

# Worship in the Home

## Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

### August 2, 2020



*In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.*

### Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

### Opening Hymn

### *My Shepherd, You Supply My Needs*

ELW # 782



- 1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.
- 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
- 3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;



In pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.  
one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.  
oh, may your house be my a-bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-d'ring spir-it back when I for-sake your ways,  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;  
Here would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;



and lead me, for your mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows, your oil a-noints my head.  
no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 55:1-5

**Semi-Continuous Old Testament Reading:** Genesis 32:22-31

**Psalm:** 145:8-9, 14-21

<sup>8</sup>The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>**Lord, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup>**The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.**

<sup>16</sup>You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

<sup>17</sup>**You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.**

<sup>18</sup>You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

<sup>19</sup>**You fulfill the desire of those who fear you; you hear their cry and save them.**

<sup>20</sup>You watch over all those who love you, but all the wicked you shall destroy.

<sup>21</sup>**My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

**Second Reading:** Romans 9:1-5

**Gospel:** Matthew 14:13-21

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus heard about the beheading of John the Baptist, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup>When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. <sup>15</sup>When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." <sup>17</sup>They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." <sup>18</sup>And he said, "Bring them here to me." <sup>19</sup>Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

<sup>20</sup>And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. <sup>21</sup>And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

## Homily

## Reflection

The primary biblical symbol of the mercy of God is food. In the Exodus story, God sustains the people with manna and water from the rock. In the Psalms, God is praised in this way: “You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.” And when the people were in trouble, the prophet Isaiah gave the promise of water, wine, milk, and bread, without price: hunger and thirst, both really and metaphorically, have an answer in God. These stories are part of the stunning inheritance of the Jews, the covenants of mercy, of which Paul speaks. But because of the compassion of Jesus Christ we people of the nations, we people who are right now deeply hungry for hope, are ourselves grafted into the promise of these stories. They are also for us. Turn to God with your hunger for hope. And then, empowered by our bread-giving Lord, we are turned to the needy world around us: “you give them something to eat.”

## Hymn of the Day

*All Who Hunger, Gladly Gather*

*ELW # 461*



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to- geth-er, Je-sus Christ is liv-ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Confident of God's care and upheld by the Spirit, let us pray for all who are in need.

O God our Savior, bless your church around the world. Where believers must be isolated from one another, be present to through your gracious word. Give to our bishops, pastors, deacons and congregational leaders wisdom for their tasks in this challenging time. Lord, you are good to all: **hear our cry and save us.**

O God, Redeemer of all, bless the Jewish people with your covenant promises. Bring an end to global anti-Semitism, and strengthen ties of cooperation and friendship between Christians and Jews. Lord, you are good to all: **hear our cry and save us.**

O God, Creator of a wondrous earth, protect the glories of your seas and lands. Replenish ground water supplies, refresh lakes and ponds, send rains where there is drought, and shelter forests from wildfires. Lord, you are good to all: **hear our cry and save us.**

O God, Sovereign of the world, form the leaders of nations to strive for justice for all. Guide our government in dealing with China. Strengthen the world's democracies. Bring an end to racism in our society. our elected officials in how to govern with integrity. Lord, you are good to all: **hear our cry and save us.**

O God, Storehouse of goodness, visit all who face the coronavirus, especially those who are incarcerated. Give us, O Lord of life, a vaccine. Assist all who face eviction from their residence. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body or spirit, especially those whom we name here: Lord, you are good to all: **hear our cry and save us.**

O God, Giver of bread, teach us how to feed the hungry: the children starving in war zones, the families who cannot afford groceries, the homeless on our streets, the farmers devastated by pestilence. Give to all creatures their food in due season. Lord, you are good to all: **hear our cry and save us.**

O God, Lover of our souls, receive now the petitions of our hearts. Lord, you are good to all: **hear our cry and save us.**

O God, everlasting mercy, we praise you for the lives of all who have died in the faith, especially this week Dominic and all who, like him, preached your word with power. At the end, bring us with all your saints to your heavenly banquet. Lord, you are good to all: **hear our cry and save us.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**

*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

*ELW # 843*



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.  
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.  
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,  
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;  
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.  
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

**Join us for Fellowship on Zoom: 596-621-1441 Passcode 8675309**

**Committee Chairs:** Remember to get meeting dates and times to Lori via email (stmatthewluth@aol.com) so they can be on the weekly schedule.

**Weekly Bulletins and Messengers** are available on the website (stmatthewlc.com) for viewing or printing.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Shirley Acker, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Jim Calvert, Clyde Claycomb, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Gene Henry, Jere Hess, Dean Hinish, Gerald Hoover, John Klepser, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

**Prayer Concerns:** Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Jeff Allen, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Elaine Buchart, Mark Calvert, DJ Freedman, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Jesse Fay, Joe Fay, Brian Fleck, Jim Freyer, Shari Gilbert, Ryan Guyer, Dan Hershberger, Stephen Hinish, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Connie Kensinger, Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Darren Kreutzer, Donna Lovell, Kristen Malloy, Matt McCready, Pstr. Jerry McCuller, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Scott McFarland, Aunt Mica, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Dan Sinal, Barbara Smith, Luther Steele, Jim Stoudnour, Cindy Thomas, Trenton, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Robert Winston, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

### **August Worship Schedule**

Sunday: 9:30 AM Worship on Facebook, 10:15ish Fellowship on Zoom  
**Sun., August 9<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. the service will be at the Kreider Farm. See article on last page

Monday & Friday: Hymn Devotions at 9AM

Tuesday & Thursday: Morning Prayer 9AM & Night Prayer at 9PM

Wednesday: Holden Evening Prayer at 8PM

**Lori Tremmel** is on vacation from Mon., August 3-Fri., August 7. Emails and phone messages will still be checked periodically through out the day by Laura Orczeck.

**Monthly Messenger's:** If you would like a mailed copy of the Messenger, please let Lori know in the church office either by email [stmatthewluth@aol.com](mailto:stmatthewluth@aol.com) or by phone 793-2413. Always remember that the Messenger is also found on the Website at: stmatthewlc.com.

**Readings for the Week:**

**Monday** Psalm Psalm 78:1-8. **Tuesday** Acts 2:37-47. **Wednesday** Exodus 16:2-15. **Thursday** Psalm 85:8-13. **Friday** Acts 18:24-28. **Saturday** (commemoration of Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers [Dominicans], died 1221) 1 Kings 18:41-46. **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost** 1 Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33.

**Reflection material:** Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw  
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Ramshaw.

## **Greetings from ALSM!**

These times are unprecedented in our world. Never did any of us think we would be faced with dealing with a virus of unknown origin. Frightening times for all of us. I hope all of you to continue to follow precautions that are indicated by the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

As you can imagine, Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries (ALSM) is experiencing challenges we never thought we would face. While the counties in which our three senior communities are located have gone “green,” our communities continue to restrict visitors and screen staff who are tirelessly caring for our residents. Several of our senior daily programs are closed, yet our *ALSM at Home* program continues.

Of course, we are safeguarding our staff team members and our residents by providing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) so we can continue to respond to regulating body guidelines. The costs of these are one we did not anticipate. We have set up a COVID-19 Fund to assist with extra expenses such as masks and additional cleaning supplies. We expect to spend at least \$100,000 in PPE. We use approximately 2,000 masks a week and 10,000 gloves a week. If we have an active Covid-19 case, we will need the added PPE of shoe covers, N-95 masks, and shoe covers. We have received a supply of face shields from Saint Francis University, so we have not had to purchase those items yet.

ALSM is fortunate to have the dedicated staff who are committed to our mission “to serve people with love, compassion, and mercy.”

I invite you to please consider a donation of \$10, \$25, \$50, or \$100 so that we can purchase the equipment we need to keep ALSM safe. We are all in this together and together we can help end the spread of this virus. **St. Matthew will match gifts to ALSM** by members of the congregation through August 31<sup>st</sup> up to a total of \$1000. Make your ALSM **donation through St. Matthew** by designating "**ALSM PPE**" on your **envelope**. If you already received this communication directly from ALSM and you have made a gift directly to ALSM in response to this letter, please let Lori know the amount of that gift so it can be included in St. Matthew's effort toward the \$1000 match. ***Thank you. Stay safe!***

*Sincerely,*

*Patricia W. Savage, President/CEO*

### ***YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE.***

- Your \$105 gift purchases 4500 gloves.
- Your \$100 gift purchases 100 masks.
- Your \$25 gift purchases 3 surgical gowns.

### **PPE PRICING GUIDELINES:**

Surgical masks @ \$1.00 each

N-95 masks @ \$4.00 each

A case of shoe covers @ \$25.00 each

Surgical gowns @ \$8.00 each

A case of 1500 gloves @ \$35.00

N95 test kit @ \$90.00 each



## **OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE**

An outdoor worship service is planned for Sunday, August 9, 2020 at 10 AM, at the Ed Kreider Farm. Directions to the Kreider Farm are below:

**Directions:** From Martinsburg, take 164 East to Fredericksburg. Turn **left** on Clover Creek road and follow for 2¾ miles to Kreider Lane on the right.

### **THERE IS NO PICNIC THIS YEAR.**

The Worship and Music Committee along with the Re-opening Task Force are working to determine how and when to safely gather for worship in person. Worshiping outdoors will enable members of the congregation to gather with less risk than indoor worship. It will still be necessary for attendees to exercise caution.

### **Guidelines to follow if you plan to attend worship on August 9:**

- Bring your own chair.
- Hand sanitizer will be available.
- No rest room facilities will be available unless for an emergency.
- The service will not be live streamed, but will be recorded and uploaded shortly after the service is over.
- Print your bulletin or use electronic device (download and save the file before the service; cell coverage is at a minimum at the farm). If you bring a paper bulletin, take it home with you.
- You are required to wear a mask. If you are unable to wear a mask, we invite you to continue worshipping on line. (Masks will be available in case you forget yours.)
- Your name and contact information will be recorded (in case contact tracing becomes necessary).
- Wear appropriate clothing and shoes so you are comfortable in an outdoor setting.
- If it rains, the service will be live streamed at the church and recorded as usual. We will not meet in person. Lori will send an email indicating cancellation of the outdoor worship if it is raining.
- The worship service will include communion. Pre-packaged wafers and wine will be prepared and placed on a table for you to pick up before the worship service. Following the service you can discard packaging in the trash can provided.
- Practice social distancing. Whenever possible keep at least six feet from anyone who is not part of your own household. We realize it has been a while since most of us have seen each other, but refrain from the urge to hug or shake hands. A simple wave and hello is good.
- Even though we are gathering outdoors, if you are exhibiting symptoms, awaiting test results, or have been in contact with someone who may have been exposed to the virus, you will need to stay at home. We invite you to worship digitally.

We are looking forward to this unique worship experience.

Thank you,  
Pastor Traci & The Worship & Music Committee