



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 12, 2021  
**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.*

*\*(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)*

#### **Announcements**

#### **Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God\**

*Prelude....A time for silent reflection*

#### **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**

**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**

**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**

**We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.**

**Free us from our sin, gracious God.**

**Listen when we call out to you for help.**

**Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

**ELW #671**

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.**

**\*KYRIE**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Cathleen, via text, 608-865-1074,  
Justin Arndt (608-435-6336) (414-587-6642) or Nalani Bever,  
To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani (608-387-2311)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

A sign-up sheet for adult Bible study is located in the narthex. We will be studying Manna and Mercy by Daniel Erlander. The church will be providing the material, however, should you wish to have a personal copy, the cost will be \$10.00. Please indicate the same in the area specified on the sign-up sheet.

### Afghanistan Refugee Assistance

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse are the lead agency in providing information with regard to the needs of the refugees at Ft. McCoy. We will collect items each Sunday and deliver them to Ft. McCoy during the following week.

“From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked” ( Luke 12:48 )

- Underwear (women & children)
- Socks (women & children)
- Sweatpants (men, women, & children)
- Prayer mats (can be yoga mats)
- Ponchos
- Clothespins
- Diapers
- Backpacks for Children
- Flashlights
- Baby onesies and sleepers

P: For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Canticle of Praise**

“This is the Feast”

ELW p. 149

### **\*Prayer of the Day**

**O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

### **Word**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.\**

### **FIRST READING**

*The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

### **Isaiah 50:4-9a**

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he awakens—  
awakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
 and I was not rebellious,  
 I did not turn backward.  
<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
 and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
 I did not hide my face  
 from insult and spitting.  
<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
 therefore I have not been disgraced;  
 therefore I have set my face like flint,  
 and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.  
 Who will contend with me?  
 Let us stand up together.  
 Who are my adversaries?  
 Let them confront me.  
<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
 who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 116:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
 and listened to my supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me  
 whenever I called.**  
<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me;  
 the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
 I came to grief and sorrow.  
<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:  
 “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**  
<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the LORD and righteous;  
 our God is full of compassion.  
<sup>6</sup>**The LORD watches over the innocent;  
 I was brought low, and God saved me.**

**Sending**  
 God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.\*

\*Benediction

Sending Hymn “Lord, You Give the Great Commission” **ELW #579**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**THOSE SERVING TODAY**

Ministers: All God’s People, Pastor: Cathleen Morris; Pianist: Kirstin Arndt; Reader: Barb Bever; Communion Servers: Barb and John Ornes

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

Katie Wallace, Judy Bever, Darlene and Paul Babbitt, Alrita Ornes, Tessa Klipstein, Jim Finer, Jerry Nading, Rhett Flaten, Bob Schendel, Richard Zitlow, Jeff DuCharme, Louie Voltz, Etta Mae Henze, Gary Von Ruden, Judy Nofsinger, Larry Voltz, David Berg, Sue Ann Degenhardt, Julie Schreier, Steve Zirk

**IN THE MILITARY**

Jacob Picha, Todd Nofsinger, Dylan Dougherty, Seth Tormoen, Robert Cale, Danelle Dougherty

**CALENDAR**

Wed., Sept. 15	Confirmation Class	6:30 –8:00 pm
Sun., Sept. 19	Sunday School	9:00 am
	Worship	10:15 am
	Council Meeting	11:15 am

## Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ\*

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

ELW p. 152

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

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**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

P: All who hunger and thirst, come.  
The table is ready.

Distribution

*Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.*

"Lamb of God"

ELW p.154

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord of life,  
**in the gift of your body and blood  
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.  
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,  
bearing witness to the abundance of your love  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

<sup>7</sup>Turn again to your rest, O my soul.  
for the LORD has dealt well with you.

<sup>8</sup>**For you have rescued my life from death,  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

<sup>9</sup>I will walk in the presence of the LORD  
in the land of the living.

## SECOND READING

*This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.*

**James 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

### \*Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.151

### \*GOSPEL READING

*This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.*

**Mark 8:27-38**

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup>He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"God, Whose Almighty Word"

**ELW #673**

### 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 to the dead.**

**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** (Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**)

### OFFERING

*Offering plates are located in the Narthex as you enter and exit the church.*

Offering Prayer

God of abundance,  
**you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.  
Accept the gifts you have first given us.  
Unite them with the offering of our lives  
to nourish the world you love so dearly;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**