



# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 4, 2020  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church,  
Waukesha, WI

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## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*If You But Trust in God to Guide You*

Aaron David Miller

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Whatever gains I had,  
these I have come to regard as loss  
because of Christ.

*Phil. 3:7-8; Matt. 21:42*

**I regard everything as loss  
because of the surpassing value  
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.**

As the Scriptures promise:  
the stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.

**This is the Lord's doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes.**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Whatever good we may have done  
is nothing compared to the righteousness of Christ.  
Whatever wrong we may have done  
is nothing compared to the grace of God.  
With faith in Christ's righteousness  
and confidence in God's grace,  
let us confess our sin.

*Phil. 3:4b-9*

**Loving God, you have planted us  
like a vineyard on a fertile hill.  
You cleared away the stones,  
planted us with choice vines,  
and kept watch over us by night and day.  
But we have not yielded the good fruit  
that you expected or desired.  
We are overgrown with sin,  
choked with violence and injustice.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Uproot our evil, prune away our sin,  
and shower upon us the gift of your grace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Isa. 5:1-7*

Our salvation does not depend  
on anything we have done,  
but comes from the grace of God alone  
through faith in Jesus Christ.  
This is the good news:  
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Phil. 3:9*

## **GATHERING SONG**

*God the Sculptor of the Mountains*

Words: John Thornburg  
Music: Amanda Husberg

## **APOSTOLIC 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Isaiah 5:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL**

**Matthew 21:33-46**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the people:] <sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord’s doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

Pastor Bogie

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

Words: Samuel Crossman

Music: John Ireland

## **BAPTISM OF ADELYN RAE PETRIE**

## **PRESENTATION**

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God,...

...To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **BAPTISM**

Adelyn Rae, I baptize you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen. You Belong to Christ,  
in whom you have been baptized.  
Alleluia.**

## WELCOME

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ  
and into the mission we share.**

**Join us in giving thanks and praise to God  
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**Amen.**

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## MUSICAL OFFERING

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

Heather Sorenson

## COMMUNION

*Holy Communion will be brought to you. All who are baptized are welcome to receive  
Holy Communion, regardless of your church affiliation. Receive our crucified and  
resurrected Lord in the bread of this meal.*

*Gluten Free Bread is available from the server by request.*

## MEAL

### DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your 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.**

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, ... be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen**

### 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.**

## **COMMUNION**

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of the welcome table,... through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

Neither death, nor life... bless you and keep you in eternal love.

**Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

John Carter

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## **In Our Prayers...**

The Family of John Maile.

### **Special Prayers**

Sue S., Pete, Keegan, David, Karla, Adelyn, Kayla, John, Shane, Paul, Peg & Mark, Ada, Marlin, Tom, Helen, Gene, Pat, Matt, Sarah, Sharon, Chuck & Lynn, Mark, Dave, Pastor Christina, Phil, Danny, Rebecca, Brian, Corey, Joseph, Sandy, Harold, Miranda, Janet, Kathy, Judy, Donna, Wayne, Mike, Jerry, Graziano, Racer, Kathy, Scott, Diane, Patrick, Don, Paul, Kaitlyn, Dan, Lizanne, Jim, Dave, Sherry, Nelly, Ana Maria, Rachel, Bob, Gregg, Karen, Dawne, Bev, BJ, Betty, Kenzie, Mark, Marlene, Tom, Manny, Steve

## **General Prayers**

For the people and businesses of Kenosha, Portland and other cities where violence is happening; For peace and restraint in the midst of volatile situations; For those with COVID and those recovering from it; For the children of Tanzania who have returned to school, may they be safe; For strengthening our partnership with the Maroni Parish; For those who live alone; For all with chronic illness; For those coping with mental illness or addictions; For caregivers and medical personnel; For those who grieve; For those who have been or are being abused; For victims of racism and hatred; For all who struggle financially; For all in need of restored relationships; For all who have strayed from faith; For the needs of our partner churches in Tanzania to be met; For all who go hungry; For those without adequate medical care; For all those who are impacted by violence; For unity and peace.

## **For our partner churches of Meru Diocese in Tanzania**

For God's blessings on the partnership between Maroroni, Kilimamoja, and St. Luke's congregations. Prayers for the members of the Partnership Committee that God bless their leadership. For Pastor Nathan Makenge and interim Pastor Christina Kaaya and the ministry of the evangelists and Bishop Elias Kitoi. Prayers for the day-to-day activities of the parishes. For God's blessings upon Glory and Neema, the teachers of Maranatha Nursery School at Kilimamoja that opened in September. Prayers for the little learners and their families. For sufficient rain to grow crops needed for food and for solutions to the challenges of climate change. For economic welfare of the community and for the success of the Milling Machine at Maroroni. For a free and fair General Election to be held in Tanzania on October 28, 2020. For blessings on the outcome of Synod General Assembly held earlier September 19-22. For the Ministry of Children with Disabilities that Ascension is helping them to build at Samaria.

## **Current Prayers**

For firefighters and first responders to the fires in California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Colorado; For all impacted by the hurricanes, tornadoes and wildfires; For teachers, students and parents; For all in the path of forest fires; For all the residents and staff of the Samson house; For all to be assured that God is present in our lives; For unity and compassion, especially during this pandemic; For Missionaries and missions abroad; For small business owners and the self-employed; For shut-ins and the elderly; For all with compromised immune systems; For those who are ill; For those who living in fear; For all who are being bullied- especially children; For our Prayer Team; For all who are homeless, hungry and forgotten; For CLM families and staff.

## **Those in Military Service**

Daniel Krueger, Gary Bjerke, Jim Kieso Jr., Benjamin DeYoung, S. Kate Zelinger.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Baptized into Christ** this Sunday is Adelyn Rae Petrie, daughter of Kayla Petrie and Brandon Marks. Sponsors for Adelyn Rae are Lucas Walters, Kaitlyn Petrie, Alexis Copeland, and Nate Oldenborg.

**Sunday School & Discipleship Training** begins this Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. If your student has not yet registered, it isn't too late! For information, please visit our website located at [stlukeslutheran.org](http://stlukeslutheran.org). A link to online registration and lessons is on the right side of the page under "Spotlight". Please contact Pastor Bogie ([pastorsteve@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:pastorsteve@stlukeslutheran.org)) or Cari ([youth@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:youth@stlukeslutheran.org)) with any questions.

### **Our children and youth choirs go virtual this year!**

This year we will be meeting via Zoom with our choirs as it's not safe to be singing together in person yet. Joyful Noise (4 years-6<sup>th</sup> grade) will meet on Thursdays from 5:00-5:30 pm. Saints and Sinners (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) will meet on Thursdays from 7:00-7:30 pm. This time together will all happen on Zoom. We will sing, do rhythmic activities, and hear Bible stories during the 20-30 minutes each week. If you and your child are interested, please sign up on the church website, or contact Mr. Schaner by emailing him at [mschaner@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:mschaner@stlukeslutheran.org) or calling him in the church office. Rehearsals will start Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. This helps provide us with a way to stay connected and make music together, even when we cannot be gathered in person to safely sing together yet.

### **Milestones**

We're going back to the tradition of celebrating birthdays over 90 and anniversaries over 50 in the announcements. If you want to make sure that your special day is announced, please contact Jennifer in the office to make sure that your records are up to date. Our apologies to any milestones that were missed.

#### **Anniversaries**

September 4	Robert & Kathi Drain, 55 years
September 4	Ralph & Mary Klass,, 55 years
September 19	Martin & Linette Heis, 50 years
September 22	John & Shirley Johnson, 64 years
October 3	Dick & Jean Binner, 61 years
October 5	Don & Candy Grossman, 52 years

#### **Birthdays**

September 23	Norma Sherrer, 96 years
September 29	Ethel Weiss, 97 years

## **Unconscious Bias: Can We See Our Own Blind Spots?**

St. Luke's will be hosting virtual even featuring Reggie Jackson of Nurturing Diversity on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 9am-noon. Mr. Jackson is a speaker and author who specializes in sharing seldom-told stories and facts about African Americans and other people of color. The by Mr. Jackson on the 31<sup>st</sup> will take place via Zoom, and will explore stereotyping and racial inequality. Please watch Connections (our weekly email) for more details.

## **The Church Hasn't Closed**

Our building is closed, but the church remains open. The church is simply deployed – sent into the world to do ministry in the name of Jesus, our Lord. The building may be closed for worship, but worship continues. Weekly, we are the church and no matter what comes our way, we continue to follow Jesus wherever we are. So, the church isn't closed, even though our building is.

## **This Week at St. Luke's**

### **Sunday, October 4, 2020**

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship  
11:00 a.m. DT3, DT 7/8  
11:30 a.m. Executive Committee

### **Monday, October 5, 2020**

8:00 a.m. Amigos  
6:45 p.m. Al-Anon  
8:00 p.m. Women's AA

### **Wednesday, October 7, 2020**

9:30 a.m. Search Bible Study, virtual  
6:30 p.m. Governing Document Com

### **Thursday, October 8, 2020**

6:30 p.m. Women of Faith

### **Sunday, October 11, 2020**

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship  
11:00 a.m. DT 7/8

## **Serving this Weekend:**

**Presiding:** Pastor Jordan  
**Preaching:** Pastor Bogie  
**Music:** Michael Schaner  
**Ushers:** Kathy Fontaine  
Bob Franklin  
Kirby Paradies  
R.J. Hildebran

## GOSPEL MESSAGE

October 4, 2020

### Call to Confession

Throughout his ministry in Matthew's gospel, Jesus draws in people at the margins of society. As the leader of a reform movement, Jesus spoke as a Jew to fellow Jews. When we read these stories centuries later, we must remember that his intent was to condemn exclusion and abuses of power—*not* to reject Judaism. His critiques still ring true for the power structures of the religious institutions of our time.

Jesus' parables stirred people up, provoking questions, doubts, even hostility. When his listeners recognized themselves in the parables, it was rarely comforting or affirming. Do we have the honesty and vulnerability to see ourselves critically in the stories as the chief priests and Pharisees did?

There aren't any clear heroes in this story, as in any story of class warfare. Perhaps the tenants turned to violence out of frustration with the economic injustice of their situation. The Pharisees were quick to side with the powerful landowner, asserting his right to kill the tenants and crush their revolt, yet Jesus does not affirm this escalation either.

We begin worship with a prayer of confession, recalling the image of God's goodness in each of us and yet honestly admitting our shame and guilt. Today's parable also issues a call to confession, alluding to the vineyard of Isaiah 5, which yielded wild grapes instead of sweet. God has created a world that can provide abundant life for all. What are the fruits of our congregations? God's heart longs for justice for all people. How might we unintentionally and unknowingly cultivate the sour wine of exclusion, discrimination, and injustice?

In the prayer of the day, we ask: "Beloved God, . . . lead us . . . to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them." Empowered by God's grace and forgiveness, we set to work removing the blinders that keep us from recognizing ourselves in parables' antagonists and repenting of the injustices that we perpetuate.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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