

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

The Rev. Dr. Ronald A. Bogs, Pastor

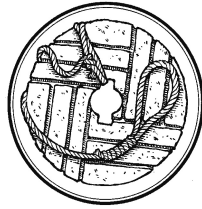
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The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 26, 2021

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 . . . #850 – God of Grace and God of Glory

Confession and Absolution Page 167

✠ ✠ ✠ Service of the Word ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit Page 168

Psalm 135:1-3, 13-14; antiphon: Ps. 135:13

Your name, O Lord, endures for - | ever,*
your renown, O Lord, throughout all, | ages.
Praise the Lord! Praise the name | of the Lord,*
give praise, O servants | of the Lord,
who stand in the house | of the Lord,*
in the courts of the house | of our God!
Praise the Lord, for the | Lord is good;*
sing to His name, for it is | pleasant!
Your name, O Lord, endures for - | ever,*
your renown, O Lord, throughout all | ages.
For the Lord will vindicate his | people*
and have compassion on His | servants.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
and it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Your name, O Lord, endures for- | ever,*
your renown, O Lord, throughout all | ages.

Kyrie Page 168

Hymn of Praise (Gloria in Excelsis) Page 170

Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 172

O God, the source of all that is just and good, nourish in us every virtue and bring to completion every good intent that we may grow in grace and bring forth the fruit of good works; 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

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

⁴ Now the rabble that was among [the children of Israel] had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, "Oh that we had meat to eat!" ⁵ We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. ⁶ But now our strength has dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at." ¹⁰ Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the Lord blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹ Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me?" ¹² Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,' to the land that you swore to give their fathers? ¹³ Where am I to get meat to give to all of these people? For they weep before me and say, 'Give us meat, that we may eat.' ¹⁴ I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. ¹⁵ If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness." ¹⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you..." ²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. ²⁵ Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it. ²⁶ Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸ And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, "My lord Moses, stop them." ²⁹ But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, that the Lord would put his Spirit on them!"

Gradual Page 172

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 Reading Page 172

James 5:13-20

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Alleluia & Verse (Common) Page 173

Holy Gospel Page 173

Mark 9:38-50

³⁸ John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹ But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰ For the one who is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

⁴² "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eyes cause you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched. ⁴⁹ For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #685 – Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

The Sermon No Middle Ground – Mark 9:38-50

Want to read along, miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings)? Check out Pastor Bogs' blog at: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez's blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>

Introduction

The movie "Scared Straight" _____ .

Jesus was paraded _____ .

Billboards read _____ .

The context, last week _____ .

There is a distinction between _____ .

Those Who Are Against God

These are those who _____ .

These are those who _____ .

The full extent of the law _____ .

Those Who Are For God

Jesus came to earth to _____ .

Jesus kept _____ .

Good Reason

I pray we do not believe in Jesus just so _____ .

If our only reason _____ .

Just think of the possibilities _____ .

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

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

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 #621 – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
#848 – Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service
#642 - O Living Bread from Heaven

Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord) Page 181

Post-Communion Collect & Benediction Page 183

Closing Hymn #813 - Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng