

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 19 & 22, 2024

## Followers of Christ Are Humble Servants

Opening Hymn .....767, “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us”

Order of Service.....Setting One, Page 154

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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### FIRST READING

Psalm of the Day (*On Insert*).....Psalm 33B v. 1

### SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation .....Page 161

Gospel Acclamation Verse: *Anyone who wants to \*/ be first must be the very last, and the ser \*/ vant of all.*

### GOSPEL

Hymn of the Day ..... 737, “Lord, Let Us Walk Your Servant Way”

SERMON ..... “True Greatness in God’s Kingdom” Mark 9:30-37

Offering Hymn..... 750 v. 2, “We Give Thee but Thine Own”

Apostles’ Creed .....Page 163

Hymn.....766, “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

Closing Liturgy .....Page 171

Closing Hymn .....617, “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

## FIRST READING: Numbers 12:1-15

**The pride of Aaron, the high priest, and Miriam, a prophetess, led them to badmouth humble Moses and belittle Moses’ wife, simply for being of another race.**

*Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman he had married (for he had married a Cushite woman). They said, “Has the Lord really spoken only through Moses? Hasn’t he also spoken through us?” The Lord heard this. (Now the man Moses was very humble, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.) Right then the Lord spoke suddenly to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, “You three come out to the Tent of Meeting!” The three of them came out. The Lord came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance to the tent. He called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came forward. He said, “Now listen to my words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, will make myself known to him in a vision. In a dream I will speak with him. Not so, however, with my servant Moses. He is faithful in my whole household. With him I speak face-to-face, clearly, and not in riddles. He sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant, against Moses?” The Lord’s anger burned against them, and he left. The cloud went up from above the tent, and immediately Miriam was leprous, as white as snow. Aaron turned to Miriam and saw that she was leprous. Aaron said to Moses, “My lord, please do not*

*hold this sin against us. We have acted foolishly. We have sinned. Please do not let her be like a stillborn infant that comes out of its mother’s womb with its flesh half-eaten away.” Moses cried out to the Lord, “God, please heal her, please!” The Lord said to Moses, “If her father had merely spit in her face, would she not be disgraced for seven days? Have her confined outside of the camp for seven days, and after that she can be brought back in.” Miriam was confined outside of the camp for seven days, and the people did not set out until Miriam was brought back in.*

## SECOND READING: James 3:3-18

**St. James teaches that ambitiously pursuing greatness is not just prideful but also demonic. True greatness in Jesus’ kingdom is acting toward others in ways that are humble.**

*If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they will obey us, we also guide the whole animal. And consider ships: Although they are very big and are driven by fierce winds, yet they are guided by a very small rudder, wherever the pilot wants to go. So also the tongue is a small part of the body, yet it also boasts great things. Consider how a little flame can set a large forest on fire! And the tongue is a fire. It is set among the parts of our body as a world of unrighteousness that stains the whole body, sets the whole course of life on fire, and is set on fire by hell. Indeed, every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and sea creature is being tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But no one is able to tame the human tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people, who are made in the likeness of God. Blessing and cursing come out of the same mouth. My brothers, these things should not be this way. A spring does not pour out both fresh and bitter water from the same opening, does it? Can a fig tree bear olives, my brothers, or can a grapevine produce figs? A salt spring cannot produce fresh water either. Who among you is wise and intelligent? Let him by his good way of living show that he does things in wise humility. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not boast and lie, contrary to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but it is worldly, unspiritual, and demonic. In fact, where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and every bad practice. But the wisdom that comes from above is first pure, then also peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who practice peace.*

## GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

**The greatest in Jesus’ kingdom is the one humble enough to gladly serve a little child who could not possibly repay that favor.**

*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: Ronald Knueppel/Randy Sellnow

**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!

**SPECIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING!** All church council members are reminded of the special meeting which is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 25**, at **7:00 PM**. This is an important meeting as district representatives will be on hand to discuss our call for a new Pastor due to Pastor Mose's upcoming retirement in June 2025. We urge all council members to be present! If any congregational members have any thoughts about this call, please feel free to speak with a council member ahead of this meeting.

**MISSION FESTIVAL:** This year's Mission Festival worship service is set for next **Sunday, September 29**, at **9:00 AM**. Pastor Philip Birner, who was a former pastor here at St. Matthew's and who recently returned from his missionary work in Zambia, Africa, will be our guest speaker. All our school children will be singing at this service. There will also be a presentation following the worship service. The Service Group will be serving light refreshments/finger foods prior to the presentation. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this special worship service and presentation.

If you are unable to attend our Mission Festival service, there will still be our regular Thursday evening worship service on **Thursday, September 26**, at **7:00 PM**. However, Pastor Birner will not be preaching at this service. It is likely a video will be shown that evening instead.

**MISSION FEST OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Please note that there are TWO envelopes you are encouraged to use from your envelope packets for Mission Fest. The first is the usual WHITE church budgetary envelope. The second is a special RED Mission Festival envelope. Any amounts placed in the RED envelope will go directly to help support mission efforts rather than to our church budget.

**LWMS FREE-WILL OFFERING:** We thank everyone who donated to our LWMS free-will offering last week. A total of **\$275.00** was collected.

**DODGE/WASHINGTON FALL MISSION RALLY:** This year's fall mission rally will be held on **Saturday, October 5, 2024**, at **Peace Lutheran Church, Hartford**. It will be co-hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church, Huilsburg, and Zion Lutheran Church, Theresa. The guest speakers will be Tim, Jessica, and Josh Payne of Newburg, WI. They will be informing us about their recent trip to Zambia, Africa, with the Vulnerable Children's Foundation. A sign-up sheet to attend is posted on the LWMS bulletin board in the hallway by Mr. Lorge's classroom. Registration for the day will begin at **8:30 AM**. The rally will run until **12:30 PM**. Mid-morning refreshments will be served. Non-perishable food items and monetary donations will be taken at registration for the local food pantry and the Working Fund.

**WLA – HOT LUNCH:** St. Matthew's has been assigned the week of **September 30 – October 4** to help serve hot lunch at WLA. The hours of service are from **9:30 AM – 1:30 PM**. If this is something you would be willing to do, please sign up on the sheet hanging on the church bulletin board. If you would like more information about helping, please contact **Wayne Schultz (920-948-1978)**. Thank you!

**AREA LUTHERAN GIRL PIONEERS OPPORTUNITY:** Lutheran Girl Pioneers (LGP) is a Christ-centered youth ministry for girls. LGP strives to help each girl become a happy, confident, and useful member of her church, school, home, and community. It is LGP's goal to help them realize the joy of a Christ-centered life. A new chapter for our area churches is beginning at **St. John's, Lomira**. On **September 24**, we will have a sign up for girls K-8. It will be from **3:15-4:00 PM**. Registration fees will be due. The cost is **\$20 per girl**. If you have any questions, or would like information for your family but are unable to attend, please contact Pastor Matthew Kiecker at [pastor@stjohnslomira.com](mailto:pastor@stjohnslomira.com) and he will connect you with the leaders.

## OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

**Attendance:** Thursday: 15; Sunday: 98

**Offerings:** \$4,479.50

*(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$7,355.00)*

**Special Funds:** Debt Retirement: \$25.00



*We invite you to support this ministry through financial offerings out of thanksgiving for the Gospel you have received here. Offerings may be placed in the plates located on the tables at the back of church, or you may scan the QR code to give electronically.*

## OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

|            |  |                |
|------------|--|----------------|
| Sunday:    | Worship Service .....  | 9:00 AM        |
|            | Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School .....                   | 10:15 AM       |
| Wednesday: | <b>Church Council Meeting</b> .....                            | <b>7:00 PM</b> |
| Thursday:  | Worship Service .....  | 7:00 PM        |
| Sunday:    | <b>MISSION FESTIVAL</b> .....                                  | 9:00 AM        |
|            | <i>Presentation/Refreshments to immediately follow service</i> |                |

**33B Rejoice, You Righteous, in the LORD.....Psalm 33B st. 1**

1 Re - joice, you right-eous, in the LORD, in song your  
voic - es raise; a - wake the psal - ter - y and harp, lift  
up God's name in praise! For by God's word the  
heav'ns were hung; God laid the sea and land, and all that  
fills the fir - ma - ment was made at God's com - mand.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of five staves of music in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a '1' indicating the start of the first line. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values and rests. The lyrics are: '1 Re - joice, you right-eous, in the LORD, in song your voic - es raise; a - wake the psal - ter - y and harp, lift up God's name in praise! For by God's word the heav'ns were hung; God laid the sea and land, and all that fills the fir - ma - ment was made at God's com - mand.'

Text: Michael Morgan

Tune: Gesang-Buch HerzoglHofkapelle, Württemberg, 1784

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