**St. John’s & St. Peter’s**

## Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## ~ September 22, 2024 ~

**Gathering**

 **Prelude**

 **Welcome & Announcements**

**\* Confession & Forgiveness** WOV pg. 10

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

 ***C: Amen.***

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

 ***C: Amen.***

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

 P: Gracious God,

***C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

 ***C: Amen.***

***\** Entrance Hymn *“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”*** ELW #389

 Vs. 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands

 empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with

 praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

 Vs. 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant

 years in Palestine, but saving, healing,

 here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.

 Vs. 3 In ev'ry insult, rift and war, where color,

 scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet

 loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

 Vs. 4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the

 Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the

 life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

 Vs. 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to

 this and ev'ry age, till earth and sky and

 ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

**\* Greeting** *WOV pg. 28*

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.***

**\* Kyrie***WOV pg. 28*

 P: Kyrie eleison:

 ***C:Lord, have mercy.***

 P: Christe eleison:

 ***C:Christ, have mercy.***

 P: Kyrie eleison:

 ***C:Lord, have mercy.***

**\* Hymn of Praise** *WOV pg.29*

 Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

 Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

 Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

 Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

 Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

 Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone

are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

 Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

 Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth,

 And peace to God’s people on earth.

**\* Prayer of the Day**

 P: O God,

 ***C: our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us***

 ***as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish***

 ***ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and***

 ***understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior***

 ***and Lord. Amen.***

**Word**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20**

*Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.*

18It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. 19But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

20But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

**Psalm 54**

1Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

**2Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.**

3For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

**4Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life. God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

5Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

**6I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

7For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

 **God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

**Second Reading:** **James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a**

*The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.*

13Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. 14But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. 15Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. 16For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. 17But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. 18And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

4:1Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? 2You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. 7Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

**\* Gospel Acclamation** *WOV pg. 31*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

**\* Gospel:** **Mark 9:30-37**

*Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.*

30[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; 31for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." 32But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

33Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" 34But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. 35He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." 36Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 37"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

**Sermon**

 **Hymn of the Day “Children of the Heavenly Father”** ELW #781

Vs. 1 Children of the heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather;
 nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

Vs. 2 God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
 From all evil powers he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears

 them.

Vs. 3 Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
 unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Vs. 4 Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;
 his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

\* **Apostles’ Creed** *WOV pg. 33* 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 into hell.

 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.

**\* The Prayers**

  ***Lord, listen to your children praying,*** *WOV #775*

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

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.

Loving God, you welcome all at your table of grace. Instill in your church a spirit of humility and curiosity, that we embrace all who seek you. We pray especially for ministries of hospitality and faith formation. Hear us, O God, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, you shape the world so there is more than enough for all. Curb our habits of overuse and guide us to more sustainable sources of energy, food and water. Hear us, O God, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, your peace brings justice and solidarity. Encourage peace among peoples, tribes and nations; heal divisions in our country and local communities, that together we might cooperate for the good of all. Hear us, O God, **receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, you draw near to you all who are in need. Bring healing and wholeness to all who suffer especially

Transform economic, political and social systems that oppress vulnerable people, especially systems of structural racism and generational poverty. Hear us, O God, **receive our prayer.**

Transforming God, you accompany all through changes and transitions. Help us to see where you are calling this community to new ways of living the gospel promise; assure us that even as change brings loss, it also brings hope and life. Hear us, O God, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, you embrace us on our final pilgrimage from this life. Accompany all who have died, console those who mourn and at the last, show us the way to eternal life in you. Hear us, O God, **receive our prayer.**

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

 ***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

**Meal**

 **Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

 ***C: And also with you.***

**\* Offering *“Let the vineyards”*** *WOV pg. 35*

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 now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord,

 and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**\* Offering Prayer**

P: Merciful God,

***C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given to us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**\* Great Thanksgiving** *WOV pg. 36*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.***

**\* Words of Institution** *WOV pg. 36*

 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. 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 death, resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Lord’s Prayer** *WOV pg. 39*

***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 Distribution**

**\*Communion Blessing**

 P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep

 you in his grace. ***C: Amen.***

**\* Canticle** *WOV Pg. 40*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell every-

one what God has done. Let all who seek the

Lord rejoice and bear Christ’s holy name.

Send us with your promises, O God,

and lead us forth in joy with shouts

Of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

**\* Prayer** WOV Pg. 41

P:Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

***C: Amen.***

**Sending**

**\* Blessing** WOV Pg. 41

 P: Almighty God, Father + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

 **C: Amen.**

**\* Sending Hymn “Jesus Loves Me”** ELW #595

Vs. 1 Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
 little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
 yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

Vs. 2 Jesus loves me! he who died heaven's gates to open wide;
 he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. **Refrain**

Vs. 3 Jesus loves me! he will stay close beside me all the way;
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high. **Refrain**

**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
 yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

**\* Dismissal**

 L: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

 ***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***