

# St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church

## Sixteenth Weekend after Pentecost

Saturday, September 11, 2021 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 12, 2021 9:30 a.m.

### *Introduction to the day*

*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.*

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

**PRELUDE** (5:00) - "To God All Praise and Glory" - arr. R Wilson

(9:30) - "Eucharistia" by G. Winston Cassler

### 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:** 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.

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

(Readers: Shelly Rosenstock, 5  
Diane Moraza, 9:30)

*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.*

<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 wakens—  
wakens 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?

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

(Readers: Shelly Rosenstock, 5  
Diane Moraza, 9:30)

*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.*

<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.

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 8:27-38

*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.*

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

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

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the village 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."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

**MESSAGE - "What Do You Say? 1. In times of struggle 2. When asked the Big Question 3. In times of regret": *Rev. Paul Bauman***

### **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.*

Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word.  
Continue to nurture your church, that it is a place where your presence is experienced and shared.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Welcoming all, Worshiping God, Serving others*

Creating God, you brought life into being and called it good. Bring new creation to lands devastated by tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, and other disasters. Restore forests and curb overflowing waters. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Protecting God, you desire all people to live in peace and safety. Provide for all who are in danger. Strengthen first responders to help meet to the complex needs of others. Provide care and compassion as they face trauma themselves. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Transforming God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Amplify voices that go unheard and inspire us to advocate for the those who are overlooked. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, whose Son became a refugee with no place to call his own, look with mercy on the Afghan people who are fleeing from danger, persecution, violence, and seeking the safety of home. Lord in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious and merciful God, we remember the terrible acts against humanity that the world has suffered and especially those in our country on this day twenty years ago. We pray for the innocent victims and their families. We pray also that those whose hearts are filled with hate might be turned toward love. Help us not to speak or act rashly, but fill our hearts with passion for those in need and strengthen our wills that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before your people. Lord in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Redeeming God, you accompany your people through every stage of life. We give you thanks for the saints who now rest in your embrace. 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](http://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**

### **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**

**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 - "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"**

1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl-wind, as on Pen - te -  
 2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your  
 3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from  
 4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's

cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;  
 pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,  
 leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,  
 rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,

past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,  
 let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,  
 for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;  
 may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;

there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!  
 kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!  
 make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!  
 claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923  
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932  
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**DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.  
**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE (5:00) - "Lift High the Cross" - arr. P. Manz**  
**(9:30) - "Toccata in F Major" by Dietrich Buxtehude**

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

*The Altar Flowers are given by Kipp & Bonnie Zimmermann  
in Honor of Grandparents Day*

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING IN THE WORSHIP!**

Reader (5:00): Shelly Rosenstock

(9:30): Diane Moraza

Ushers (5:00): Jim Hennessy, Jim Palasz

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Women of St Stephen the Martyr are invited** to a day of camaraderie and fellowship with other Lutheran women on October 9, 2021 at Mount Zion Lutheran Church, 12012 W North Avenue, Wauwatosa. You will have a chance to listen to a variety of interesting speakers on: Human Trafficking, Mediation ( a retired nurse and chaplain will present this workshop), Bee Ministry from Redeemer Lutheran Church and Baptismal Living ( Pastor Mary Martha will discuss how the lead pipes have affected Milwaukee children). You will be able to buy your lunch from the Corner Bakery. Masks will be required, and we will follow the CDC guidelines. Registration ends on 9/24. The registration forms are located on the Women's Kiosk in the narthex of the church. We hope to see you there!

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.

*Welcoming all, Worshiping God, Serving others*



## **KEEP THESE SSM MEMBERS IN PRAYER**

Suzi Angeletti, Fred Ankebrant, Melissa Cooper, Dan Davies, 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.

## **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 Lieskes
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 Klinter, sister-in-law of Shirley Lieske	Tom Schmidt, friend of Kelly and Greg Sachse
Jerry Woelfel – nephew of El & Nancy Schneider	