

# Worship in the Home & At the Farm

## Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



**August 9, 2020**

*In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship in our buildings. But as the body of Christ, united in Spirit when not in place, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.*

***A note about today's service for those planning to worship in person...*** You should have received an outline of the expectations for our outdoor in-person worship service and the steps necessary to reduce, though not eliminate, the risk of the spread of COVID. A brief summary—Please bring this bulletin with you in print or downloaded digital format. Remember to maintain safe distance and wear a mask from when you leave your car until you return. You will pick up pre-packaged communion elements on your way into worship and be responsible for throwing out your trash at the end of the service. If the service is cancelled because of weather, we will NOT meet inside but worship will be online as usual, beginning at 10 AM.

***A note about today's service for those planning to worship at home...*** Today's service is being held outside, weather-permitting, but there is insufficient connectivity to live-stream the service at 10 AM; that means we will also be unable to host fellowship time on Zoom. The service will be recorded and uploaded later in the day. If we are unable to gather outside because of the weather, the service will be live-streamed at 10 AM from the sanctuary without a gathered congregation.

### **Announcements**

### **Opening Music for Meditation**

*Alex Snyder*

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray...O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**First Reading:** 1 Kings 19:9-18

<sup>9</sup>At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>10</sup>Elijah answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

<sup>11</sup>The Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake;

<sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>14</sup>He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” <sup>15</sup>Then the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-

meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. <sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:** 85:8-13

**Second Reading:** Romans 10:5-15

**Gospel**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **Gospel Reading:** Matthew 14:22-33

<sup>22</sup>Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning Jesus came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, here I am; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when Peter noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

### **Reflection**

In the story, Elijah is in trouble, threatened with death. Peter is in trouble too, drowning in the chaos of the sea. Let the stories reflect our times. We and all our world also know the threat of death and chaos. But then, listen. God comes to Elijah not in wind, earthquake or fire, but in the sound of sheer. And Jesus comes to the storm-tossed disciples with a word of comfort, "Here I AM; do not be afraid." He comes as the very presence of God, the one named "I AM" in the scripture. As Paul says, this life-giving word from God is not far away, but here, now, in this time of prayer, on our lips and in our hearts. With the Psalmist, let us say, "I will listen to what the Lord God is saying." God in Christ is speaking peace to us right now. Then let us undertake the mission to speak that peace also to our neighbors.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Confident of your care and upheld by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

For your church throughout the world, we pray: Strengthen the faith of all who believe. Speak to us through your word of power and mercy. Abide with those Christians who are isolated from others. Give wisdom and stamina to all preachers who bring your good news to the world. Hear us, holy God: **Save us, we pray.**

For the well-being of your creation, we pray. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Tame the storms that threaten human habitations. Maintain the health of pets. Hear us, holy God: **Save us, we pray.**

For the leaders of nations, we pray. Inspire those who govern to keep peace with their neighbors and to maintain justice for their citizens. Calm the world's violence. Strengthen the world's democracies, and keep autocrats in check. Uphold a free press around the globe. Hear us, holy God: **Save us, we pray.**

For those in need we pray. For those who are unemployed, or homeless, or hungry, or hospitalized; for those whose money has run out; for those who are fearful of the future; and for those we name before you now: Hear us, holy God: **Save us, we pray.**

For the world facing the coronavirus we pray. Sustain medical workers for their arduous tasks. Assist our Congress and governors in legislating wisely during the pandemic. Give wisdom to educators as they plan the fall semester. Give us kindness with one another and patience for ourselves. And we beg: give us a vaccine. Hear us, holy God: **Save us, we pray.**

For the end to racial injustice we pray. Frustrate all prejudices between peoples of different ethnic origin or skin color. Unite into one body politic all who share this land. Hear us, holy God: **Save us, we pray.**

For ourselves, we pray. Reach out your hand to us; save us when we are sinking; and receive now the petitions of our hearts. Hear us, holy God: **Save us, we pray.**

We praise you, O God, for all who have died in the faith, for martyrs, for leaders in the struggle for civil rights, for victims of COVID-19, for those dear to us. Especially this week we glorify you for Mary, the mother of our Lord. Bring us at the end with all your saints into your everlasting life. Hear us, holy God: **Save us, we pray.**

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. **Amen.**

*{Communion Liturgy for Outdoor Worship}*

**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.**

## Music for Mediation

*Alex Snyder*

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

*There is no Zoom Fellowship this week.  
Please join us again for online worship next Sunday.*

**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

**TODAY, Sun., August 9<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. the service will be at the Kreider Farm.

Sunday: 9:30 AM Worship on Facebook, 10:15ish Fellowship on Zoom

Monday & Friday: Hymn Devotions at 9AM

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

Wednesday: Holden Evening Prayer at 8PM

## **DeYogaVotions In the Park**

For August Join Pastor Traci Saturdays August 15, and 29 at 9AM at Canoe Creek State Park. Practice will involve focus on breathing and movement with meditation on scripture. Please bring your own mat and mask. Meet to the far right of the main parking area. Check Facebook in case of weather cancellation.

**Prayers and Christian Sympathy** are asked for the Hoenstine Family upon the death of Nick Hoenstine on Sunday, August 2, 2020.

**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](http://stmatthewlc.com).

### **Readings for the Week:**

**Monday** (commemoration of Lawrence, deacon, martyr, died 258) Psalm 18:1-9.  
**Tuesday** (commemoration of Clare, Abbess of San Damiano, died 1253) Genesis 19:1-29. **Wednesday** Matthew 8:23-27. **Thursday** (commemoration of Florence Nightingale, died 1910; Clara Maass, died 1901; renewers of society) Psalm 67.  
**Friday** (commemoration of Maximilian Kolbe, died 1941; Kaj Munk, died 1944; martyrs) Isaiah 63:15-19. **Saturday** (Mary, Mother of Our Lord) Luke 1:46-55.  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost** Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67; Romans 11:1-2a; Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28.

**Reflection material:** Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw Portions from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com), © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress.

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## Plating Grace: Cooking with Father Leo

Are you looking for quick weeknight meals? Or do you want to spice things up and try something new? Could you just use a little inspiration right now?

Join the Thrivent Member Network–Mid-Atlantic for an evening of food and fun as we cook a family friendly meal alongside award-winning chef, internationally acclaimed motivational speaker and priest, Father Leo Patalinghug.

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### Event details

**Sunday, August 16 at 6:00p.m.**

**For more information, or to register, visit [bit.ly/PlatingGrace](https://bit.ly/PlatingGrace).**

**List of Ingredients will be send within 24 hours of registration.**

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### Reserve Your Place Today

For more information about these virtual events, or to register, visit [thrivent.com/mid-atlantic](https://thrivent.com/mid-atlantic).

These sessions are hosted by Thrivent Member Network–Mid-Atlantic.

No products will be sold.

Father Leo Patalinghug is not affiliated with or endorsed by Thrivent. The views expressed in this presentation by Father Leo Patalinghug are his own and not necessarily those of Thrivent or its affiliates. The material presented has been obtained from sources we believe to be reliable and is current.

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## **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