

# St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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## The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 22, 2024

*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 . . . . . #706 - *Love in Christ Is Strong and Living*  
Confession and Absolution. . . . . Page 167

### ✠ ✠ ✠ *Service of the Word* ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit . . . . . Page 168

*Ps. 37: 5-7; antiphon: Ps. 37:4*

Delight yourself | in the LORD,\*  
and he will give you the desires | of your heart.

Commit your way | to the LORD;\*  
trust in him, and | he will act.

He will bring forth your righteousness | as the light,\*  
and your justice as the | noonday.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for him;\*  
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man  
who carries out evil de- | vices!

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.

Delight yourself | in the LORD,\*  
and he will give you the desires | of your heart.

Kyrie . . . . . Page 168

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

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

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us  
humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and  
deed; 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

*Jeremiah 11:18-20*

<sup>18</sup>The LORD made it known to me and I knew; then you showed me  
their deeds. <sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. I did not  
know it was against me they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy  
the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
that his name be remembered no more." <sup>20</sup>But, O LORD of hosts, who  
judges righteously, who tests the heart and the mind, let me see your  
vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause.

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. . . . . Page 172

*James 3:13-4:10*

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let  
him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter  
jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false  
to the truth. <sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but  
is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where jealousy and selfish  
ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup>But the  
wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason,  
full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of  
righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

<sup>1</sup>What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this,  
that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You desire and do not have,  
so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.  
You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive,  
because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup>You adulterous  
people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with  
God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes  
himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the  
Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to  
dwell in us"? <sup>6</sup>But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes  
the proud, but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore  
to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God,  
and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify  
your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let  
your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble  
yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Choral Anthem

Alleluia & Verse . . . . . Page 173

Mark 9:30-37

<sup>30</sup>[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”



Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day . . . . . #851 – Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

The Sermon . . . . . Making Friends with Whom? ~ James 3:13-4:10

*Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), just want to follow along? Visit Pastor Bogs’ blog at rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez’s blog at pastormendez.blogspot.com.*

Introduction

- There is a story \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Who Is Wise?
- True Godly wisdom \_\_\_\_\_ .
- The way of the world \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Wisdom from above \_\_\_\_\_ .
- As Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_ .
- What Does Your Life Say?
- Quarrels and fights \_\_\_\_\_ .
- We are either friends of \_\_\_\_\_ .
- We are friends of \_\_\_\_\_ .
- James use the imperatives \_\_\_\_\_ .
- James exhort us to humble ourselves \_\_\_\_\_ .
- What Does This Mean?
- Last week \_\_\_\_\_ .
- James gives us examples \_\_\_\_\_ .
- James reminds us that we \_\_\_\_\_ .
- James further exhorts \_\_\_\_\_ .
- As always \_\_\_\_\_ .
- James brings us tough words \_\_\_\_\_ .

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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 & The Words of Our Lord . . . . . Page 179

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei . . . . . Page 180

Distribution . . . . . Page 181

*Here at St. Matthew we lovingly practice closed communion. Before partaking of the Lord’s Supper, we ask you to read our communion statement on the insert behind the pew Bible. If you have any questions, please speak to a pastor or elder. Thank you.*

Distribution Hymns . . . . . #716 – I Walk in Danger All the Way

#536 - One Thing’s Needful

#842 - Son of God, Eternal Savior

#730 - What Is the World to Me

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

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

Closing Hymn . . . . . #845 - Where Charity and Love Prevail