

# St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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## The 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost September 18, 2022

*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 worshippers to maintain their faith through the constant use of God's means of grace.



Opening Hymn . . . . . #786 - *Lord of All Good*

Confession and Absolution. . . . . Page 167

### ✠ ✠ ✠ *Service of the Word* ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit . . . . . Page 168

*Ps. 119: 137-140, 142; antiphon: Ps. 119:144*

Your testimonies are righteous for- | ever,\*  
give me understanding that | I may live.

Righteous are you, | O LORD,\*  
and right are your | just decrees.

You have appointed your testimonies in | righteousness\*  
and in all | faithfulness.

My zeal con- | sumes me,\*  
because my foes for- | get your words.

Your promise is | well tried,\*  
and your servant | loves it.

Your righteousness is righteous for- | ever,\*  
and your | law is true.

Glory be to 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.

Your testimonies are righteous for- | ever,\*  
give me understanding that | I may live.

Kyrie . . . . . Page 168

Hymn of Praise (Gloria in Excelsis). . . . . Page 170

Salutation & Collect of the Day . . . . . Page 172

O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading . . . . . Page 172

*Amos 8:4-7*

<sup>4</sup>Hear this, you who trample on the needy  
and bring the poor of the land to an end,  
<sup>5</sup>saying, "When will the new moon be over,  
that we may sell grain?  
And the Sabbath,  
that we may offer wheat for sale,  
that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great  
and deal deceitfully with false balances,  
<sup>6</sup>that we may buy the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals  
and sell the chaff of the wheat?"

<sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
"Surely I will never forget any of their deeds."

Gradual . . . . . Page 172

*Ps. 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 Reading . . . . . Page 172

*1 Timothy 2:1-15*

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

<sup>8</sup>I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; <sup>9</sup>likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, <sup>10</sup>but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. <sup>11</sup>Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. <sup>12</sup>I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. <sup>13</sup>For Adam was formed first, then Eve; <sup>14</sup>and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. <sup>15</sup>Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

Alleluia & Verse (Common) . . . . . Page 173

Holy Gospel . . . . . Page 173

*Luke 16:1-15*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting

his possessions.

<sup>2</sup>And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' <sup>3</sup>And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup>He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' <sup>7</sup>Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' <sup>8</sup>The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

<sup>10</sup>One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? <sup>13</sup>No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

<sup>14</sup>The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day . . . . . #557 – *Seek Where You May to Find a Way*

The Sermon . . . . . Serving Two Masters - Luke 16: 1-13  
*Want to read along, miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine? Check out Pastor Bogs' blog at: rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez's blog at: pastormendez.blogspot.com.*

Introduction

It is important that we \_\_\_\_\_.

The Story

The rich man \_\_\_\_\_.

The servant \_\_\_\_\_.

After he devised his plan \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus' Interpretation

Verse nine \_\_\_\_\_.

Are we here as a church \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus trusts \_\_\_\_\_.

We cannot serve \_\_\_\_\_.

The Connection to the Old Testament and the Epistle

In the Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_.

In the Epistle \_\_\_\_\_.

What Does This Mean?

We recognize and admit \_\_\_\_\_.

As we are \_\_\_\_\_.

Our response is \_\_\_\_\_.

I implore you \_\_\_\_\_.

Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Creed . . . . . Page 174/175

Prayer of the Church & Offering . . . . . Page 175

*Our First Fruits and Tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the Gospel. Our Offerings are special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes. This is an act of worship for members and friends of St. Matthew who are moved by God's love to respond to the Gospel. Guests should not feel obligated to participate.*

Offertory. . . . . Page 176

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ *Service of the Sacrament* ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

Preface . . . . . Page 177

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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 & Prayer of Thanksgiving . . . . . Page 178

Lord's Prayer and The Words of Our Lord. . . . . Page 179

Pax Domini and Agnus Dei . . . . . Page 180

Distribution . . . . . Page 181

*Before partaking of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you read our communion statement on the pew insert behind the Bible. Thank you.*

Distribution Hymns . . . . . #536 – *One Thing's Needful*  
#781 – *We Give Thee but Thine Own*  
#730 - *What Is the World To Me*

Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord) . . . . . Page 181

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction . . . . . Page 183

Closing Hymn . . . . . #738 - *Lord of All Hopefulness*