

St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church

Eighteenth Weekend after Pentecost

Saturday, September 25, 2021 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 26, 2021 9:30 a.m.

Introduction to the day

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

~Please quiet your hearts, your minds, and your cell phones ~

PRELUDE (5:00) - "CHRISTIANS, WE HAVE MET TO WORSHIP" W. HELD

(9:30) - "*Beach Spring*"

Handbell Choir

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sins for the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our comforter:

C: 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.

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

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

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 (Read by: Kelly Sachse)

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you."

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: James 5:13-20 (Read by: Kelly Sachse)

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save

the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me.

⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE - "HEAVY" *Rev. Brian Hooper*

Anthem “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” - *Wilberg*

Choir

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

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

We pray for the church and its ministry. Bless the newly baptized and encourage them in their journey of faith. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for natural wonders of your creation, Lake Michigan, the Kettle Moraine. Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those in authority. Give them wise minds and compassionate hearts. Strengthen in them a desire to protect the vulnerable and care for those underserved. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Welcoming all, Worshiping God, Serving others

We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: musicians, readers, and. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the Diocese of Meru's partnership with the Greater Milwaukee Synod. We give thanks for the ways you have blessed all of us through this partnership. We give thanks for the vision and foresight our brothers and sisters of Meru have demonstrated in creating new opportunities for employment, social services and income. We ask for your guidance and vision for projects in the planning stages at Makumira Farm and for a new maternity ward at Nkoaranga Hospital. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all your saints, those we have loved and known and those from every time and place. Continue to guide us by their example and reassure us of your promised salvation.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY -

(Thanks for sharing your gifts. Offering envelopes can still be mailed to the church, you can use the GIVE + app or you may wish to sign up for Simply Giving to have your offering scheduled on an automatic basis. Information for both programs can be found on the Electronic Giving page at ssmelca.org)

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor.

Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

C: **Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Prepare your elements by opening the two separate parts, wafer and wine (if you need assistance, please wave to an usher). The Pastor will recite the words of institution and consecrate the elements. Partaking of the elements will occur *after* the Lord's Prayer is spoken. The Pastor will

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lead the assembly with the words: *The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessing/sending Barb Fritschel (5 p.m.)

BLESSING

P: The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY - "All Creatures, Worship God Most High"



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and
 2 Sing, broth-er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
 3 Sing, broth-er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
 4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain or sor-row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth-er sun, in splen-dor
 grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
 throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
 grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
 clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
 care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
 fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
 Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
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DISMISSAL

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

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE (5:00) - "GUIDE ME, OH MY GRACIOUS REDEEMER" D. WAGNER
(9:30) - "All Creatures, Worship God Most High" arr. David N. Johnson

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*The Eternal Candle is given by Bob & Shirley Lieske
in Honor of their 68th Wedding Anniversary*

*The Altar Flowers are given by Nancy Mineau
in Honor of Mother's Birthday*

THANK YOU FOR SERVING IN THE WORSHIP!

Reader: Kelly Sachse

Ushers (5:00): Patti Nelson, Herb Leppien

(9:30): Pat Burns, Shelley Burns, Nancy Mineau

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Greater Milwaukee Synod Reconciling In Christ Ministry team will be hosting a Pride Worship Service entitled "Coming Out Beloved" on Saturday, October 9th at 10:30am. This worship service will be at Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N Stowell Ave. in Milwaukee. We are prepared to have this event either inside or outside depending on the weather. So please bring a lawn chair or blanket with your family and friends. Also, bring along a bag lunch and share in some fellowship together following the worship. We are strongly encouraging all to wear their masks to this event. With the two season cancellation of Pride events in Milwaukee we thought it would be good for us to gather for a time of worship and celebration of our place in this church and God's creation.

**September 26, 2021 Diocese of Meru (ELCT)
and Greater Milwaukee Synod (ELCA)
Common Day of Prayer**

On this Sunday, congregations in the Diocese of Meru and the Greater Milwaukee Synod will be praying for one another. We have shared our current concerns with each other, which are listed below. Congregations are encouraged to pray for these concerns in their upcoming worship services, especially on the September 26 Common Day of Prayer. Additional worship resources for congregational use are also included at the end of this document. .

The Diocese of Meru requests prayers from Greater Milwaukee Synod on the following topics:

1. WEATHER:

This year harvest is poor in Meru and across Tanzania due to little rain, people will not have enough crops for both food and sale.

Welcoming all, Worshiping God, Serving others

2. COVID 19:

It has brought economic challenges among the people in Tanzania, pray for the sick and those who have lost their loved ones. Pray that God may take away fear among people. pray for the clear understanding of vaccination, let politics not interfere with science.

3. NEW GOVERNMENT:

We have a new president in power, she needs God's wisdom in leading the nation. Please keep this new government in your prayer.

4. DIOCESE NEW PROJECT:

We are working on new projects at Makumira farm which will help to generate income for our Diocese. New business house new DME offices are at finishing stage we need people who can rent the rooms. Construction of Legurukiki Health Centre is in progress please keep this in work in prayer. We are planned to build a Maternity ward at Nkoaranga hospital also

5. DIOCESE INSTITUTIONS:

Health workers are working under stress due to COVID 19 pray for God's protection and courage to work at this difficult time.

6. DME PARISHES:

Mission and evangelism work programs are challenged by COVID 19 in our parishes. We have had to cut down the number of activities. Church attendance is declining as well as parish income. Pray for parish programs.

7. NEW PASTORS:

Three theologians 2 females and 1 male will be ordained in December 2021. Keep them in prayer as God sends them to begin pastoral ministry next year.

8. SUBCOMMITTEES

We have recently formed new subcommittees to work for hand and hand with respective subcommittees in the GMS. We ask God to lead them in all they do.

9. MERU AND GMS PARTNERSHIP

We give thanks to God for our partnership which has been much of a blessing to the Diocese. We want to call upon God to protect our partnership.

10. THANKS TO GOD FOR HIS GRACE.

We ask you to God for his grace on us. We went through tough political regimes, covid19 etc, God's grace saw us through it all.

KEEP THESE SSM MEMBERS IN PRAYER

Suzi Angeletti, Fred Ankebrant, Melissa Cooper, John Drover, Mary Freiburger, Joyce Gagliano, Sue Herman, Sue Jarchow, Lynda Johnson, Ken & Carolyn Kahl, Betty Kroll, Vic & Sandy Peterson, Teri Peterson, Patrick Rafalski, Shirley Rau, John Rech, Joan Retzlaff, Bob & JoAnn Soderstrom, Richard Sontvedt, John Winter, Kipp Zimmermann.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Roberta Henrichs, sister-in-law of Joan Retzlaff	Cathy & Mark Kossow, friends of Lynda Johnson
Laurence Freemont, friend of SSM	Tippecanoe's "Larry under the bridge", friend of the Homeless
Katie Stull, granddaughter of Phil & LaVerne Morgan	Katie Manzeck, friend of Carol Manning
Jane Janicki, sister of the Winter Family	Susan White, sister of Sally Kowalewski
Jerelie Caston, daughter of Joan Retzlaff	Jon Kowalewski, husband of Susan Kowalewski
Nancy & Mike Andritsch, sister/brother-in-law of Barbara & Dan Davies	Lauryn Ramintho, great-granddaughter of Karen Miller
Josh Knapp, friend of Amy Billman	Lucy Copeland, granddaughter of Dianne Niese
Karen Stolz, neighbor of Julie Herman	Liane Guthrie, daughter of Dianne Niese
Roger & Kathy Blanchard, cousin of Bob Lieske	Leroy Robinson, father of Linda Schmidt
Billy Waters, husband of Darlene Waters & Stepdad of Lori Salas	Maria Hill, friend of Lynda Johnson
Daniel Kilimann, son of Joy Kilimann	Ann Scorzynski, friend of LaVerne Morgan
Carson Wudtke, grandson of Dan & Barb Davies	Kristin White, daughter of Sue Herman
Sharon West, friend of Lynda Johnson	Laura Sussman, mother of Kimberly Carroll
Ted P., brother-in-law of Gail Jakus	Sharon Maschke, sister-in-law of Pam Maschke
Jay Lessing, friend of LaVerne Morgan	Tim Ingram, grandson of Carole & Ron Ropel
Jeanne Jimenez, daughter of Shirley Rau	Denise Hajos, friend of Kelly Sachse
Cindy Molter, mother of Fred Ankebrant	Bonnie, friend of Kurt & Jenny Koeff
Mark Molter, uncle of Fred Ankebrant	Louie Baumgartner, family member of the Lieske's.
Terry Betchner, friend of Dianne Niese	Bob Guiliani, brother of Char Guiliani
Beth Klosinski, daughter of Linda Schmidt	Barbara Goelz, friend of Kelly Sachse
Nikki Bruneau, friend of Kelly Sachse	Peter Misko, friend of Doug Winter family
James Haas, friend of Mark & Patti Winter	Kathy Manders, friend of Doug Winter family
Rose Zovi, friend of Shelly Rosenstock	Tom Freiburger, son of Mary Freiburger
Peter Salza, friend of Doug Winter family	Janet Heino, great aunt of Stephanie Falksen
Dawn Salopek, sister of Karen Miller	Paulie Long, friend of Kelly and Greg Sachse
Gloria Klintner, sister-in-law of Shirley Lieske	Tom Schmidt, friend of Kelly and Greg Sachse
Jerry Woelfel – nephew of El & Nancy Schneider	Tim Drover, son of John Drover

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