



# **JESUS TEACHES US TRUE GREATNESS**

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*September 26, 2021*

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Paul's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news of God's forgiveness through Jesus.

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP THEME**

We can often give into selfish ambition and into our desire for worldly greatness. But in God's kingdom, greatness is much different. Greatness in God's kingdom is defined by selflessness and humility. Need an example? Simply look to the cross, where our great Savior humbly gave his life for our sake. Jesus teaches us true greatness.

## **FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN**

Children's activity sheets are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. The church basement is also available with a live feed of the worship service for parents with children to utilize during the service if needed.

## **THANK OFFERING**

You may leave your offering in the plate in the lobby. The QR code to the right will provide the link to our online giving option. If you're visiting with us today you are welcome to give an offering, but don't feel compelled by guilt or embarrassment to do so. God wants all offerings to be made freely and with joy.



# DIVINE SERVICE I

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God's people gather together for strength from God and for mutual encouragement in Christ. Divine Service I therefore focuses us on the glory of Christ and his Word.

## OPENING HYMN

*Blessed Jesus, at Your Word* | 221

*please stand*

## INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## CONFESSION

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men." The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

## ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

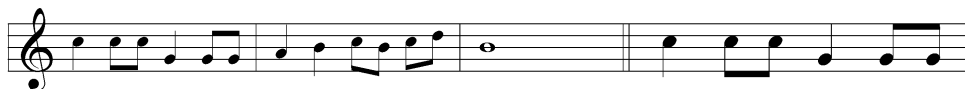
C: Amen.

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## *Prayer and Praise*

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## GLORY TO GOD



Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us.

You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -

ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For

*continued...*

you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it in the

glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

*be seated*

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# The Word

## FIRST LESSON

*Numbers 12:1-15*

<sup>1</sup>Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman he had married (for he had married a Cushite woman). <sup>2</sup>They said, "Has the Lord really spoken only through Moses? Hasn't he also spoken through us?" The Lord heard this.

<sup>3</sup>(Now the man Moses was very humble, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.)

<sup>4</sup>Right then the Lord spoke suddenly to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "You three come out to the Tent of Meeting!"

The three of them came out. <sup>5</sup>The Lord came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance to the tent. He called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came forward. <sup>6</sup>He said, "Now listen to my words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, will make myself known to him in a vision. In a dream I will speak with him.

<sup>7</sup>Not so, however, with my servant Moses. He is faithful in my whole household.

<sup>8</sup>With him I speak face-to-face, clearly, and not in riddles. He sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant, against Moses?"

<sup>9</sup>The Lord's anger burned against them, and he left.

<sup>10</sup>The cloud went up from above the tent, and immediately Miriam was leprous, as white as snow. Aaron turned to Miriam and saw that she was leprous.

<sup>11</sup>Aaron said to Moses, "My lord, please do not hold this sin against us. We have acted foolishly. We have sinned. <sup>12</sup>Please do not let her be like a stillborn infant that comes out of its mother's womb with its flesh half-eaten away."

<sup>13</sup>Moses cried out to the Lord, "God, please heal her, please!"

<sup>14</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "If her father had merely spit in her face, would she not be disgraced for seven days? Have her confined outside of the camp for seven days, and after that she can be brought back in."

<sup>15</sup>Miriam was confined outside of the camp for seven days, and the people did not set out until Miriam was brought back in.

## PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalm 31 (p.77)*

## SECOND LESSON

*James 3:13-18*

<sup>13</sup>Who among you is wise and intelligent? Let him by his good way of living show that he does things in wise humility. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not boast and lie, contrary to the truth. <sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but it is worldly, unspiritual, and demonic. <sup>16</sup>In fact, where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and every bad practice. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom that comes from above is first pure, then also peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who practice peace.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

*2 Corinthians 12:9a*

Alleluia. My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.  
Alleluia.

*please stand*

## GOSPEL

*Mark 9:30-37*

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

<sup>30</sup>They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know this, <sup>31</sup>because he was teaching his disciples. He told them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him. But three days after he is killed, he will rise."

<sup>32</sup>But they did not understand the statement and were afraid to ask him about it.



<sup>33</sup>They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" <sup>34</sup>But they remained silent, because on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>Jesus sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he will be the last of all and the servant of all." <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and placed him in their midst. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me, welcomes not just me but also him who sent me."

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*be seated*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us | 486*

**What is True Greatness?**

*please stand*

**CREATE IN ME**

Cre - ate in me a  
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -  
in me. Do not cast me a - way from your  
pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from  
me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -  
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

*be seated*

**OFFERING**

*"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits from your entire harvest" (Proverbs 3:9).*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: O Lord God, heavenly Father, we praise and glorify you for the unsurpassed gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. We confess that we are unworthy sinners who have transgressed your will and Word. We repent of our evil and pray for the faith that trusts utterly and completely in the righteousness of Christ Jesus for our forgiveness.

**C: Open our hearts to the mighty power of your Word.**

M: Teach us to depend on your holy sacrament for spiritual strength. Grant that our minds may be renewed in righteousness and that our consciences may be stirred to choose the good.

**C: Grant that every thought, word, and deed may be brought into captivity to Christ.**

M: Give to your Church ministers and teachers who have the faithfulness and courage of true prophets, that your people may be built up in faith, abound in good works, and rejoice in your love.

**C: Bless their work that your people may, in the end, enter your heavenly kingdom.**

M: We pray for our beloved country. Give us citizens who perceive that the standard of all that is right is not personal advancement or private favor, not public opinion or party platform, but your holy will.

**C: Lavish your grace on all families, that each home may be for our children a foretaste of the joy and blessedness of our heavenly home.**

M: For all who are in any sickness, pain, anguish, or suffering, for all who are in any danger of body or soul, we pray. Teach them to turn to you and wait on you for mercy. Grant them hope and a joyous deliverance from all their trials, and let them walk in your light all their days.

*Special prayers of intercession may follow.*

M: These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our refuge and hope.

**C: Amen.**

## 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.**

## HYMN

*Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head* | 536

*please stand*

## PRAYER

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*be seated*

## CLOSING HYMN

*Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name* | 321

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **BIBLE STUDIES CONTINUE**

Sunday School (9:10 am, school): The Flood

Sunday Adult Bible Study (9:15 am, sanctuary): The Flood

Midweek Bible Study (Tues., 7pm; Wed. 9am): Right Questions, Wrong Answers: World Religions

## **GOT A 5TH OR 6TH GRADER?**

If you have a child in 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade in public school, please contact Pastor Groth. We would like to have a pre-confirmation class for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders at the same time as public school confirmation class on Wednesdays (3:30 pm).

## **NEWBORN IN 2021?**

If the Lord has blessed you with a newborn child in this 2021 calendar year, please email our church secretary at [churchoffice@stpaulsbangor.com](mailto:churchoffice@stpaulsbangor.com). Please share the full name and date of birth of your child in the email. This is in preparation of a gift from the congregation. Thanks!

## **CARING CHRISTIANS**

*Caring Christians - Mental Health* will meet at First Lutheran in La Crosse on Monday, October 4, at 6:30 p.m. The topic will be: Indifference and Apathy.

## **SCRAP AND CRAFT**

*October 16*

The Fall Scrap and Craft Fundraiser is Saturday, October 16, from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm, at Mt Calvary School in La Crosse. There are registration forms in the narthex and ready for you to mail in with your payment. You will also find copies of the food menu.

## **MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE**

*October 23*

The 6th Annual Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Mayo Civic Center in Downtown Rochester MN on Saturday, October 23rd. The theme for this year is *God's Vision for Your Future*. Please go online at [www.menofhisword.org](http://www.menofhisword.org) to register and get details about schedule, breakout sessions, keynote speaker, cost, etc.

**OFFERING SUMMARY** (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2021 Weekly Budget: \$9,855.43      Budget to Date: \$364,650.91

Received 9/19: \$6,437.78              Rec'd to Date: \$289,880.15

**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE**

8:00 am: 107      10:00 am: 75      Total: 182

Live Stream Peak Live Viewers: 18

Sunday Bible Study: 25

Sunday School: 10

Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 27

# CALENDAR

<b>TODAY</b>	8:00 am	Worship
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship
<b>TUESDAY</b>	7:00 pm	Bible Study
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9:00 am	Bible Study (same as Tues.)
	3:30 pm	Public School Catechism Class
	7:00 pm	Budget Committee Meeting
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	8:00 am	Mission Festival Worship with Communion
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Mission Festival Worship with Communion

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## SERVING IN WORSHIP

**Presiding Minister**  
**Accompanist**

Pastor Brock Groth  
Irene Bakken

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