

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 15, 2024

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.

Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 3, Page 138

† *Congregation stands as able*

GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who forgives all our sin, who creates, sustains and renews us and all creation.

C: **Amen**

P: To you, O God,

C: **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

P: By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of +Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

C: **Amen**

Gathering Hymn

"O God, my faithful God"

ELW #806

Kyrie

Page 138

Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

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Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

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.

C: **Amen**

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Rose Johnson

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The 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.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

⁶I 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.

⁷The 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;

⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-9

Tone 4

¹I love the LORD, who has ¹heard my voice, and listened to my ¹supplication,
²**for the LORD has given ¹ear to me whenever ¹I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave ¹came upon me;
I came to ¹grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name ¹of the LORD:
"O LORD, I pray you, ¹save my life."**

⁵Gracious is the ¹LORD and righteous; our God is full ¹of compassion.

⁶**The LORD watches o- ¹ver the innocent;
I was brought low, ¹and God saved me.**

⁷Turn again to your rest, ¹O my soul. for the LORD has dealt ¹well with you.

⁸**For you have rescued my ¹life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my ¹feet from stumbling;**

⁹I will walk in the presence ¹of the LORD in the land ¹of the living.

Second Reading

James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For 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. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or 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. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And 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. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can 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

Mark 8:27-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹Then 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. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Epitimao: Rebuke

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

✠ Hymn of the Day

"If God my Lord be for me"

ELW #788

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**

You may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A: We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing insecurity. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve (*especially*). Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: For all those who have asked us to pray for them...

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We remember our beloved dead, especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs, Eva Brown, Bishop Davis, Joan Smith, Tom Pettit, Nelda Woods, and Patti Vinson who with the great cloud of witnesses bear witness to your saving grace. Accompany us in our pilgrimage of faith, that we too place our hope and trust in you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen

MEAL

Anthem *"Take up Your Cross, the Savior Said"* Choir

The gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Prayer

A: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

† Great Thanksgiving Page 144

Holy, Holy, Holy Page 144

Lord's Prayer "Our Father, who..." Page 145

Lamb of God Page 146

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen

Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

† Prayer after Communion

A: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn *"Lift high the cross"* ELW #660

Dismissal

A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Memorial Book Is Open Today to the Glory of God

In Memory of:

Inge Ida Brown, 2020

New Address Geri and Mike Regnier and the cat survived the trip to Oklahoma and have spent the last few days unloading boxes! They are enjoying watching the service on YouTube. Please take note of their new address:

2803 24th Ave. NW
Apt 2121
Norman, OK 73069

• HAPPY SEPTEMBER •

Birthday!
TO YOU

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 - Ellen Hoag | 23 - Rose Johnson |
| 2 - Michael Ingram | 23 - Sonja Metcalf |
| 4 - Jim Sperry | 25 - Tyler Chappel |
| 10 - Amanda Jeffery | 27 - Connie Sieg |
| 22 - Amy Glau | 27 - Fabio Vargas |
| | 28 - Marga Miller |



READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

Jeremiah 11:18-20
 Psalm 54
 James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a
 Mark 9:33-37



“The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me.” —Martin Luther

September 8, 2024
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ATTENDANCE — 63
 (IN-PERSON— 50, YOUTUBE - 13)

Thankfully offered

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$ 1,742.00
Building	\$ 142.00
Memorial	\$ 100.00
Other	\$ 320.00
Total	\$ 2,304.00

Save the Date

- September 17 & 24 - 1:00-3:00 - Craf-Tea - Luther Hall
- September 26 - 5:00 - Council Meeting - Church House
- September 28 - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Church grounds cleanup
- October 16-November 20 (Wednesday) - 6:00 More Than Just Stories Bible Study-Luther

Serving September 15, 2024

Opener/Closer	Donna Doughty
Worship Assistant	Donna Doughty
Communion Assistant	Rose Johnson
Lector	Terri Niederhammer
Ushers	Jim Sperry
	Bill Wallace
Altar Guild	Lisa Pettit
	Allena Sperry
Live Streaming	Cecil McGouirk

Serving September 22, 2024

Opener/Closer	Allena Sperry
Worship Assistant	Shannon Gardner
Communion Assistant	Evelyn Pettit
Lector	Amy Hoag
Ushers	Katherine Kelly
	Bill Wallace
Altar Guild	Catherine Sayers
	Debby Ullman
Live Streaming	Matt Pettit/Jaxson Gardner

Pray Without Ceasing



“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

—1 Thessalonians

5:16-18

The Armed Forces,
their families,
and victims of war
Persecuted Christians
The ministries of
St. Matthew
Bishop Kevin
Strickland
Acting Bishop
Jill Henning
Southeastern Synod
Staff
Pastor Taylor Burton
Edwards
Laura Alexander
Carol Bingemann
Dave Bonaker
Pat Bonaker
Rigney Cofield
Betty Davidson
Ken Hoag
Myrna Hoag
Bennie Jackson
Mairetha Jackson
Marga Miller
Traudel Mosely
Louie Niederhammer
Debby Owen
Dorothy Redden
Connie Sieg

Carla Stickles
Albert VanHousen II
Harold Vinson
Margarete Walsh
Monika Wright
George Capps
Jim Chappel
Jean Clemmons
Xavier Danguilan
Penny Davis & Family
Brandy Garnett
Moses Glidden
Becky Goldsmith
Estrella Gonzales
Doris Grier
Harold
Petra Henderson
Norma Kilby
Ken Korn
Emma Kump
Boyd Lester
Laura Lester
Valerie Karol Louder
Robert Lowe
Michelle Matthias
Brady Meeks
Tim Moore
Gary Nearhoof
Louie Niederhammer
Michael Owen

Angela Paul
Vincent Pawlowski
Beth Price
Mark Purushotham
Dwight Redmond
Tiffany Richardson
Phillip Roan
Dayna Ryan
Shirley Scott
Dou Shizhen
Ricky Skinner
Betty Townsend
Charlie VanHousen
Dawn VanHousen
Martha Zimmerman

Maui
Morocco
Israel
Ukraine
Gaza
Winder, GA

Grace Apostolic Church
#1 Nails
Valley Rescue Donation
Center
Landmark
McKibben Insurance
Rooster's Beer & Wine

Deadline for bulletins is **Tuesday 10:00 a.m.** prior to the Sunday.
Deadline for September newsletter is September 20.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to St. Matthew: Jesus Christ offers himself to all. May you be blessed as we celebrate God's love for us. All the baptized are invited to feast with us at the Lord's Table. The wearing of a mask is optional during worship and social distancing is recommended. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday.

We invite you to join our congregation if you have not yet found a church home. We are people of God that share a living, daring, confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person, questions, complexities and all. Join us, as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Nursery: St. Matthew provides nursery service for children ages 6 and younger. All children are welcome to attend worship with their families. If a child needs a break during the service, they may sit with a parent/guardian in the Narthex.

Mission Outreach Opportunities:

Mission Focus:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| | Damascus Way |
| • Lion's Club: | Glasses, sunglasses and old cell phones |
| • Family House of West GA: | Pop tabs |
| • Flags to Retire: | Bring used American flags that you no longer want or need. |
| • St. Anne's: | Personal hygiene products (travel size), toilet paper, and non-perishable food items |
| • Safe House | Sealed plastic utensils (take-out meals) |
- Leave donations in the labeled containers in the Narthex between bathrooms.

Craf-Tea: This group is meeting every Tuesday, beginning September 10th from 1:00-3:00 PM in Luther Hall. If you enjoy crafts and tea, this group is for you! Please see Beth Hoag for more information.

Remembrance Gathering: Our Remembrance Gathering began as an open invitation to members of our congregation to come together sharing personal stories or recollections of someone else's experiences during and post WWII. Our goals going forward will include all conflicts and wars and the invitation extends to our community visitors and guests. For more information please contact Zocia Barr at 706-330-1001. These Gatherings are every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 3:00 PM in the Church House. Our next Gathering will be Tuesday, October 8th.



This amazing event was enjoyed by 42 people. The food was great! Books were labeled for Fort Moore basic Trainees libraries. Many enjoyed painting bowls for the Empty Bowl Spring fundraiser benefitting Feeding the Valley.

For the Damascus Way, Women and Children's Shelter, we will be collecting:

- Cleaning supplies
- Personal care items:
 - ◇ razors,
 - ◇ hair brushes
 - ◇ hair products
- Children's diapers (sizes 4,5 & pull-ups)
- Women's and Children's underwear - all sizes
- individual snacks(gold fish, chips, crackers)
- bottled water
- juice boxes
- Chef Boyardee microwaveable bowls
- Mac & Cheese microwaveable bowls
- Monetary donations

September Mission Focus

Please place items in labeled basket in the Narthex.

Garden and grounds cleanup
Saturday, September 28th
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Please bring your own tools, including weed eaters, blowers and tools to trim shrubs.

**St. Matthew Evangelical
Lutheran Church
Mission Statement**



Reach in to grow in Christ
Reach up to worship God
Reach out to welcome and witness

ST. MATTHEW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4026 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia 31907

(706) 561-3406 - Office Hours - Tues & Thurs 2:00-5:00 PM, Friday 9:00-1:00 PM

Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards Email: twbe@liturgyfolks.com

Office email: office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com

A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

Southeastern Synod

www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457/streams>

The Rev. Taylor Burton Edwards, Pastor

Sonja Metcalf, Parish Administrator

Lisa Pettit, Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof, Minister of Music

Penny Davis, Nursery Director