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**The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 8, 2023**

*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 . . . . . #909 - *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*  
Confession and Absolution . . . . . Page 151

**✠ ✠ ✠ Service of the Word ✠ ✠ ✠**

Introit . . . . . Page 152

*Ps. 118: 22-24; antiphon: Ps. 118:1*

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;\*  
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

The stone that the builders re- | jected\*  
has become the | cornerstone.

This is the LORD's | doing;\*  
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

This is the day that the | LORD has made;\*  
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

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.

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;\*  
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

Kyrie . . . . . Page 152

Hymn of Praise (This Is the Feast) . . . . . Page 155

Salutation & Collect of the Day . . . . . Page 156

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your 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 156

*Isaiah 5:1-7*

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Gradual . . . . . Page 156  
*Ps. 91:11; 103:1*

He will command his angels con- | cerning you\*  
to guard you in | all your ways.

Bless the LORD, | O my soul,\*  
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle Reading . . . . . Page 156

*Philippians 3:4b-14*

<sup>4</sup>though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:

<sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless.

<sup>7</sup>But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

<sup>8</sup>Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— <sup>10</sup>that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

<sup>13</sup>Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

C<sup>h</sup>oral Anthem

Alleluia & Verse (Common) . . . . . Page 156

*Matthew 21:33-46*

<sup>33</sup>[Jesus said:] "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country.

<sup>34</sup>When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. <sup>35</sup>And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'

<sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' <sup>39</sup>And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. <sup>40</sup>When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" <sup>41</sup>They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."



<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. <sup>44</sup>And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day . . . . . #544 - O Love, How Deep

The Sermon . . . . . Confidence in Christ Alone ~ Philippians 3:4b-14

*Miss a sermon visit Pastor Bogs' blog at rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez's blog at pastormendez.blogspot.com.*

Introduction

We like to think of ourselves as \_\_\_\_\_.

Self-Confidence

Paul outlines why he could be \_\_\_\_\_.

When we attempt \_\_\_\_\_.

All Is Loss

Paul count all as \_\_\_\_\_.

When ti comes to attempting \_\_\_\_\_.

Our right standing \_\_\_\_\_.

God gives faith means \_\_\_\_\_.

Pressing Toward the Goal

Our goal is \_\_\_\_\_.

We do not simply \_\_\_\_\_.

We depend on \_\_\_\_\_.

What Does This Mean?

First and foremost \_\_\_\_\_.

It was Christ \_\_\_\_\_.

Even more, Christ stirs \_\_\_\_\_.

If anyone could boast \_\_\_\_\_.

I, too, encourage you \_\_\_\_\_.

Other Notes or Questions for the Pastor:

Creed . . . . . Page 158

Prayer of the Church & Offering . . . . . Page 159

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.

Offering & Offertory. . . . . Page 159

✠ ✠ ✠ Service of the Word ✠ ✠ ✠

Preface . . . . . Page 160

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 and Prayer of Thanksgiving . . . . . Page 161

Lord's Prayer and The Words of Our Lord . . . . . Page 162

Pax Domini and Agnus Dei . . . . . Page 163

Distribution . . . . . Page 164

*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.*

Distribution Hymns . . . . . #626 - Come, Let Us Eat

*(Paul Menz will sing the LEADER part Congregation will join in at ALL)*

*#664 - Fight the Good Fight*

*#706 - Love in Christ Is Strong and Living*

Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord) . . . . . Page 164

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction . . . . . Page 166

Closing Hymn . . . . . #922 - Go, My Children, with My Blessing