



# ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proclaiming the Love of God for All People

ELW Setting 4

Sunday, September 29, 2024

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The hymn numbers for today's service: #532 #557 #691 #808

## PRELUDE

(\*Please stand as you are able)

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

## \*GATHERING HYMN *Gather Us In* (ELW 532)

## \*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Assisting minister*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

*All*



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: 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: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22**

*Queen Esther saves her people, the Jews, from the murderous schemes of Haman, advisor to the Persian king, her husband. The Jews celebrate the feast of Purim to commemorate this victory over their enemies.*

<sup>1</sup>[King Ahasuerus] and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther.<sup>2</sup>On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." <sup>3</sup>Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. <sup>4</sup>For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." <sup>5</sup>Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" <sup>6</sup>Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. <sup>7</sup>Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." <sup>10</sup>So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. <sup>9:20</sup>Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, <sup>21</sup>enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, <sup>22</sup>as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 124**

<sup>1</sup>If the Lord had not been on our side, let Israel now say;

**<sup>2</sup>if the Lord had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us,**

<sup>3</sup>then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;

**<sup>4</sup>then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;**

<sup>5</sup>then would the raging waters have gone right over us.

**<sup>6</sup>Blessed be the Lord who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

<sup>7</sup>We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

**<sup>8</sup>Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.**

### **SECOND READING: James 5:13-20**

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

<sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. <sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup>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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*GOSPEL Mark 9:38-50**

The holy gospel according to St. Mark. **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.*

<sup>38</sup>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." <sup>39</sup>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. <sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>"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. <sup>43</sup>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. <sup>45</sup>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. <sup>47</sup>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, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.<sup>49</sup>"For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>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."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

VICAR TRENT ORMSBEE-HALE

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun* (ELW 557)**

**\*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.**

## \*PRAYERS

A: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence*

For each petition: Hear us, O God. **Walk with us.**

P. We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**\*PEACE** The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## CHOIR ANTHEM *I Trust in the Lord* by Joseph Martin

**\*PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS** *Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring* (ELW 691) v.1

## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. Blessed are you, O God, **source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

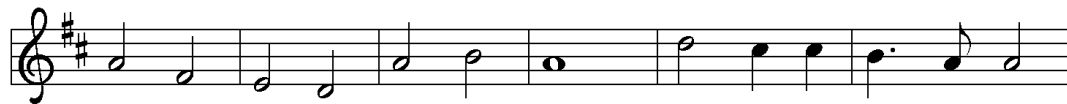
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up our hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

## \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. **Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION MEDITATION *Be Thou My Vision* arr. by Sandra Eithun    Sounds of Exaltation

### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### \*BENEDICTION

\*SENDING HYMN *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song (ELW 808)* vv. 1 & 2

\*DISMISSAL Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *I Love to Tell the Story* by Bill Ingram

Sounds of Exaltation

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### Serving in Worship

#### Today, September 29<sup>th</sup>

**Presiding Minister:** Vicar Trent Ormsbee-Hale  
**Assisting Minister:** Steve Weis  
**Music Director:** Adam Frame  
**Organist/Pianist:** John Wolf  
**Lector:** Joanne Gustafson  
**Chancel Care:** Nancy Teigen  
**Ushers:** Peyton Frame  
**Videographer:** Jeff Manthei  
**Counters:** Marcia Bogs & Renee Hill

#### Next Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Pastor Lesley Radius  
Adam Frame  
Adam Frame  
John Wolf  
Faye Youngblood  
Nancy Teigen  
Peyton Frame  
Jeff Manthei  
Marcia Boggs & F. Youngblood

*We welcome all today and are thankful you have chosen to participate in this service as you are able. We pray you are blessed by what you experience. If you have any spiritual needs or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Lesley at [pastor@stmatthews-elca.org](mailto:pastor@stmatthews-elca.org) or call 817-292-1338. This service includes communion; if you are worshipping online, please have bread or crackers and wine or juice available to participate in the Eucharist.*

### THIS WEEK WITH ST. MATTHEW'S

#### Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>

9:15 am Adult Sunday School  
9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher  
10:45 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Ages 3-12  
11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's  
4:00 pm Wedgwood Arts Blue Bird String Quartet

#### Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>

8:30 am Fellowship Breakfast Dixie House Cafe Hulen  
11:00 am Yoga Class

#### Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>

6:30 pm This is My Story: Storytelling Workshop on Zoom

**Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**

**5:00 pm First Friday Game Night & Potluck**

**Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 am-11:00 am Pet Blessing with St. Christopher and Faith**

**Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

**9:15 am Adult Sunday School**

**9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher**

**10:45 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Ages 3-12**

**11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's**

**Wedgwood Arts** We are excited to kick off the newest season of Wedgwood Arts for 2024-25 **TODAY, September 29<sup>th</sup> @4:00 p.m.** Ft. Worth's Blue Bird String Quartet will be with us in concert. Comprised of violinists Katie Omundson and Mark Sanchez, violist Abigail Jennings, and cellist Travis Calvert, the Bluebird Quartet was formed in 2021 by musicians from the Fort Worth area community orchestras who were drawn together during the pandemic by a mutual love of playing chamber music. The quartet has studied with Misha Galaganov and Juliette Herlin at Texas Christian University and attended Heartland Chamber Festival in Kansas City. Recent performances include concerts at TCU's PepsiCo Recital Hall and the new Van Cliburn Concert Hall. Named for a traditional symbol of happiness, the Bluebird Quartet is an emerging voice in the North Texas musical landscape.



**Friday Night Game Nights** Beginning in October, the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month will be Friday Night Fun and Game Night. Join us from 5-8 pm on **October 4<sup>th</sup>**. This is open to all ages! Games will be provided; you may also bring your own. Bring a snack to share if you would like.

**Pet Blessing** St. Matthew's & St. Christopher's & Faith Blessing of the Animals will be **Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> 10-11 am**. Please bring your pet of any kind for a special time of prayer and blessing.

**Legacy Luncheon** All are invited to stay for a special luncheon after worship on Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup>. Morgan Schmidlin, CGPA gift planner for the NT-NL and Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will be with be presenting ways for your legacy to live on for years to come.

**Trunk or Treat** Trunk or Treat and mini fall Festival is coming! This church and community event will be **Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup> 5-7 pm**. Jon us for candy, arts and crafts, hot dogs, drinks and more. A sign-up sheet to sponsor a trunk is now in the narthex. Please sign up!

**We Pray For:**

**Craig Bridges**  
**George Wiederaenders**  
**Pattie Brunnert**  
**Caleb Roberts**  
Friend of Ferrol Miller & The Gustafsons  
**Nicholas Kammer**

**We Pray For:**

**Thara Bonebreak**  
Aunt of Anne Moroneso  
**Annie Breakspear**  
Daughter-in-law of Pauline Christensen  
**Rose Marie Schweitzer**

**UPCOMING EVENTS (More details to follow, but please reserve these dates now)**

**September 29<sup>th</sup>** Wedgwood Arts Bluebird String Quartet 4 pm

**October 1<sup>st</sup>** Yoga Class every Tuesday 11am

**October 1<sup>st</sup>** Fellowship Breakfast Dixie House Cafe Hulen 8:30 am

**October 4<sup>th</sup>** Friday Night Game Night 5-8 pm

**October 5<sup>th</sup>** Pet Blessing 10-11 am

**October 20<sup>th</sup>** Legacy Presentation and Luncheon

**October 20<sup>th</sup>** Wedgwood Arts presents Larissa & Eugene Cherkasov in Concert

**October 26<sup>th</sup>** Trunk or Treat 5-7 pm

**ST. MATTHEW'S MISSION STATEMENT**

**Living in Christ through faith. Living for neighbor through love.**

***We are Reconciling in Christ, welcoming to all!***

Rev. Lesley M. Radius [pastor@stmatthews-elca.org](mailto:pastor@stmatthews-elca.org)

5709 Wedgwood Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76133

817-292-1338 [office@stmatthews-elca.org](mailto:office@stmatthews-elca.org) [www.stmatthews-elca.org](http://www.stmatthews-elca.org)



## Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath - er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name,  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song,  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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## Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy  
 2 All praise to thee, who safe hast kept and  
 3 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new. Dis -  
 4 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all  
 5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and  
 hast re - freshed me while I slept. Grant, Lord, when I from  
 perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of  
 I de - sign or do or say, that all my pow'rs, with  
 God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.  
 thought and will; and with thy - self my spir - it fill.  
 all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.  
 heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.  
 Music: MORNING HYMN, François H. Barthélemon, 1741-1808

## Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.  
 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.  
 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
 What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
 Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

## Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*  
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,*  
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you,  
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears,  
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



*car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour;*  
you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love.



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.*  
Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.  
Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.