

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

WWW.STMATTHEWSVA.ORG

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Sep 26, 2021

INTRODUCTION

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Adagio on tune 'NETTLETON'

arr. Mark Thewes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

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

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



St. Matthew's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

12351 All Saints Place
Woodbridge, VA 22192
(703) 494-3090

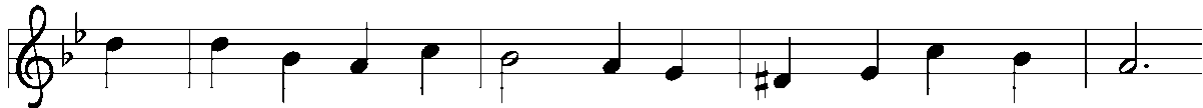
Please stand



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease,
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: I.L. ANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Please stand, sit, or kneel for Confession. Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our comforter:

C: 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.

P: 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.**

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... 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.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

~ Please share a sign of peace with those around you

Please be seated

FIRST READING

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

The first reading is from the book of Numbers, the eleventh chapter...

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So 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? Did 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'? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If 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."

So 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."

So 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. Then 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.

Two 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. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But 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 (*Read responsively*)

Psalm 19:7-14

A: The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**C: The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

A: The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

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

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

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

A: Above 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.

**C: 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

The second reading is from the book of James, the fifth chapter...

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are 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. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. 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. Elijah 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. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you 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

Please stand

ACS Setting 12



THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-50

*The holy Gospel, according to Mark, the 9th chapter... **Glory to you, O Lord.***

John 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." But 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. Whoever is not against us is for us. For 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.

"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. If 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. And 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. And 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, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt 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.”

Holy wisdom, Holy Word. Praise to you O Christ!

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Eileen Goldschmidt

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

ELW 719

Please stand (see insert)

THE APOSTLE’S 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *(Please stand, sit, or kneel for the prayers.)*

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

A brief silence.

A: 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.**

A: 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.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. We lift up those of our congregation in need of your healing presence, especially...

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: musicians, readers, acolytes, and ushers. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: 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. *Please be seated*

OFFERING We give thanks to God by offering the gifts we have been given for the sake of the world. In lieu of passing the offering plate, we invite you to place your donations in the plate as you leave the sanctuary, or donate online at stmatthewsva.org/give. Your offerings go toward the mission of the church, and allow us to respond to the needs in our congregation and community.

OFFERTORY

Thy Word

Arr. Schrader
Senior choir

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray... 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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ~Spoken (Please stand)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: As we gather with our friends and neighbors, as we are members of one Body in every time and place, we lift our voices singing of your love:

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: Steadfast love is who you are, God of Compassion, and this love is made flesh in Jesus, your child. Though we struggle to follow, Jesus is the guide to our hearts. He is the Bread which can feed our deep-down longings. Even though we sometimes resist drinking from the fountain, he is the living water which can quench our thirsts. Even though we are convinced we can do it ourselves, he is the one who gives himself up to sin and death, defeating forever their power over us.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

C: Do this in remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

C: Do this in remembrance of me.

P: Send your Spirit, O God. As we feast on the Bread of life, may its lavish grace fill our hearts. As we drink from the cup, may we be transformed by its peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

COMMUNION *(Please be seated.) All who believe Jesus is present in this sacrament are invited to receive the bread and wine. In lieu of coming forward to the chancel to receive communion, please remain seated and receive communion from your pew. Know that if you only take the bread that you have fully communed. Whether you are receiving communion at in-person worship or if you are receiving communion at home, we extend to you: The body of Christ given for you. And the blood of Christ shed for you.*

LAMB OF GOD

ACS Setting 12



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: 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.**

BENEDICTION

P: 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.**

SENDING HYMN

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

ELW 843

Please stand (see insert)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Be the living word that dwells in you.

C: Thanks be to God, and we will!

PIANO POSTLUDE*

NETTLETON

arr. Joseph M. Martin

**During the postlude, you are invited to exit the sanctuary or sit and enjoy the musical offering.*

The Sending Hymn for worship today is based on the early American folk tune 'NETTLETON'. Also featured in the Prelude and Postlude, the tune has a lively dance quality that has inspired many arrangers and poets.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Ministers: ALL the People of St. Matthew's

Interim Pastor: Rev. Kirsten Laderach

Music/Choir Director: Kathy Lundgren

Organist: Melvin Goodwyn

Administrator: Nancy Zimmerman

Communications Coordinator: Evoke Experts

Ushers:

Lector: Pat Hartline

Tech Volunteers: Jeremy Wise, Joyce Forbes & Steve Payne, Zoey Wise

kladerach@stmatthewsva.org

klundgren@stmatthewsva.org

mmgoodwyn@gmail.com

stmatthews@stmatthewsva.org

communications@stmatthewsva.org

The eternal candle for the month of September is sponsored by the Bortner Families in celebration of St Matthew's Day School and all it has meant to our church and community over so many years.

The altar flowers today are sponsored by the Kathy Brown in loving memory of Ted Bean.

For announcements and upcoming events, please go to our website at
www.stmatthewsva.org

Texts and music of liturgy: Copyright Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB130973; Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-723531. All rights reserved. CCLI Copyright License 20449972 Size B and CCLI Active Streaming License 20449989 Size B. All rights reserved.

Liturgy adapted from writings by Thom Shumer and liturgies from "Sundays and Seasons".