



*Foxes
have holes,
and birds
of the air
have
nests...*

LUKE 9:58

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 26, 2022**

**MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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**Welcoming all
Reaching out in love
Growing together in Christ
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name**

Pastor Virginia Cover

Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone, complete the connection card and place it in the offering plate.

INTRODUCTION

We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE *“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”*

- Bach

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.

Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

Please stand

GATHERING HYMN “O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

ELW 786

O Holy Spirit, enter in, and in our hearts your work begin, and make our hearts your dwelling. Sun of the soul, O Light divine, around and in us brightly shine, your strength in us upwelling. In your radiance life from heaven now is given overflowing, gift of gifts beyond all knowing.

Left to ourselves, we surely stray; oh, lead us on the narrow way, with wisest counsel guide us; and give us steadfastness, that we may follow you forever free, no matter who derides us. Gently heal those hearts now broken; give some token you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.

O mighty Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in doubt and strife be in us strongly burning, that we be faithful unto death and live in love and holy faith, from you true wisdom learning. Lord, your mercy on us shower; by your Power Christ confessing, we will cherish all your blessing.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Glory to God”

READ TOGETHER

Glory to God in the highest, 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. 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. 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 in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There God reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

¹⁵Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also 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. ¹⁹So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" ²¹He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

16

READ RESPONSIVELY

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

²**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are
pleasures forevermore.

SECOND READING

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

¹For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. ¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.

¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.

¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ***Alleluia.*** (*John 6:68*)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 9th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Luke 9:51-62

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

⁵¹When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then they went on to another village. ⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶²Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Will You Come and Follow Me"*

ELW 798

*"Will you come and follow me if I but call
your name? Will you go where you don't
know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
name be known, will you let my life be
grown in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call
your name? Will you care for cruel and
kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life
attract or scare? Will you let me answer
pray'r in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you let the blinded see if I but call
your name? Will you set the pris'ners
free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as
this unseen, and admit to what I
mean in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you love the you you hide if I but call
your name? Will you quell the fear
Inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the
world around, through my sight and touch and
sound in you and you in me?"*

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call
my name. Let me turn and follow
you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and
footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and
grow in you and you in me.*

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of creation, we pray for the ministry of the Lutheran Camping Corporation. As the summer season begins, fill all who work and play at Nawakwa and Kirchenwald with wonder for your handiwork. As they return home, strengthen their hearts for mission in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of gentleness, strengthen the earth's ability to heal. Where there are dangerous storms, bring calm. Where there are destructive fires, bring rain. Protect homes, habitats, and livelihoods threatened by climate disasters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, guide all who govern, that they place the good of their citizens above self-promotion. Anoint leaders of nations with your Spirit of neighborly love. Protect refugees and all who live under tyranny or conflict (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of kindness, reveal your healing presence to all who are sick or dying (*especially*). Uphold those who grieve. Support the needs of any who are unemployed, hungry, or have nowhere to lay their heads. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, attend to those struggling with addiction, depression, or uncontrolled anger. Provide support systems and loving companions as they work toward health, that they may rest in hope and know the fullness of joy in your presence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of joy, we give thanks for all who have died and now celebrate the inheritance of life in you. Keep their examples of faithfulness always before us, that we trust your promises in life and in death. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(In recent months, we have resumed the customary practices associated with the Sharing of the Peace: and handshake accompanied by a greeting such as "Peace be with you." If you wish to refrain from shaking hands, consider bowing, placing your hands together in a prayerful position, waving, or showing a peace sign to those near you. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the sanctuary.)

Please be seated

OFFERTORY

The Ushers will collect the offering

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Please stand

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

PREFACE - SUNDAYS AFTER PENTECOST

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Read Together

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(1 Corinthians 11:23b-25)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

Please be seated

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.

Please stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of peace, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

ELW 697

Refrain: *Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

I am weak but thou art strong: Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Refrain

Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

Refrain

When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore.

Refrain

Please be seated

POSTLUDE “Sortie”

- Dubois

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

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