

BURR OAK – HESPER LUTHERAN PARISH

Pastor David Werges

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

8:30am Burr Oak / 10am Hesper

Office Phone: 563-735-5925 Website: www.bohlutheran.org Email: info@bohlutheran.org

Pastor Phone: 641-220-0205 Pr. Email: pastor@bohlutheran.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.

Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Shall We Gather At the River"

ELW 423

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

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P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LISTEN**FIRST LESSON****Ezekiel 33:7-11**

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:33-40

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.

35 Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

36 Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.

37 Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

38 Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.

39 Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

40 Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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"Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?" You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

The holy gospel according to **Matthew**, the 18th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon *"Do we know what we have"*

RESPONSE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"As We Gather at Your Table"

ELW 522

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

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us. A brief silence.

Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

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Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C: Amen

COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

PAGE 152

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise

PREFACE

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Holy, holy, holy Lord. Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

COMMUNION SONG

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

ELW 471

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"

207

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ry one what God has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Savior, Again to Your Dear Name"

ELW 534

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Welcome to all who are worshiping with us today. We are happy to have you here! Holy Communion will be served at worship this morning. Communion will be served at the communion railing. Ushers will direct communicants forward. Please let the usher know if you wish to receive communion in your seat. Gluten – free wafers and juice are available. Let the pastor and server know your preference. May God bless our time of worship and fellowship together!

TAKE HOME VERSE

Let them praise their maker's name with dancing;
let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.

(Psalm 149:3)

Eunice Circle is CANCELED for the month of September.

Please note the typo on the newsletter calendar, September 20th is a 8:30AM

JOINT WORSHIP @ BURR OAK. There will be fellowship and a kick off to
Wednesday School & Confirmation Carnival following worship.

Prayer Concerns

Jonathan Allen, Stacy Nelson, Diane & Jason Daft, Trisha Ryan, Gwen Allen, Kory Courtney, Lorraine Peterson, Kirsten Dejarlais Snell, Diane Eiken, Sue (Hovey) Caputo, Marcia Fawcett, Steve Headington, Brooke Tweten, Juanita DeLong, Barb Halverson, Logan McCabe.

Praying for our members in Care Facilities

Pat Perkins, Dean Rasmussen, Dorothy Anderson, Ron Knutson, Marilyn Helland, Vi Hoffland, Mark Folstad, Don Keefe, Marilyn Newhouse, Harold Stoen.

Please pray for military personnel currently deployed and those below serving stateside, elsewhere or in the reserves:
Mason Falck, Cameron Korsness, Jordan Grecko, Parker Whalen, Dylan Foltz, Wesley Smith & Braden Peterson.

Please also pray for all other soldiers, sailors, airmen, coasties and marines who work to defend us.

Pr. Dave is available to bring communion, visit and offer spiritual care to those in need. Please contact Pr. Dave at 641-220-0205 or call the Parish Office at 563-735-5925 or email info@bohllutheran.org if you or someone you know would like a visit. Please call the Parish office if there is someone you would like included in Prayers or to update their status to help us maintain an accurate Prayer Concerns list.

“BE JESUSY” GRATITUDE PRACTICE FOR SEPTEMBER

Express appreciation to those who educate and work with youth: those who work in public and private schools and those at church who nurture faith through Wednesday School and Confirmation classes.

Attend a Wednesday School meal. Engage in conversation with a child.

September Worship Schedule

Sept 13th: 9:00 am Hesper-Mabel Steam Engine Days Ecumenical Worship.

Sept 20th: 8:30am JOINT @ Burr Oak Fellowship & Kick off Carnival
(acknowledging new confirmation students, 3rd Graders Receiving Bibles & 3yr old enter Wednesday School)

10:00 am Shared Ministry Community Worship and Potluck Meal at Big Canoe Lutheran Church

Sept 27th: 8:30am Burr Oak Fellowship; 10am Hesper

Burr Oak Bazaar will be held on September 16th at 7pm. Items can be dropped off at the church on Tuesday, September 15th from 5-7 and Wednesday, the day of the bazaar anytime after 2pm. More raffle tickets can be requested from any Bazaar Committee Member.

The Area Council of Churches invite the public to attend the ecumenical worship service that will be held on Sunday morning, Sept 13th, at 9am, on the Hesper Mabel Steam Engine Days grounds as a part of the 74th Annual Hesper Mabel Steam Engine Days Celebration. Driftless Revival and area clergy will lead at worship. A Free will offering will be collected, offering will be equally distributed between the Decorah and Mabel Area Food pantries. All Are welcome!

RSVP in Decorah is looking for some great volunteers 25 years and older willing to participate in our third grade Pen Pal letter writing program for the new school year at Carrie Lee, St. Ben's, East Elementary Waukon, and St. Pat's Waukon. Write 3 or 4 letters (depending on school) and meet your Pen Pal at the end of the program during a short celebration meeting. Arrangements can be made to scan or fax letters if you go away for the winter. If you are interested in a rewarding experience, please contact RSVP at 563-277-5181 or neirsvppenpalprogram@gmail.com.

The Burr Oak Endowment fund is money that has been donated through gifts such as memorials, wills, and estates. The money is invested in many different CDs, mutual funds, etc. The endowment fund consists of a perpetual fund in which the principal will be retained and only the interest is used and a building fund from which both principal and interest can be used, all to enable the further growth of our church, its ministries and stewardship opportunities. To carry out the purpose of the endowment fund an Endowment Fund Committee meets in the beginning of the year at the annual meeting and decides how the money will be used. Some examples of how the money is used are: quilting supplies for the quilts donated to the graduating high school seniors, confirmation classes, Wednesday School, Luther League and layette kits. The committee also investigates ways in which the fund can be invested. The Endowment Fund Committee would like to say a big thank you to the Meatball Supper Committee and the Burr Oak council for their generous donation of \$1,000 towards the Perpetual fund base.

Dear 3yr olds entering Wednesday School, 3rd grader and incoming confirmation students,
We extend a special invitation to you to attend joint worship on Sunday, September 20th at 8:30am in Burr Oak. We will be acknowledging all **3yr olds entering Wednesday School, 3rd graders, along with incoming confirmation students.** We encourage grandparents, sponsors, mentors to all join us as well. Following worship there will be fellowship and a Kick off Carnival where you can pre-register your kid(s) for Wednesday School and Confirmation. We hope you are able to join us. If you submit the information on the form below we will list the names in **September 20th bulletin** of those that are joining Wednesday School and Confirmation this year along with all 3rd graders. If you could please let Nan know by email or mail by September 4th.

Child's full name:

Parent's Names:

Grandparents:

Sponsors:



You are invited to attend the SHARED MINISTRY Community Worship service and Potluck Dinner on Sunday, September 20, 2026. Pastors from the Shared Ministry group of churches will lead worship, which takes place in the sanctuary at Big Canoe beginning at 10:00 am. Rev. Jennifer Thomas, Assistant to the Bishop is Guest pastor, and Decorah Chorale will provide special music. Holy Communion will be served at worship. Potluck Dinner follows in the church dining room, and fun activities for the youth are planned after the meal. Offerings received are earmarked for ongoing relief efforts for victims of the recent fire at Agri-Star in Postville. Bring a dish to pass and come and join us in worship and fellowship with friends and neighbors!

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Pr. Matthew Becker of Big Canoe/Highland Lutheran Parish extends an invitation to area men to attend a Men's Breakfast event which is taking place at Highland Lutheran Church. Join Pr. Matthew on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 10:00 am for Breakfast and fellowship! Please RSVP by cell: 219-916-8535 or email at matthew.becker@valpo.edu so appropriate planning can be made.

UPPER IOWA RIVER CLUSTER D will hold their Fall gathering on Saturday, September 26, 2026 at Springfield Lutheran Church in rural Decorah. Coffee at 8:30 am with Gathering opening at 9:00 am. Theme of the Gathering is "For God and Country." Deana Hageman from RSVP is the Guest Speaker.
All are welcome!

ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR - CRAFT AND BAKE SALE - Sunday, September 27, 2026 at Highland Lutheran Church. Meal served from 11 am - 1:00 pm. MENU: Scalloped Potatoes and Ham, Assorted Salads and Desserts, Rommegrot, Bun and Beverages. Carry outs are available. Adults \$15; Children (5-12) \$10, Under 5 are Free

Burr Oak Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – September 6, 2026

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud **Greeter(s):** Jason and Tami Bohr
Communion Assistance: Jason Bohr **Reader:** Tonya Tollefsrud
Ushers: Scott Barth, Myrna Wilson, Ben & Kim Lange

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

TUES, Sept 8th: Bible Study @ Highland Lutheran Church 2pm
WED, Sept 9th: Church Council: Individual meetings @ 6pm, JOINT@ 6:30, all @ Hesper.
Set up at Steam Engine Grounds following
SAT-SUN, Sept 12 & 13th: Steam Engine Days in Mabel.
Hesper Lutheran Food Tent: serving Breakfast 7:30 am - 11:30 am Saturday & Sunday
SUN, Sept 13th: All are invited to join in the Hesper-Mabel Steam Engine Day's Ecumenical worship service
NO WORSHIP AT BO or H
WED, Sept 16th: Burr Oak WELCA Bazaar 7 p.m. @ Burr Oak
THUR, Sept 17th: NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
SAT, Sept 19th: Luther League Lock In
SUN, Sept 20th: 8:30am JOINT worship w/HC, fellowship & Kick off Carnival to follow.
Blessing of 3yr olds entering Wednesday School, 3rd Graders receive Bibles & incoming confirmation students
10:00 am - Shared Ministry Community Worship/HC and potluck at Big Canoe Lutheran Church

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to Meet Budget: \$3,300.00 Offering Aug 30th: \$1,624.00

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – September 13, 2026

All are invited to join in the Hesper-Mabel Steam Engine Day's Ecumenical worship service @ 9 am..
NO WORSHIP AT BO or H

Hesper Lutheran Church

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Communion Assistance: Donna Rasmussen **Reader:** Donna Rasmussen

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Needed to Meet Budget: \$2,372.00 Offering Aug 30th: \$1249.00

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