



MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Pastor Amy Truhe
September 26, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
ELW Setting 3

Prelude

Voluntary in E Minor

Charles John Stanley

Call and Response:

Let us worship God.

The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul!

Our primary aim is—

not to receive but to give,

not to tremble but to trust,

not to escape from the world but to be more profoundly involved.

not to buy some favors but to celebrate free grace,

not to bend God to our will but to align ourselves with Christ's way.

I welcome you to this household of God!

The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter: **like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ✠ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

Entrance Hymn Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart #800

Kyrie p. 138

Canticle of Praise p. 140

Prayer of the Day

Generous God, **your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at." ¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery." ¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you." ²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then 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 when the spirit rested upon them,

they prophesied. But they did not do so again. ²⁶Two 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. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm: Psalm 19:7-14

The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

Second Reading: James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you

may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation:

p. 142

Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

Glory to you, O Lord!

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

³⁸John 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." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me.

⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

The Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

#634

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Dedication of Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Kits:

Let us pray. O Lord our God, maker of all things, you have blessed us with so many Gifts — a good eye for color, the ability to make fine stitches, the skills to develop ever-new and exciting patterns, hearts that want to share. Now we offer the fruits of our labors, the Quilts we have made, the health and school kits we have assembled, to you.

We dedicate these Quilts and Kits to your service, trusting that your love will go wherever each Quilt or Kit is sent, making it more than just a piece of material, a collection of items — making each piece we have created an expression of love. There is no way for us to imagine the power and effect an act of love can have on a person's life — how you can use something as small as a Quilt, a Care Kit, or a School Kit to radiate your love from us to the world. May these be used in your service and become blessings for all those who receive them.

Lord, we know that all we possess comes from your loving hand. Give us grace to honor you with all of our being: draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours. Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church and its ministry. Bless the newly baptized and encourage them in their journey of faith. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for natural wonders of your creation. Especially we pray for Kanopolis Lake, for Meadowlark Trail and Valkommen Trail. We give thanks for our parks and our rivers. Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in authority. Give them wise minds and compassionate hearts. Strengthen in them a desire to protect the vulnerable and care for those underserved. We pray especially for President Biden. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. We especially pray for our members Rolland, Walli, Gloria, Gene, and Merlyn. We pray for our friends Denise, Bill, Dawn, Stephani, Karla, Danielle, Krista, Meghan, Amy, Sharon, Kim, Jill, and Matt. We pray for those serving in the military: Alex, Vicki, Ben, Jeremy, T.J., Daniel, Miranda, and Luke. We pray for Lisa in seminary and Kaylie as she discerns a call. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: musicians, readers, acolytes, ushers, our Council and all who lead and serve on Committees. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for Bethany Home and Presbyterian Manor and all residential facilities who assist the elderly and infirm. Be with them as they struggle to find staff, as they seek to keep themselves and residents safe from infections and diseases. O God, empower those whose vocations weary them to be strengthened by your love, your hope, your Spirit, that all the world might honor you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our ability to receive the results of the Congregational Vitality Survey with grace, goodwill, and the hope that comes from you alone. May we joyfully take the information you provide and use it to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all your saints, those we have loved and known and those from every time and place. Continue to guide us by their example and reassure us of your promised salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be with you all: **And also with you!**

MEAL

Offertory

Praise His Holy Name by Keith Hampton,
Children's Music: Rhythm Instruments w/adult choir

Offering Prayer

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving p. 144
 “Holy, Holy, Holy” *Congregation sings* p. 144

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord’s Prayer p. 145

Lamb of God p. 146

Distribution of Communion

Prayer after Communion

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

People of God, you are Christ’s body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ✠ one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn *Where Charity and Love Prevail* #359

Dismissal

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *“Hyfrydol”* Ralph Vaughan Williams

Worship Leaders today:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Kirsten Bruce Liturgist
Sharon Bruce Lector

Worship Leaders next week:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Lisa Simmelink Liturgist
Jeanne Ahlers Lector

Messiah Lutheran Church

	Actual	Actual	Budget
		Jan - Aug	Jan - Aug
	Aug-21	21	21
Revenue	8,112.10	92,789.48	96,773.32
Expenses	11,866.09	88,738.40	106,989.94
Surplus (Deficit)	<u>(3,753.99)</u>	<u>4,051.08</u>	<u>(10,216.62)</u>
Reserve Balance	<u>84,717.71</u>		

Members, Friends, and Family for Whom We Pray

Members of Messiah:

Rolland Christenson, Walli Ellis, Gloria and Gene Holdsworth, Merlyn Hilt, the friends and family of Robert Ahlstedt

Friends of Messiah

Donna Stejksal	Daniels' friend	Karla Goewert	Friend of Kirsten Bruce
Denise	Pari Ford's mother	Danielle	Robbie Peterson's
Bill Stephenson	Joy Janis's brother	VanDeVyvere	granddaughter
Dawn	Sharon Hoffman's	Krista Bahler	Betty Peterson's Niece
	Daughter	Meghan	John & Margaret Presley's
Stephani White	Betty Holcombe's	Presley	Daughter
	daughter	Amy Wright	Friend of Don Anderson
Kim and Jill Hett		Sharon Texley	friend of Marla Elmquist, Linda
Matt Forrester	Pastor's brother		Lewis & many others

Serving the U.S.A.

Alex Klapp	Betty Russin's grandson	Vicki Charboneau	Elaine Eller's granddaughter
Ben Youngquist	S Hoffman's nephew	Jeremy Guy	Hensley's son-in-law
T.J. Paulsen	Barb Malm's child		
Daniel & Miranda Norland	Randy/Gretchen's son & wife		
Luke Hammontree	Daniel's grandson		

Seminary Kaylie Ines, Lisa Simmelink

Announcements

Happy 60th anniversary to Merlyn and Rita Hilt. Congratulations! Merlyn and Rita Hilt
102 W. McPherson, Lindsborg, KS 67456 or send cards to Bethany Home.

We want to wish a very **happy birthday to Vic Streufert** who will be turning 95 on October 1st! Vic Streufert, 425 W Saline #7, Lindsborg, KS 67456 or send cards to Bethany Home.

Three Lindsborg Organists to Present Mini Recitals as a part of Lindsborg's Hyllningsfest Celebration on Saturday, October 9, Genevieve Bishop, Steven Gustafson, and Hentus Van Rooyen will each present 30-minute mini recitals on the Jaeckel Tracker at Bethany Lutheran Church, 320 N Main St, Lindsborg. Bishop plays at 11:30, Gustafson at 1:30, and Van Rooyen at 2:30. Messiah members are invited and encouraged to attend. There is no admission charge.

We are invited to attend **Bethany Church Women's** regular monthly meeting on Thursday, October 7, at 2:00 in their Fellowship Hall. A Bible Study will be given by Nancy Lundblad, and a special offering will be taken for Papua New Guinea.

This morning we will have **Blessing of our Gifts** to Lutheran World Relief. Our congregation contributed to the creation of 30 LWR Personal Care Kits, 20 School Kits and 20 quilts (made by Carolyn Brock through the last year) that will be sent out in a few weeks. Thank you again for your generosity and participation in this project!

Join Sprout House Learning Center for our Fall clean-up! There are jobs for all skillsets. Help beautify the community and support local child care. October 17th at 3 pm at 308 N 3rd Street. For more information contact Alan English at Englishae@bethanylb.edu.

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Confess your sins and pray for one another.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 9:38-50	Avoiding sin
Monday	Numbers 11:4-29	Moses and the seventy elders
Tuesday	James 5:13-20	The power of prayer
Wednesday	Psalms 4	An evening prayer
Thursday	1 Thessalonians 5:12-28	Final instructions
Friday	Romans 8:18-27	Future glory for God's people
Saturday	Psalms 19:7-14	The wonders of God
Sunday	Mark 10:2-16	Jesus blesses the children

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. James 5:16 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of heaven and earth, guide us in our words and actions that we may sing your praises and love all those in our care. In Christ we pray, amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, as you fill us with this meal, fill our hearts with a desire for your message of divine love and faithfulness. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the truth and beauty of God's word revive your soul and make you wise. (Psalm 19:7-11)

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Send Me, Lord

WEEKLY MILESTONES CARING CONVERSATIONS

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What have you heard lately that filled you with joy?
- What have you heard recently that made you sad?
- In what ways can you communicate a message of healing, joy, and peace this week?

DEVOTIONS

Read: James 5:13-20. James is concerned about speech. Speech that is not of God leads to division, chaos, hatred, and death. Speech that is of God brings peace, purity, and gentleness (James 3:16-18). It has been argued that talk and dialogue on social media has not helped humanity. There are times it has caused division, chaos, and hate rather than peace, purity, and gentleness. In James 5, prayer, confession, and songs of praise are listed as worthy ways to speak. James is concerned about the misuse of the human tongue and of human speech. James is also concerned that Christians live up to their calling and communicate God's healing, forgiveness, and peace to others. Let's join James in the Christian movement that seeks the good, the true, and the beautiful for all through faith in Christ. How can you use speech, written or oral, for the good of all and to give praise to God?

Pray: **God of healing and peace, use our words so that truth, hope, and healing may reign through Christ Jesus. Amen.**

SERVICE

Access to social media can make everyone feel important. Seeing our own words can make us feel powerful and influential. The Letter of James knows that words are powerful but not always helpful. How can you use a social media platform or other means to offer words of prayer, praise, a song, or a Bible verse to bless others this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Mark 9:38-40, Jesus' disciples complain that someone was casting out demons in Jesus' name but was not following Jesus' disciples. Sadly, it has been the case throughout our history that people who follow Jesus in a way different "from us" are condemned. This week, take time to list Christian traditions that are different from yours. Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for their faith and witness in the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to:

www.milestonesministry.org