



**UNITED PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL:  
LIGHT OF CHRIST  
ST. JOHN'S WINDISH  
ST. PETER'S**

***18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

***HOLY COMMUNION***

***SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021***

***4:45 pm - St. Peter's Lutheran Church In-person and  
Livestream***

***SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021***

***8 am - Light of Christ Lutheran Church***

***10:30 am – Light of Christ Lutheran Church***

*The Rev. Mike Button, Interim Pastor*

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*The Rev. Suzanne M. Trump, Pastor of SJW*

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*Ministers: All Members of the Parish*

***CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT OUR WORSHIP***

## **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.*

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**WELCOME: Pr. Suzanne**

**PRELUDE: When Morning Gilds the Skies - arr. Hobby**

*The assembly stands as able.*

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

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**C: Amen.**

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

**C: Amen**

## **GATHERING SONG**

***When Morning Gilds the Skies***

***(ELW 853)***

*1 When morning gilds the skies,  
my heart awaking cries:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
When evening shadows fall,  
this rings my curfew call:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!*

2 When mirth for music longs,  
this is my song of songs:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
God's holy house of prayer  
has none that can compare  
with "Jesus Christ be praised!"

3 No lovelier antiphon  
in all high heav'n is known  
than "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
There to the eternal Word  
the eternal psalm is heard:  
oh, Jesus Christ be praised!

4 Let all of humankind  
in this their concord find:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let all the earth around  
ring joyous with the sound:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

5 Sing, sun and stars of space,  
sing, all who see his face,  
sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
God's whole creation o'er,  
today and evermore  
shall Jesus Christ be praised!

### **GREETING**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*A: 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.*

**C: Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

### **~~~~~THE WORD~~~~~**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29**

*What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this*

reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

A: A reading from Numbers:

<sup>4</sup>The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat!" <sup>5</sup>We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; <sup>6</sup>but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at." <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>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? <sup>12</sup>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?' <sup>13</sup>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!' <sup>14</sup>I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup>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." <sup>16</sup>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." <sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." <sup>28</sup>And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" <sup>29</sup>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!"

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 19:7-14 (read responsively)**

A: <sup>7</sup>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: <sup>8</sup>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: <sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;

*the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.*

**C:** <sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

A: <sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**C:** <sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

A: <sup>13</sup>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:** <sup>14</sup>**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**

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

A: A reading from James:

<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.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Children's Chat: Pr. Suzanne**

*The assembly stands as able.*

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-50**

*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.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9<sup>TH</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

<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."

*P: The gospel of the lord.*

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON: PR. SUZANNE**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*The assembly stands as able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

**Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life**

**(ELW 719)**

*1 Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife,  
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.*

*2 In haunts of wretchedness and need,  
on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,  
from paths where hide the lures of greed,  
we catch the vision of your tears.*

*3 From tender childhood's helplessness,  
from human grief and burdened toil,  
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,  
your heart has never known recoil.*

*4 The cup of water giv'n for you  
still holds the freshness of your grace;*

*yet long these multitudes to view  
the strong compassion in your face.*

*5 O Master, from the mountainside  
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
among these restless throngs abide;  
oh, tread the city's streets again;*

*6 Till all the world shall learn your love,  
and follow where your feet have trod;  
till glorious from your heav'n above  
shall come the city of our God.*

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

***C: 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 INTERCESSION**

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

*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,*

***C: hear our prayer.***

*A: We pray for natural wonders of your creation (local waterways, forests, and natural areas may be named). Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. Lord, in your mercy,*

***C: 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,*

***C: 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. Lord, in your mercy,*

***C: hear our prayer.***

*A: We pray for the worship leaders of these congregations: musicians, readers,*

*acolytes, assisting ministers, and ushers. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C: 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,*

**C: hear our prayer.**

*A: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**C: Amen.**

## **PEACE**

*P: The peace of Christ be with you always.*

**C: And also with you.**

## **~~~~~THE MEAL~~~~~**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*The assembly stands as able.*

## **OFFERING**

### **Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.*

*Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.*

*Gather the hopes and dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer.*

*Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*A: 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.*

**C: Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Prepare your communion elements*

## **DIALOGUE**

*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.**

### **PREFACE**

*P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*P: Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.*

*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. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*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. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast. By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.*

**C: Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

*P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

**C: 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.**

**~ ~ ~ COMMUNION ~ ~ ~**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

*The assembly is seated.*

*The body of Christ, given for you.*

*The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

*and each person may respond "Amen."*

**COMMUNION SONG**

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.***

**ADDITIONAL COMMUNION HYMNS:**

*Come, Let Us Eat (ELW 491)*

*Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (ELW 800)*

*Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (ELW 712)*

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past (ELW 632)*

*Please take note: If you are abstaining from receiving Holy Communion, please utilize this time of silence to share the following prayer.*

***C: I believe that You are truly present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. I always desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim Your resurrection. I love You above all things, and long for You in my soul.***

***Since I cannot receive You in the sacrament of Your Body and Blood, I implore You to come into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with Your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from You. May I live in You and You in me, in this life and in the life that is to come. Amen.***

Based on a prayer from: *The Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988)*

*The assembly stands as able*

**TABLE BLESSING**

*P: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

**C: Amen**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*A: 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.*

**C: Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**~::~THE SENDING~::~**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**BLESSING**

*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.*

**C: Amen**

**SENDING SONG:**

**To Be Your Presence**

**(ELW 546)**

*1 To be your presence is our mission here,  
to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,  
to be your heart of mercy ever near,  
alleluia!*

*2 To be your presence is our mission bold,  
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,  
to be your hands of justice, right uphold,  
alleluia!*

*3 To be your presence is our mission blest,  
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,  
to be your voice of hope, your love expressed,  
alleluia!*

*4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,  
to serve your people is our call and choice,  
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice,  
alleluia!*

**DISMISSAL**

*A: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: To Be Your Presence - arr. Wood**

**GOSPEL MESSAGE: What to Leave Behind**

*If you were stranded on a desert island, what five items would you want to have with you? Or if you only had a minute to grab one possession before leaving the rest behind, what would you take? These kinds of thought experiments invite us to clarify what's most important to us while reminding us that, frankly, we have a lot of things we could probably do without.*

*In today's gospel, Jesus challenges us to take a similar look at ourselves. What parts of ourselves do we need to leave behind as we follow Christ? Maybe it's our perfectionism or our need for control. Maybe it's our desire to escape through addictions or distractions. Maybe it's our harsh judgments about ourselves or others or a broken image of ourselves. Whatever our stumbling block is, Jesus calls us to leave it behind.*

*Yet, the gruesomeness of Jesus' images—leaving behind body parts—suggests he understands that this isn't easy work. Often our most harmful patterns and behaviors are the hardest to leave behind, because in some way we brought them into our lives to protect us from what scared us the most about ourselves and the world around us. Jesus stands with us to give us courage to look at ourselves fully as we are. He looks at us not with judgment but with love and grace. He invites us to find in him a new source of comfort and security, to let go of our old selves and cling to him and to his cross.*

*When we take up this cross, Jesus will provide everything else that we need for the journey as his followers—strength and courage, endurance and patience, hope and love. Today in this Christian assembly, we walk through this journey together, encouraging one another with words of peace and feeding one another with Christ's own body and blood given for us.*

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