

+ **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost** +

Holy Communion (LBW Setting 1)

October 1st, 2023

(* = Stand as you are able; LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship-green book)

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Parish News

* **Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness**

pg. 56

* **Entrance Hymn** *Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good*

LBW #542

* **Apostolic Greeting & Kyrie**

pg. 57

* **Hymn of Praise:** *This is the feast . . .*
(1-women, 2-men)

pg. 60

* **First Prayer** (*7th Century Gelasian*)

Almighty and merciful God, shield us from what will harm us that we may be free to be faithful to the end, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Musical Offering

WORD

First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

A lesson from Ezekiel:

The word of the Lord came to me: [2] What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? [3] As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. [4] Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

[25] Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? [26] When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. [27] Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. [28] Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. [29] Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

[30] Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. [31] Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? [32] For I have no

pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live. The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalmody: 25:1-9 (tones 32-single; 24-double)

To you, O Lord, I lift / up my soul. * O my God, in / you I trust;
do not let me be / put to shame;*

do not let my enemies exult / over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be / put to shame;*

let them be ashamed who are wan- / tonly treacherous.

Make me to know your / ways, O Lord;*

teach / me your paths.

Lead me in your / truth, and teach me,*

for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait / all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your / steadfast love,*

for they have been / from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or / my transgressions;*

according to your steadfast love remember me,

for your goodness' / sake, O Lord!

Good and upright / is the Lord;*

therefore he instructs sinners / in the way.

He leads the humble in / what is right,*

and teaches the hum- / ble his way.

Glory to the Father, and / to the Son,* and to the / Holy

Spirit;

as it was in the beginn- / ing, is now,* and will be forev- / er.

Amen.

Second Lesson: Philip. 2:1-13 A lesson from Philippians:

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, [2] make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. [3] Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. [4] Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. [5] Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

[6] who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, [7] but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, [8] he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross.

[9] Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name that is above every name,
[10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
[11] and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

[12] Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; [13] for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

* **Alleluia Verse**

pg. 63

* **Gospel Acclamation** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

pg. 63

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" [24] Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. [25] Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' [26] But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." [27] So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

[28] "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' [29] He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. [30] The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. [31] Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. [32] For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

* **Praise to you, O Christ**

pg. 63

Homily

ELCA Deacon (Ret.) Sandy Shear (A/ St. M)
Pr. Paul Messner (E/ St. J)

* **Hymn of the Day**

At the Name of Jesus

LBW #179

RESPONSE

- * **Apostles' Creed**
- * **Prayers of the Church**

pg. 65

pg. 65

First Intercession:

Almighty God, we worship you for the love by which you reach out to your imperfect creatures. We are relieved that you are not content to close yourself off from all who do not measure up or respond to you. Instead, you became one of us, living with us by your Son, and now in us through him to make us whole and holy. We confess our need for you and our excitement that you have taken us to be eternally at your side.

* **Sharing the Peace of the Lord**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Musical Offering

- * **Presentation of Gifts and Offertory**

Let the Vineyards

pg. 66

- * **Offertory Prayer**

Eternal God, as our father Abraham brought gifts through your ancient priest, Melchizedek, so we bring gifts to pray for grace through Christ, your Son. Because He died and lives to be our Priest, forever hear His prayers for us, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

- * **Great Thanksgiving/Dialog**

pg. 68-71

Preface & Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

pg. 69

* **Eucharistic Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

pg. 69/ pew card

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

pg. 72

Distribution Hymns

LBW #212+, 480

- * **Post Communion Blessing & Canticle**

Thank the Lord . . .

pg. 72

- * **Post Communion Prayer**

O Lord, in this simple meal you have satisfied our ancient need. Bless as well the daily bread you give for us to share that those you bring within our reach may through refreshment have a sign of grace. You are the Lord forevermore. **Amen.**

SENDING

- * **Benediction**

pg. 74

- * **Recessional Hymn**

Jesus, Still Lead On

LBW #341

- * **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

+Prayers of the Church+

(Please take this prayer list home and use with your personal devotion time)

+Atonement+

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Joan Lambiaso, Rebecca Pollack (Joan Carman), Juan Perez (D. Sherrill), Bridgette Shepardson (Thompson), Rene Prins, Heather Mendoza, Grace & Chuck Dietzman, Rita Nelson, Thoranne Winkler, Monica Koulis (Winkler), Valerie England, Jennifer Carman, Lisa Cooper (Syvertsen), Janna Benston (Sherrill), Gary Williams, Jill A. (Cindy), Jason Pallack (Carman), Barb Delaney (Serra-Lima/ Winkler), Stash Tarka (Thompson), Jim Baker, John Cook, Florence Jelliffe

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Walt Baumann

For young adult: Sam Sherrill

+Evangelical+

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Yvonne Cornell, Alex Reynolds (C. Butts), Marilyn Urbiss (Burda), Roz Winne (C. Butts), Janet Underwood (Burda), Gloria Hendricks, Susan Howard, John & Pam Miller, David Glynn, Bill Jacobson (D. Brown), Kenny Medor (Butts), Joan Ackerman (Butts), Ansley (Butts), Wendy Wenck Craighill (Miller), Julie Sharrett, Lynne Hecker, Roberta Rowland Raybold

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Norm & Karen Johannesen

For Young Adult: Gunnar Jaeck

+St. Matthew+

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Scott Forbes, Tina Keator, Sherrie Roy (Lawyer), Barbara Gesile, Gina Pywar, Melissa McLaughlin (S. Eggers), Cathy Walsh (Stevens), Owen Basher (Marsh), Rennie Brown (Janet), Jason Hahn, Kathy Parsons, Maureen McAndrew (Greenleaf), Mike McAndrew (Greenleaf), Jack Anthony (Stevens), Troy Lutz (Bush), Alan & Linda Peeters, Corinne Pollak, James Wikoff (Hulbert), Vicky Vesely (Bush), Helmut Boehl, Anna Elwyn (Rose Nelson), Ellie Bauman, Carol Evans, Patti Hulbert, Howard Turnbull (Stevens), Ann and Mike Monahan, Gus Pfeuffer, Carol (Nelson) Doane, Lynn Robinson, Robin Bush

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Nancy Boulay

For Young Adult: Megan Cleveland

+Beyond the Parish+

For healing in body, mind and spirit: Jackie Hesse (Lawyer), Rosemary Pepe (Eggers), Dorothy Fernandez, (Eggers), Dick Armstrong, Gina Utter (Thompson), Cathy Deleski (Thompson),

Alicia Biesler (Thompson), Margie Ortega (Thompson), Pr Lynn Ash, former President Jimmy Carter & 1st Lady Rosalyn Carter, David Wolff, Davilynn Cifonelli (Doane-Nelson), Kathryn Morris (Messner), Sue Stevens (Mansbach), Joe Bales (Messner), Dave Powell (Simmerly), The Rev Richard Johnson (STS, Lutheran Forum Letter, editor), The Rev Pari Bailey (STS Treasurer), Tyler Brazinski (Messner), Dorcas Brown (Christine Brown), Alen Brown (Christine Brown), Karen Flaherty (Crouthamel), Mary Jones (Cooperstown United Methodist Pastor's mother), Davin Ruffles, Dave Delker, Vinny Motellano (Messner)

For those celebrating marriage: Faith (Gruver) & Josh Bush

For those celebrating childbirth: Milford United Methodist Church Pastor Deok Ryeol Bak & his wife Jin on the birth of Ezra Hu Bak (daughter)

For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services: Dale Evans (Evangelical) USMC

In the Foothills Conference: Sunday Schools, students and staff, all educational ministries

National/ International Concerns: For all refugees and migrants; victims of violence in our communities; those struggling with economic conditions, food insecurity, and homelessness; the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Palestine; the people of Morocco & Lybia following the devastating earthquake and floods

**+Blessed are the Dead+
Who Die in the Lord**

+ Helen Hyatt +
(1950 – 2023)

+ Those killed in the Northport, NY band bus crash +

+ Parish News and Notes +

+OCLP+

Our current bulletin style has been tried now for a month, and we are looking for feedback. Please let Pr. Paul, Peg Serra-Lima (Atonement), or Nancy Miller Boulay (St. Matthew) know of any suggestions for changes that you have, or if the new design is working for you. Thanks!

Pastors Pericope Paragraph 10/1

(a "pericope" is a selected reading from scripture used as a lesson at worship)

+Questions and answers...or not! Adversaries: "By whose authority do you do these things, and who gave it to you?" Jesus: "Who gave John (the baptizer) the authority to baptize?" Adversaries: "We don't know." Jesus: "Then I won't answer your questions either!" Jesus "Which son did the will of his father?" Adversaries: "The first". Jesus: "So the ones you deem least "worthy" enter God's kingdom ahead of you!" (Gospel). YHWH through Ezekiel: "Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair...Why will you die, O house of Israel? I have no pleasure in the death of anyone..." (1st lesson). Paul: "Do not look to your own interests, but to the interests of others." Then he quotes an early Christian hymn. How often to you sing or quote hymns outside Sunday worship? If not, why not? (2nd lesson).

Weekly Worship Practice:

What does "S.T.S." mean after Pastor Paul's name in our bulletin? "Societas Trinitatis Sanctae" (Latin for the Society of the Holy Trinity.) The S.T.S. is an organization of Lutheran clergy formed in 1997, to help pastors live out their ordination vows in a disciplined way. Members follow a "rule" of daily prayer, worship, regular retreats and pastoral visitations and oversight. If you would like to see the STS "rule" see Pr. Paul.

+OCLP+

We welcome ELCA Deacon (Ret.) Sandy Shear to lead worship at St. Matthew & Atonement
Next Sunday TBA will lead worship at Evangelical and St. John

Readings Through This Week

See website: <https://www.otsegocountylutheranparish.com>

Serving Today	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew
Asst. Minister	Sue Dana		Robin Bush
Comm. Asst.	Cindy H	Gabe L	
Lector	Sue Dana	Gabe L	Dave Forbes
Cantor	Sue Dana	Gabe L	
*Altar Care		Cindy & Esther	
Ushers/Greeters	John Mushtare & Victor G	Hazzards	
Coffee Hour			
Acolyte	Carter Thompson	Paxton Hazzard	Alicia Stevens
Sound System		Lane	
Bell Ringer			
Church Cleaner			Sharon

Attendance & Offering Statistics

Date	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew	St. John
9/24	30/ 994	13/ 570	25/ 839	4/ 239
9/27	9/ 129	1/ 64	7/ 318	
**	(\$1,290)	(\$850)	(\$1,309)	

** Needed to meet weekly expenses

+ THIS WEEK +

+ Today Sunday 10/1
Holy Communion

Atonement Council Meeting follows worship with quarterly question and answer session prior

+ Tuesday 10/3

6:00pm First Tuesday Supper: Italian Fest St. Matt

+ Wednesday 10/4

7:30am St. Matthew – worship

10:30am Clergy Bible Study, Christ Church, Cooperstown

Noon Evangelical – devotions

5:30pm “The Chosen” Season 2, episode 4 Atonement

7:00pm Atonement – devotions

+ Thursday 10/5

7:00pm St. Matthew Council Meeting

+ Thursday 10/5 – Sunday 10/8

Pr. Paul & Martha at family wedding in Madison, WI

+ COMING UP +

+ Thursday 10/12

5:00pm St. Matthew Worship & Music Committee

+ Saturday 10/14

Time TBA Atonement Neighborhood Block Party

8:30am OCLP Men’s Breakfast, St. Matthew

10:00am – Noon Foothills Conference Fall assembly, location TBA