



**+ Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 26, 2021**

**St. Andrew Lutheran Church**  
**304 Morewood Ave.**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15213**

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**+ Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Order for Worship**

*Someone who is not 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 cannot keep tabs on.*

***A few notes on precautions and protocols, which apply to everyone regardless of vaccination status, as St. Andrew returns to worship in the sanctuary:***

- Face masks that fully cover both your mouth and nose are required at all times for everyone over the age of two (2) – the only exception being the brief moment of moving mask aside to partake in Holy Communion.
- Outside food and drink are thus not permissible during worship.
- Physical distancing of at least six (6) feet will be observed at all times for people not from your household.
- We invite the congregation to voice responses and prayers during worship. A cantor will sing the hymns with a mask on, and the rest of the congregation is encouraged to follow along silently.
- We ask that everyone use hand sanitizer, either your own or from the bottles throughout the sanctuary, especially prior to Holy Communion.

***Worship Services are live streamed to multiple online platforms.***  
***By attending worship, you agree that your image and voice may be broadcast.***

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Gathering

*Please rise as you are able.*

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sins to 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 ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**C: Amen.**

*We ask that those present in the church sanctuary refrain from singing the hymns aloud.*

*The assembly gathered from afar is encouraged to sing!*

- 1 **God is here! As we your people  
meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure  
what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us,  
all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit  
into open minds and hearts.**
  
- 3 **Here our children find a welcome  
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant  
seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living  
to believe and to adore.**
  
- 4 **Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
in an age of change and doubt,  
keep us faithful to the gospel;  
help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication,  
all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you,  
we adore you! We believe!**

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## 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

**P:** Let us pray.

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.

**C:** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## **Word**

### **First Reading – Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29**

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

<sup>10</sup>Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. <sup>11</sup>So 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? <sup>12</sup>Did 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?’ <sup>13</sup>Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ <sup>14</sup>I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup>If 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.”

<sup>16</sup>So 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.”

<sup>24</sup>So 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. <sup>25</sup>Then 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.

<sup>26</sup>Two 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. <sup>27</sup>And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” <sup>28</sup>And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” <sup>29</sup>But 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 God’s spirit on them!”

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading – James 5: 13-20**

<sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Are 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. <sup>15</sup>The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore 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. <sup>17</sup>Elijah 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. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup>My kindred, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup>you 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.**

*Please rise as you are able.*

### **Gospel Acclamation** (*Spoken*)

P: Alleluia. Your word, O Lord, is truth; sanctify us in the truth. Alleluia.

### **Gospel – Mark 9: 38-50**

P: The holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

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

<sup>38</sup>John 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.” <sup>39</sup>But 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.

<sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For 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.

<sup>42</sup>“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. <sup>43</sup>If 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. <sup>45</sup>And 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. <sup>47</sup>And 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, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup>“For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt 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.**

*Please be seated.*

### **Sermon**

*Please rise as you are able.*

Hymn of the Day      **Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life**  
v. 1, 3-4

**ELW 719**

- 1** Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife,  
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
  
- 3** From tender childhood's helplessness,  
from human grief and burdened toil,  
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,  
your heart has never known recoil.
  
- 4** The cup of water giv'n for you  
still holds the freshness of your grace;  
yet long these multitudes to view  
the strong compassion in your face.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850-1935, alt. Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815.

### **Affirmation of Baptism**

*St. Andrew welcomes Mr. Kevin Kareis to the congregation  
as he makes public affirmation of his Baptism.*

*Those making affirmation may gather with the ministers at the font.  
They may be joined by others from the assembly.*

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of Baptism and for this individual, Kevin, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of his Baptism.

*Those making affirmation are presented by a sponsor or another representative of the congregation:*

S: I present Kevin Kareis, who desires to make public affirmation of his Baptism.

*The presiding minister continues with prayer.*

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for our brother, Kevin,  
whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.  
You have called him to yourself, enlightened him with the gifts of your Spirit,  
and nourished him in the community of faith. Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises  
of Baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## **Profession of Faith**

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of Baptism.*

*The assembly may stand and join in the responses.*

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response:* I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response:* I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response:* I renounce them.

*The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.*

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

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\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.



## Affirmation of Baptism

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.*

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Response:* I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

P: People of God, do you promise to support this brother and pray for him in his life in Christ?

**C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.*

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

*The minister offers a blessing:*

Stir up in Kevin the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly.*

*A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.*

S: Let us rejoice with this brother in Christ.

**C: We rejoice with you in the life of Baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

*The presiding minister introduces the newly affirmed to the congregation, which may offer its support with applause. The rite concludes with the sponsor singing the congregational refrain:*

*S: Christ goes before, and we are called to follow,  
and all who follow find the Way, the Truth, the Life.*

## Prayers of the People

P: As children of God and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and for all who are in need.

*After each petition*

P: God of mercy,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

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

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated while the table is being prepared.  
We offer ourselves, our gifts, and our faithful service to God.*

*An offering plate is available at the back of the sanctuary  
for those who would like to offer gifts as you leave worship today.*

## **Meal**

*Please rise as you are able.*

### **Offertory Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

God of abundance,

you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.

Accept the gifts you have first given us.

Unite them with the offering of our lives  
to nourish the world you love so dearly;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Dialogue**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Preface**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...  
... and join their unending hymn.

## **Sanctus**

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord ...  
... be all honor and glory, now and forever.  
**C: Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
    hallowed be your name,  
    your kingdom come,  
    your will be done,  
        on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
    as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
    and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
    and the glory are yours,  
    now and forever. Amen.**

## **Fraction and Invitation**

P: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.  
Come, share the feast.

## ***Agnus Dei / Lamb of God***

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*Please be seated.*

## **Holy Communion**

- *Please use hand sanitizer prior to receiving Communion.*
- *We will not be kneeling at the altar rail due to the need for physical distancing.*
- *Worshippers from the pulpit side will proceed forward first, followed by the center section, and then the lectern side.*
- *The Communion wafers (regular and gluten-free) have been thoughtfully prepared using the gifts of the congregation by a member of St. Andrew's altar care team, with a drop of wine or grape juice on each. The presiding minister will distribute one to each communicant from the ciborium using sanitary tongs.*
- *When you reach the presiding minister, please indicate if you would like grape juice or a gluten-free wafer.*
- *A blessing will be provided for anyone who does not yet receive the sacrament, following physical distancing guidelines.*
- *Everyone is asked to wait until you return to your place to consume the elements, and then promptly replace your mask.*

## **Hymn during Holy Communion**

**Christ, Our Peace**

**ACS 1037**

*Christ, Our Peace is a hymn in the Taizé style, with a simple verse repeated numerous times to aid in reflection and contemplation.*

**Christ, our peace,  
you break down the walls that divide us;  
Christ, our peace,  
come, make us one body in you.**

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Music: CHRIST, OUR PEACE, Marty Haugen. Text and music © 2007, GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-722139.

*When all have returned to their places, please rise as you are able.*

## **Blessing**

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

**C: Amen.**

## **Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

Gracious God, in the gift of your body and blood  
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.  
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,  
bearing witness to the abundance of your love  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **Sending**

### **Benediction**

P: People of God, you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*Abbreviations*

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

L: Lector

S: Sponsor for Affirmation of Baptism

**C: Congregation**

***ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal***

***ACS: All Creation Sings hymnal***

*Those serving in worship today*

Prelude and Hymnody

Cantor

Lector

Audiovisual Ministers

Director of Faith Formation

Presiding Minister

Lily Cai, Piano

Richard Krug

Lester Prince

Kristen Asplin

Christopher Atwood

Christopher Atwood

Pastor Ross Carmichael

*Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements*

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