



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 11, 2020

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

You have been called to the banquet.

This is the feast.

You have been summoned to the wedding.

This is the feast of life and light.

From the streets and the byways, God has invited us.

We have come to the banquet that has no end.

Alleluia! Amen!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us come before the throne of God, the mercy seat,
with all of our humanity, open to the peace of promised forgiveness.

You invite us to your feast, O God, and we do not come.

You beg us to give thanks for life, and we fail in our thanksgiving.

You have made for us a wonderful earth, and we neglect the gift.

Forgive us for what we have done and for abandoning the pathway you desire for us.

**Be our guide and conscience. Turn our feet and hands to your will,
that all we do might give glory to you. Amen.**

The God of peace, who calls all creation to live in unity, hears your plea.
In the spirit of feasting and thanksgiving, in the mercy of Almighty God, you are forgiven!
For the sake of Christ Jesus, our Savior, who died and rose from the dead
to destroy the shroud of despair, rejoice!

GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In

Marty Haugen

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

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

²For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I

have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business,⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless.¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jordan

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHRISTIAN

People of God, as members of the kingdom of God, as people who have been invited into God’s grace, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

1. To live among God’s faithful people
2. To be present at the reading and preaching of God’s word and the holy supper
3. To learn and embrace the Lord’s prayer, the creed and the ten commandments
4. To regularly read the holy scriptures
5. To live your faith and to pray

(from the baptismal service, ELW pg. 228)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

Guillermo Cuéllar

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.
Amen.

Use your Phone to give

Point your QR reader at this graphic to be directed to Omella to make an online gift.

Or visit



OFFERING

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.

EUCHARISTIC 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

In Our Prayers...

The Family of John Maile,

Special Prayers

Kaitlyn, Paul, Jennifer, Holly, Sue S., Pete, Keegan, David, 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, 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

Anniversaries

October 16 Chuck & Shirley Stern, 66 years

Birthdays

October 14 Anita Huntington, 90 years

Sunday School & Discipleship Training began this past Sunday, October 4th. If your student has not yet registered, it isn't too late! For information, please visit our website located at 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) or Cari (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-6th grade) will meet on Thursdays from 5:00-5:30 pm. Saints and Sinners (7th-12th 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 at the links below, or contact Mr. Schaner by emailing him at mschaner@stlukeslutheran.org or calling him in the church office. Rehearsals will start Thursday, October 15th. 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.

Joyful Noise (4 years old-6th grade): <https://stlukeslutheran.org/joyful-noise-registration-2020/>
Saints & Sinners (7th-12th grade): <https://stlukeslutheran.org/saints-sinners-registration/>

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 31st 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 webinar by Mr. Jackson on the 31st 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.

Outdoor Weather Decisions

While we continue to worship in the park, weather can always be an unknown each Sunday. From now on, if it is raining, the temperature is below 40, and/or the windchill is below 35 worship in the park will be cancelled and the service will be recorded. If you are not sure, please check our Facebook page and the church website. We will do our best to update the information as quickly as we can in addition to these new guidelines. We are thankful for the excellent weather we've had so far, allowing us to stay outside and continue to stay safe during this global pandemic.

This Week at St. Luke's

Sunday, October 11, 2020

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

Monday, October 12, 2020

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

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

9:30 a.m. Search Bible Study, virtual

Thursday, October 15, 2020

5:30 p.m. Stewardship
6:30 p.m. Women of Faith

Sunday, October 18, 2020

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

Serving this Weekend:

Presiding: Pastor Bogie
Preaching: Pastor Jordan
Music: Pastor Bogie & Pastor Jordan
Ushers: Kathy Fontaine
R.J. Hildebran
Sandy & Neal Buntrock

GOSPEL MESSAGE

October 11, 2020

Justice for All

As we try to make sense of today's unsettling parable, it helps to recall that it was told during the last week of Jesus' life, as the events leading to the crucifixion were already unfolding. The Jews gathered in Jerusalem were celebrating Passover, recalling how God had led them from slavery into freedom—and yet they were living under the oppressive thumb of the Roman occupation.

The wedding banquet of the parable, like the festival of Passover, takes place against a backdrop of exclusion, injustice, and escalating violence. The king of the parable who sends troops out to wage war on those who have spurned his invitation reminds one less of God, who leads us beside still waters, than of Lin-Manuel Miranda's King George III of Hamilton, who says, "I will kill your friends and family to remind you of my love."

And yet, to a people who are oppressed and calling on God to hold the powerful to account, it is indeed good news that God will not be silent and passive forever. It matters to God how we treat one another.

In the liturgy of Holy Baptism, we are asked three times to renounce sin and the devil and all the forces that defy God, rebel against God, and draw us away from God. This renunciation can feel awkward to a people steeped in grace, yet it is critical to recognize and name the fact that there are forces in this world that would pull us into complicity with systems that deny life and liberty to our neighbors.

The God of Matthew's parable is the same God of Psalm 23, the one who walks with us through the valley of the shadow of death. Jesus reminds us how passionately God resists the powers that deal in fear and death. Instead of claiming that God is on our side, we are invited to join God's side through our own dedication to justice for all of God's people.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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ANNOUNCING OUR ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Today, we announce the launch of the 2021 stewardship appeal, entitled *Sustaining Ministry Excellence*. This campaign will run through October and into November, culminating in Sustaining Ministry Excellence Sunday, November 8. In the weeks ahead, you will be hearing more about exciting ministry plans for 2021. There will be newsletter articles, mailers, temple talks, letters and an appeal brochure. These will inform you of our congregations mission plan for the coming year.

As part of this year's stewardship program, you will be invited to consider increasing your offering for the coming year. Increased offerings will do three things:

- 1) Sustain the excellent ministry already underway at St. Luke's;
- 2) Support online worship services through the hiring of a media specialist; and
- 3) Build a contemporary worship service.

Watch your mail for more information. Please keep our annual appeal in your prayers. Together we are on a mission we can fulfill!