

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 30 & October 3, 2021

Our struggle against our own flesh gives us much more difficulty and anguish than the hostility or the persecution of the world.

Opening Hymn426, “Yours Forever, God of Love”

Order of Service..... Common Service, Page 15

Prayer of the Day: Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST LESSON

Psalms of the Day.....Psalm 51b (page 87)

SECOND LESSON

Verse of the Day: Alleluia. *At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* Alleluia.

Response to the Verse Page 18

GOSPEL LESSON

Nicene Creed Page 18-19

Hymn of the Day462, “Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

SERMON..... “Encouragement for Godly Living” Mark 9:38-50

Communion Liturgy Page 21

Communion Hymn 310, “I Come, O Savior, to Your Table”

Closing Liturgy Page 25

Closing Hymn 322 vv. 1 & 3, “On What Has Now Been Sown”

FIRST LESSON: Numbers 11:16,24-29

The point here dare not be lost. It is not that anyone who wants to be or claims to be a preacher is one. The point rather is the humility of Moses. He rejoiced in the gifts that God gave to his people and desired that those gifts be even more abundant to the glory of God and the benefit of God’s children. Service to the glory of God is our goal. For not one of us has all of God’s gifts; the needs of each, no matter how gifted, should keep each one humble as each looks for his God-given opportunities to serve, while giving thanks for the gifts and service of others.

So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather seventy men from the elders of Israel for me, men whom you know to be elders and officers for the people. Take them to the Tent of Meeting and make them stand there with you.”

Moses went out and told the people the LORD’s words. He gathered seventy men from the elders of the people and had them stand all around the tent. The LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him. He took from the Spirit that was on Moses and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but they did not do it again. Two men, however, remained in the camp. The name of one was Eldad, and the name of the other was Medad. They were listed among the elders, but they had not gone out to the tent. The Spirit rested on them, and they prophesied back in the camp. A young man ran and reported this to Moses. He said, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp!” Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ aide from his youth, answered, “My lord Moses, stop them!” Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? If only all of the LORD’s people were prophets so that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!”

SECOND LESSON: James 4:7-12

How easy it is for us to howl and wail in the face of persecution from the world or hostility from our fellow believers. It would be far better, if we would lament and cry over the crosses we impose on one another, when our own jealousy and pride give birth to strife and loveless faultfinding.

So, submit yourselves to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God, and he will come near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded people. Lament, mourn, and weep. Let your laughter be changed into mourning and your joy into gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he will lift you up. Do not speak against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother is speaking against the law and judging the law. But if you judge the law, you are not one who does the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver and judge. He is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 9:38-50

The interest of the disciples appears to be their own glory more than Christ’s glory. But Jesus puts a quick end to personal pride of place. The important thing is humble service; the great sin is anything in me that gets in the way of such humble service to his glory and in accord with his Word.

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name. We tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not try to stop him, because no one who does a miracle in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil about me. Whoever is not against us is for us. Amen I tell you: Whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in my name, because you belong to Christ, will certainly not lose his reward. “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to fall into sin, it would be better for him if he were thrown into the sea with a large millstone hung around his neck. If your hand causes you to fall into sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed, than to have two hands and go into hell, into the unquenchable fire, ‘where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.’ If your foot causes you to fall into sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell, ‘where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.’ If your eye causes you to fall into sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, ‘where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.’ For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good. But if the salt loses its flavor, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION: Because of the confessional nature of the Lord's Supper which is offered today, we invite forward those who are members of a WELS or ELS congregation. If you have questions about the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor.

HEAD USHERS THIS WEEK: Mike Pamperin/Dean Ebert; next week: Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart.

WLA PRESENTATION: TODAY Matt Schmitz, a member of WLA's *Campaign Cabinet*, will be speaking to us immediately following the worship service to give an update on WLA's building plans for the future.

PTL MEETING: A reminder to all school parents of the PTL meeting which is scheduled for **Monday, October 11**, at **6:30 PM** at the school. All parents are urged to take an active part in what's going on at the school throughout the year. Your input is always valued!

THE WAIT IS ALMOST OVER! Adult Choir will begin again on **Thursday, October 21**, at **8:00 PM!** Anyone who is interested in joining this fun-filled group to sing praises to God is welcome. All voices will be welcomed with open arms! If you would like to participate, please sign-up on the sheet located on the church bulletin board. This is a wonderful opportunity for Christian fellowship. Why not give it a try?

LWMS FALL MISSION RALLY: We will be hosting the LWMS Fall Mission Rally right here at St. Matthew's on **Saturday, October 16**, from **8:30 AM – NOON**. It will be co-hosted by St. John, Woodland. The speakers and topic will be **Drs. Jim & Stephanie Moore**, who will speak about our mission in **Nepal**. A number of sign-up sheets are located in the hallways. On the LWMS bulletin board in the hallway by Mr. Lorge's classroom there is a sign-up sheet to attend the rally. On the **SCHOOL** bulletin board in the main hallway there is a sign-up sheet to help set up, serve, and clean up, as well as a sheet to donate baked goods. Registration for the day will begin at **8:30 AM** with the rally beginning at **9:00 AM** and concluding at **Noon**. Those planning on attending are asked to bring non-perishable food items or cash as a donation for the Trinity food pantry. Donations will also be taken at registration for rally expenses (i.e. speaker, food, etc.). After the presentation, a donation box will be provided for gifts to Nepal. If you would like more information about this rally, please speak with **Becky Schulz**.

WELS/ELS SINGLES GROUP OUTING: All singles (divorced, widowed, or never married) in our congregation are invited to attend the WELS/ELS Singles Group outing at **Pike Lake, Hartford**, on **Saturday, October 16**, at **1:30 PM**. They will be meeting in the beach parking lot and then going hiking in the area. This is a great opportunity to socialize, make friends, and enjoy fellowship with other singles who share your faith. The group has members ranging in age from 18 – 65+. The group is also associated with <https://www.luthersinglesonline.com>. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact **Rachel Fritz** at rachelfritz@yahoo.com or (515) 778-1374.

WE THANK the students in Gr. 3-4 for their wonderful song on Sunday!

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 28; Sunday: 170

Offerings: \$5,361.70

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$6,661.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$120.00; Missions: \$727.00

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday: Communion Worship Service 9:00 AM
WLA Presentation – Immediately following service
Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School 10:30 AM

Thursday: Worship Service 7:00 PM

Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 AM
Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School 10:30 AM