

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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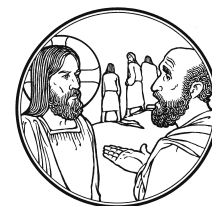
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The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 15, 2021

Color of the Day: Green - suggesting spiritual growth and maturity. There is nothing colorless about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. That's why the "green meadow" time of the church year is so lengthy. Time must be given to encourage all worshipers to maintain their faith through the constant use of God's means of grace.



OPENING HYMN

#793 - Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your
2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple
3 Fa - ther-like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; You be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
frame He knows; In His hand He gent - ly bears us,
face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,
Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,
All who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

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+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

(Stand)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Stand)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and

eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

(Stand)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 111:1–5, 9; antiphon: v. 10

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

Great are the works | of the LORD,*
studied by all who de- | light in them.

Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,*
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

He provides food for those who | fear him;*
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.*
Holy and awesome | is his name!

Glorify the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

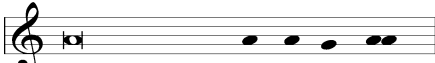
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

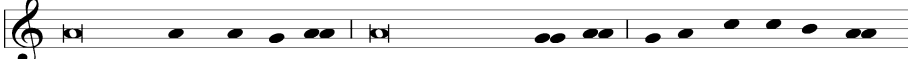
KYRIE



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



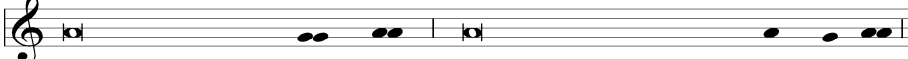
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



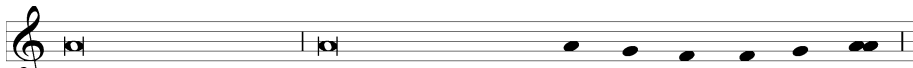
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a - lone are the



Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Sit)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 9:1–10

- ¹Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn her seven pillars.
²She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.
³She has sent out her young women to call
from the highest places in the town,
⁴“Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”
To him who lacks sense she says,
⁵“Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
⁶Leave your simple ways, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”
⁷Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse,
and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury.
⁸Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.
⁹Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.
¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:6–21

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

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

HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:51–69

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵¹[Jesus said:] “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the Twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Sit)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

#696 - O God, My Faithful God

1 O God, my faith - ful God, True foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
2 Grant me the strength to do With read - y heart and will - ing;
3 Keep me from say - ing words That lat - er need re - call - ing;
4 Lord, let me win my foes With kind - ly words and ac - tions,
With - out whom noth - ing is, All per - fect gifts be - stow - ing;
What - ev - er You com - mand, My call - ing here ful - fill - ing;
Guard me lest i - dle speech May from my lips be fall - ing;
And let me find good friends For coun - sel and cor - rec - tion.
Give me a health - y frame, And may I have with - in
That I do what I should While trust - ing You to bless
But when with - in my place I must and ought to speak,
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small



A con-science free from blame, A soul un - stained by sin.
The out - come for my good, For You must give suc - cess.
Then to my words give grace Lest I of - fend the weak.
And by Your Spir - it's might To live in peace with all.

5 Let me depart this life
Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul
That it may live forever;
And let my body have
A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave;
And let it sleep in peace.

6 And on that final day
When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand,
My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice,
Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice
With those who love Your name

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SERMON

Given by Pastor Mendez

Notes or Questions for Pastor:

Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), check out Pastor's blog at:
<http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez's blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>
(Stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

☩ 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 thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Sit)

OFFERING

(Stand)

OFFERTORY



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE



The Lord be with you.
And al-so 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 Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

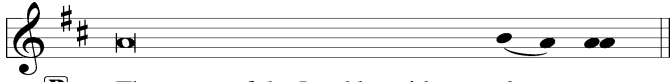
C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



A A - men.

AGNUS DEI



A 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.

(Sit)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN #1

#526 - You are the Way; through You Alone



1 You are the way; through You a - lone Can
2 You are the truth; Your Word a - lone True
3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb Pro -
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant



we the Fa - ther find; In You, O Christ, has
wis - dom can im - part; You on - ly can in -
claims Your con - qu'ring arm, And those who put their
us that way to know, That truth to keep, that



God re - vealed His heart and will and mind.
form the mind And pu - ri - fy the heart.
trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.
life to win Whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN #2

#796 - When in Our Music God Is Glorified



1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied
2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found
3 So has the Church, in lit - ur - gy and song,
4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night
5 Let ev - 'ry in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!

And ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,
 A new di - men - sion in the world of sound
 In faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,
 When ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the light?
 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!

It is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:
 As wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found
 Borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - 'ry tongue:
 Then let us sing, for whom He won the fight:
 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:

Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN #3

#712 - Seek Ye First

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God, And His
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, Seek and
 3 Man does not live by bread a - lone, But by

right - teous - ness. And all these things shall be
 ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be
 ev - 'ry word That pro - ceeds from the

add - ed un - to you! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
 o - pened un - to you, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
 mouth of the Lord, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

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 (Stand)

THANK THE LORD

☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev - 'ry-one what

He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -

joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re - calls His prom - is -

es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -

giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

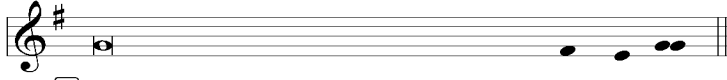
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



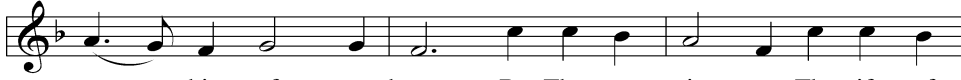
C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

#818 - In Thee Is Gladness



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
2 Since He is ours, We fear no pow - ers, Not of



sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -



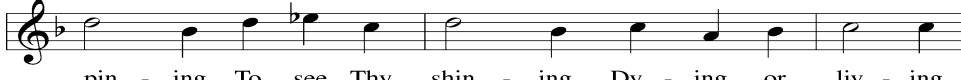
heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the



wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him



To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

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