- Singing at Nevada care homes
- Constructing Lutheran World Relief school kits and tie quilts
- Youth room painting
- Clearing of woody vegetation nearby\*

...and more activities to come!

*\*If you have lopping or pruning shears, please bring them along!*

### Check out our important website calendar and photo updates!

If you haven't visited [mlcnevada.org](http://mlcnevada.org) lately, be sure to take a look: our calendar has been revamped and updated, and will continue to be updated as new events and meetings are planned, so please check back often to keep up-to-date with Memorial happenings and announcements.

In addition, a new "Review in Photos" page under the "About" drop-down in the top menu has been created with many recent photos from events, ministries, and more across our congregation. This page will be updated each month with new photos. We give a *huge* thank you to Steve Jungst for all of his work in updating and creating these pages and for taking photos!

### Registration Open for Nevada's CROP Hunger Walk

On Sunday, October 1, come join us in fighting hunger locally and globally! We're excited to turn this year's walk into a "color" walk/run\*. Grab your family and/or a friend to come join you in the fight against hunger.

12:30 - Walking tacos available in the Pavilion

1:00 - Walk send-off

*\* The color walk part of the event is entirely optional! If you'd like to participate in this fun part of the day, wear a shirt that you would like to get "colored" at the event!*

Want to walk with us? Join our team: "Memorial Lutheran Church - Nevada, IA", register as an individual, start your own team, or make a donation by visiting <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/event/nevadaia> or by using the QR code.



## Community Trunk-or-Treat at Memorial

Trunk-or-Treat returns! Bring your family and friends to Memorial's parking lot Saturday, October 28th between 5:00 and 6:00pm for trick-or-treating around decorated vehicles. Walking tacos will be available with free-will donations benefitting Nevada's Good Samaritan Fund. There will also be a "Best Decorated Trunk" contest with a prize for the winner! Want to bring your decorated vehicle and hand out candy? Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/3L8eoDH> use the QR code, or contact the church office



## ***"Created to be: Good Neighbors"* - An Event for Iowa Youth**

God created us to be just who we are-- and calls us to love our neighbors with the gifts God gave us. 8th-12th Graders, especially those interested in the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering are invited to join in on this evening of fun, faith, and fellowship.

We're hoping to form a group from Memorial to carpool down to Ankeny. Please let Pastor Kathleen know if you would be interested in joining!

**What:** Dinner & interactive worship for 8th-12th graders

**When:** October 14, 5-8pm

**Where:** Resurrection Lutheran, 914 NW Ash Dr., Ankeny, IA

## **Golf Outing at Indian Creek Country Club**

We have reserved some Tee Times between 2pm and 3pm on Sunday, September 17th, 2023 at Indian Creek Country Club. The format will be 9 hole best shot so it doesn't matter if you are a golfer or not. We just want folks to come out for the fellowship and enjoy a nice fall day outside. The cost is \$25 per person to golf 9 holes with a cart, and we will also be accepting donations for Memorial's "Drive for the Drive" pavement project. Please contact Emily at the church office at 515-382-6509 to sign up or just show up Sunday, September 17th at 2pm and we will put you with a group if you don't have one.

## **You're Invited: Thursday Morning Bible Study in Chapel**

You're invited to join Pr. Kathleen in reading the upcoming weekend texts together every Thursday morning from 8:30-9:30am in the Chapel. All are welcome to stop in!

## **Camping with Memorial September 23rd - 24th**

Planning for our annual camping outing at Hickory Grove is in the works! It's not too early to reserve your spot for the weekend of September 23/24: **please note that if you intend to stay the night, you must secure your own campsite by contacting the campground.** Stay tuned for more details for this fun weekend.

## **Important Reminder Regarding Giving to Special Projects**

We so appreciate gifts received for special projects such as "A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place" (heating and cooling) and "Drive for the Drive" (pavement). If you would like to support these projects, please make sure to specify the project name with your gift. This ensures that your gift goes directly to the project and helps us keep an accurate record of funds received / still needed. Thank you for your support!

## Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code.



**Did you know?** In Tithe.ly, you can select to give to the General Fund, A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place (heating and cooling project), or the Drive for the Drive pavement project!

### *Save the Date*

#### **Wednesday Night Live**

When: Wednesday, September 6th, 6:30—7:30pm

#### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

When: Thursday, September 7th, 8:30—9:30 am

Where: MLC Chapel

#### **Beer & Theology (first Thursday of every month)**

When: Thursday, September 7th, 6:30 pm

Where: Old Chicago (Ames)

#### **God's Work Our Hands Sunday**

When: Sunday, September 10th

#### **Golf Outing**

When: Sunday, September 17th (tee times between 2:00 and 3:00)

Where: Indian Creek Country Club

Cost: \$25/person for 9 holes with a cart; we will also be accepting donations for the "Drive for the Drive" pavement project.

#### **Camping with Memorial**

When: September 23rd - 24th

Where: Hickory Grove

#### **Nevada CROP Walk for Hunger**

When: Sunday, October 1st

#### **Blessing of the Animals**

When: Saturday, October 7th



## **Trunk-or-Treat**

When: Saturday, October 28th

## **Rite of Confirmation**

When: Sunday, October 29th during 9:00 worship

## **Ministry Endowment Fund Reception**

When: Thursday, November 9th

### **Memorial Lutheran Church**

701 11th Street, Nevada, IA 50201

Phone 515-382-6509

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Memorial Lutheran



Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry

Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement

Mike Coverdale, Custodian