

# MISSION FESTIVAL (Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost)

September 23 & 26, 2021

## *Seeking the Lost Right Around Us*

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**Opening Hymn** .....573, “Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying”

**Order of Service**..... Service of the Word, Page 38

**Prayer of the Day:** Heavenly Father, use us in your harvest field, which has so few workers, so that many more may be brought into your kingdom through the knowledge of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### FIRST LESSON

**Psalm of the Day**.....Psalm 67 (page 91)

### SECOND LESSON

**Verse of the Day:** Alleluia, Alleluia. *I will make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.* Alleluia.

**Response to the Verse**..... Page 40

### GOSPEL LESSON

**Hymn of the Day** ..... 561, “Lord, Speak to Us that We May Speak”

**(Thursday): SERMON** ..... True Greatness in God’s Kingdom Mark 9:30-37

**(Sunday): SERMON** ..... The “Other” Sheep Luke 15:1-7

**Apostles’ Creed**..... Page 41

**Hymn** ..... 560, “I Hear the Savior Calling”

**Closing Liturgy**..... Page 43

**Closing Hymn** ..... 562, “I Love to Tell the Story”

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## FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 31:10-14

God promises to restore his people – leading them as a shepherd.

*Hear the word of the LORD, you nations. Declare it in the distant islands. Say that he who scattered Israel will gather him and watch over him like a shepherd watching his flock. For the LORD will ransom Jacob and redeem him from the hand of the one who is stronger than him. They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion, and they will rejoice in the goodness of the LORD, for the grain, the new wine, the oil, and the young of the flocks and herds. Their lives will thrive like a well-watered garden. They will not grow weak anymore. Then the virgin will rejoice and dance. The young men and the old will be glad together, for I will turn their mourning into joy. I will comfort them and give them joy instead of sorrow. I will satisfy the priests with abundance, and my people will be filled with my goodness, declares the LORD.*

## SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 3:13-22

We are ready to share the truth and faith we know.

*Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you should happen to suffer because of righteousness, you are blessed. Do not be afraid of what they fear, and do not be troubled. But regard the Lord, the Christ, as holy in your hearts. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you. But speak with gentleness and respect, while maintaining a clear conscience, so that those who attack your good way of life in Christ may be put to shame because they slandered you as evildoers.*

*Indeed, it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil, because Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive in spirit, in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God’s patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.*

## GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 15:1-7 (Sunday – Sermon Text)

Jesus uses a flock of sheep to show us how important it is to reach others.

*All the tax collectors and sinners were coming to Jesus to hear him. But the Pharisees and the experts in the law were complaining, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” He told them this parable: “Which one of you, if you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that was lost until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls together his friends and his neighbors, telling them, ‘Rejoice with me, because I have found my lost sheep!’ I tell you, in the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who do not need to repent.*

## SERMON TEXT: Mark 9:30-37 (Thursday)

*They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know this, because he was teaching his disciples. He told them, “The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him. But three days after he is killed, he will rise.” But they did not understand the statement and were afraid to ask him about it.*

*They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they remained silent, because on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. Jesus sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, he will be the last of all and the servant of all.” Then he took a little child and placed him in their midst. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me, welcomes not just me but also him who sent me.”*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HEAD USHERS:** Ross Schultz/Wayne Schultz.; next Sunday: Mike Pamperin/Dean Ebert.

**WE THANK** Pastor Tim Flunker, who serves as the WELS Board for Home Missions Hispanic Outreach Consultant, for sharing God's message with us on Sunday!

Pastor Flunker will also be providing us with a Power Point presentation immediately following our worship service on Sunday entitled, *Corderos Hispanos (Hispanic Sheep)*. The Service Group will be providing/serving "finger foods" prior to the presentation. All are invited and encouraged to stay for this presentation and the refreshments!

**WE ALSO THANK** the students of St. Matthew's Lutheran School (Gr. 5K-8) for beautifying our Mission Festival service with their song!

**MISSION INFORMATION HANDOUTS:** There is a wealth of mission information in the form of brochures, postcards, and booklets which you can find on the small table at the back of church. Please feel free to take whatever handouts you would like so that you can read them at your leisure. You are free to keep whatever you take with you.

**ORGANISTS!!** The **October** schedule is hanging on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please look at your calendars in the near future and sign up for the date(s) you are willing to play for us. Thank you!

**LWMS FREE-WILL OFFERING:** We thank everyone who donated to our LWMS free-will offering last week. A total of **\$298.00** was collected.

**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**.

**WLA PRESENTATION:** Next **Thursday (9/30)** and **Sunday (10/3)** Matt Schmitz, a member of WLA's *Campaign Cabinet*, will be speaking to us immediately following the worship services to give an update on WLA's building plans for the future.

**ST. MATTHEW'S HISTORICAL RECORDS:** We have obtained a few boxes of historical information that was compiled by Judy Reisetter over a number of years. If there is anyone who is interested in viewing this or would like to store it for reference, please speak with Pastor Mose today. Thank you!

## OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

**Attendance:** Thursday: 23; Sunday: 105

**Offerings:** \$6,025.00

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

**Special Funds:** Debt Retirement: \$20.00; Undesignated Memorial (Debt Retirement): \$50.00; Mission Festival: \$30.00

**Memorials:** In Memory of Millie Gnerlich: \$50.00 (*Undesignated*)

## OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday: **MISSION FESTIVAL** ..... 9:00 AM  
*Presentation/Refreshments to immediately follow service*

Thursday: Communion Worship Service ..... 7:00 PM  
**SCRIP ORDERS DUE**

Sunday: Communion Worship Service ..... 9:00 AM  
Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School..... 10:15 AM