

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 23, 2018

Service of the Word

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcoming all to know and love Jesus.

123 South Seventh Street

St. Clair, Michigan

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September 23, 2018
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Marilyn Tackaberry, organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG *Jesus Loves Me!*

ELW 595

GREETING

KYRIE

ELW p. 213

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW p. 213

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, 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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG *Children of the Heavenly Father*

ELW 781

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. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 216

GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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;³¹ for 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."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

ELW 729

CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

Gracious God, you gather congregations together by the power of your word. Bless leaders with the gifts of wisdom and discernment as they seek to make your church the community for which you long. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Creative God, blue whales and honeybees sing the goodness of the earth. Glaciers and deserts declare your greatness. Make us good stewards of our home for the generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, you raise up governments to protect the widow and orphan. Bless citizens with wisdom and discernment as they choose leaders. Inspire leaders to always seek the common good. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Rescuing God, you are a present help in time of trouble. Come to the aid of all who have been affected by Hurricane Florence and Typhoon Mangkhut. Give strength to first responders, medical personnel, and to all who will help with clean up and rebuilding. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Loving God, you desire health and wholeness. Reconcile the conflicts and disputes among us. Open our hearts to all those who suffer and mourn, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name before you in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Welcoming God, you place children among us. Teach us to honor the children in our midst and to pay attention to what they can teach us about who you are. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You surround us with a cloud of witnesses who announce the good news of abundant life. Make us a pilgrim people, always telling the story of your lovingkindness. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.
Amen.

PEACE

OFFERING

CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING

ELW p. 219

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

LORD'S PRAYER

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

BLESSING

SENDING SONG *Jesus Shall Reign*

ELW 434

DISMISSAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome those who are visiting with us. Please take time to sign the registration book or the guest register in the lobby and introduce yourself to Pastor Ken. We hope that you will find our worship edifying and our congregation warm and receptive. We are glad that you are here.

DVD copies of the 9:30 a.m. worship service can be produced for those who are shut-in or others who would like a copy. Let us know in advance if there is a service that you would like recorded.

On Sunday after worship, we will say Farewell and Godspeed to Loretta Lukasak, who will be moving to Ohio to be closer to her daughter. Join us for refreshments in the lobby.

As council looks to fill the Youth and Family Ministry position, the Mutual Ministries team is looking for feedback regarding what our members would like to see in this ministry. **Youth and Family Ministry Survey** is available on the ushers table, along with a link to an online survey if you prefer. We will also hold a **Youth and Family Ministry Open Forum** on Sunday, right after church, for anyone who would like to provide verbal input regarding our Youth and Family Ministry.

On the weekend of September 29 & 30, the youth who attended the Youth Gathering in Houston this summer will lead the service and share some of their experiences. There will also be a Celebration Pancake breakfast for everyone following the worship service on Sunday.

Pastor Ken will offer a Blessing of Animals on Saturday, October 6 at 1 pm. All furry, feathered and scaly friends are welcome!

The Fellowship/Outreach committee meeting has been changed to September 25 at 7 pm.

The Youth Committee will meet on Sunday, October 7 to discuss and plan future youth activities. All parents and youth are invited to come and share ideas.

Plans are underway again for this year's Oktoberfest. The Cornhole Tournament will be on Friday, October 12th and Oktoberfest will be on Saturday, October 13th from 3-11 pm. We are looking for sponsor donations at these levels: Platinum, \$500; Gold, \$250; Silver, \$100, Bronze, \$50. Of course, donations of any amount would be appreciated. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter's Lutheran Church and can be provided to Marty Green, Tom Duemling or Mark Fisher. For details, see the fliers on the table in the lobby. Contact Cindy Duemling to donate baskets for the basket raffle and items for the silent auction.

Secret Pals: Please join us after the service on October 21st where we will reveal our identities to our pals and sign up for next year. If you would like to join secret pals but haven't been in the past, please have your info sheet to Katy Emerich before the 21st. Sheets can be found in the lobby.

Our annual meeting will be held on November 4 after the 9:30 am worship service. All committee reports to be included in the annual report should be turned into the office by October 15.

Music is a vital part of worship at St. Peter's, and we are blessed with two gifted musicians who lead our singing each week. In order for us to have a musician on a consistent basis, we are seeking an organist or pianist who would be interested in playing occasionally for our Saturday and Sunday worship services. If you know anyone who plays organ or piano and would be interested, please contact Renee Evans or Pastor Ken.

Check your mailbox today for the October newsletter.

SERVING TODAY: Greeter: Lou Wegmeyer; Ushers: Marty Green & Dereck Maier; Acolyte: Courtney Green; Scripture Reader: Dawn Lambrecht; Projectionist: Chris Jebrael.

ATTENDANCE: Saturday 15, Sunday 81

ANNIVERSARIES: 9/23 Jane & Chad Miller 29 years

IN NEED OF PRAYER Dennis Rocker, Mary Forys, Janice Convis, Guy MacIntosh, Sue Kasemeyer, Paul & Ruth Reyelts, Delores Cook, Vi Dunn, Will Tanner, Clyde Moore, Louis Eisen, Loretta Lukasak, Suzanne Morris, Elizabeth MacDonald, Sharon Ann Wheeler, Patty Armstrong, Adeline Harsch, Pat Greenwood, Don Schroeder, Patricia Jones, Marc Dease, Stacey Yax, Ruth Morris, Bernie Nummer, Carole Stiefvater, Ed Myers, Jeremy Bryan, Roger Lukasak.

(Please call or email the office at stpeterelca@sbcglobal.net to update information.)

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Fellowship/ Outreach Committee 7 pm	Prayer 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Confirmation 6:30 pm	Choir 7 pm	Pastor's day off	Worship, Communion, Youth Gathering Celebration 5 pm	Sunday School, Worship, Communion Youth Gathering Celebration 9:30 am Breakfast 10:30 am