



St. Luke's Lutheran Church



330 Sunset Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-539-2604
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

September 6, 2020 – 11:00 AM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
Charity Smith, Director of Christian Education
Rev. King Crawford, Campus Ministry
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music
Laurie Powell, Director of Early Learning Center*

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Proper 18
(Series A)**

AS WE GATHER

When His disciples wanted to know who was the greatest in the kingdom of heaven, Jesus pointed to a child as an object lesson for true humility. One who assumes the posture of complete dependence—having nothing, yet needing everything—is valued by God. Our gracious Savior calls us to such humility, repentance, and faith this day. As we come before Him to receive forgiveness and new life through His very presence in His Word and at His Table, we, too, assume a posture of penitence. This posture doesn't point to ourselves and our supposed worthiness; no, it points to Jesus and His sacrifice for us, the unworthy children of the Father. As the only perfectly humble child of God, Jesus stoops to serve us today and fill us with the forgiveness we desperately need.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

Calling to Him a child, He put him in the midst of them and said, **“Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”** *Matthew 18:2–4*

PRELUDE

Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus.

✠ A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE ✠

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESERVICE - "As We Gather" Matthew 18:20

1, 2, 3, 4 As we gather may Your Spirit work within us
As we gather may we glorify Your name
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship
We'll be blessed because we came
We'll be blessed because we came

(Tom Coomes & Mike Fay ©1981 Maranatha! Music & Coomesietunes CCLI #288089)

Stand

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

C to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

P to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,

C and Your faithfulness by night.

P The Most High God gathers us to praise His name and declare His love together!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Lord God, You promise grace and every blessing to all who come before You and repent of their sins. Hear us now as we, Your humble children, bring our prayers before You.

In silent prayer, we confess our sins to the Lord, seeking His cleansing forgiveness.

P Most merciful Father,

C **we come before You and admit our sinfulness. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have failed to do what Your Word demands. We have not honored You fully with our lives, nor have we loved one another as You have first loved us. In the name of our loving Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for Your forgiveness. Because our Savior humbled Himself for our sake upon the cross, enable us in true humility to receive the remission You promise to Your repentant children. Amen.**

P “Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.” God the Father has taken your sins and laid them upon our humble Savior Jesus Christ. Because of Christ’s sacrifice, God does not count your sins against you. He has taken them away! He remembers them no more! He preserves and delivers you as His child forever! As a called and ordained 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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, from whom all goodness and love proceeds, grant to us the posture of true humility and repentance, that turning from our sins, we receive the remission You promise to all who trust in You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

APOSTLES' CREED

- P** God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.**

Sit

OPENING SONG - "One True God"

1 I don't have a god I can put on a stand
Or a god I hold in the palm of my hand
I have a God who's holding me
I don't have a god that I can create
In the place I live with the money I make
I have a God, He made everything
So I don't need a temporary man-made deity
When I got the real thing, I got the real thing

2, 4, 6, 7 He's the Lord of all the Earth
The maker of all things
He alone is the one true God
Kingdoms rise and fall
But even through it all
He remains the one true God

3 I don't have a thing that I got on my own
I don't have a care that I carry alone
I have a God who's carrying me
I don't have a sin that He doesn't forgive
And I don't have a heart that is worthy of His
But I have God who still loves me
So I don't need a temporary man-made deity
When I got the real thing, I got the real thing

5 Who is this King of Glory?
The Lord strong and mighty
Who is this King of Glory?
The Lord strong and mighty
Who is this King of Glory?
Who is this King of Glory?

(Used by permission CCLI #288089)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 33:7-9

(The watchman warns the wicked to turn from his way.)

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 32:1-7; antiphon: v. 1

L ¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,

C whose sin is covered.

L ²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,

C and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

L ³For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away

C through my groaning all day long.

L ⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;

C my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

L ⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;

C I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

L ⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
C surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.

L ⁷You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
C you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

L **Glory be to the Father and to the Son**
C **and to the Holy Spirit;**

L **as it was in the beginning,**
C **is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

C ¹**Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,**
whose sin is covered.

EPISTLE

Romans 13:1-10

(Love is the fulfilling of the law.)

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.
²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Matthew 5:3

P Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit,

C **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:1-20

(Jesus calls the children of to humility and repentance.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord**

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ

Sit

LAMB'S MESSAGE

SERMON

OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. **Offering plates** are available in the narthex as you exit.
2. Please **send** your offerings to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
4801 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66503
3. Give through our **website**:
<https://stlukesmanhattan.org/about-us/financial-support/>
4. **Electronic Funds Transfer** - Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: *Matthew 18:4* – “(Jesus said), ‘**Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**’ ”

What does it mean to have childlike faith? Certainly, Jesus does not want us to have a faith that is *childish*. We are not called to ignorance or silliness. Rather, we are called to trust the way a child trusts – with complete confidence in the Father. We show that confidence in our lives when we follow His directives for our life. Father knows best, so we'll take His advice!

OFFERTORY - "In His Time"

1 In His time, in His time
He makes all things beautiful, in His time
Lord, please show me every day
As You're teaching me Your way
That You do just what You say, in Your time

2, 3 In Your time, in Your time
You make all things beautiful, in Your time
Lord, my life to You I bring
May each song I have to sing
Be to You a lovely thing, in Your time

4 Lord, please show me every day
As You're teaching me Your way
That You do just what You say, in Your time

(©1978, arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Used By
Permission CCLI #25981)

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Blessed Lord, You have promised that where two or three are gathered in Your name, You are in the midst of them. Hear the prayers of Your people, and grant our supplications.

Brief silence

O Lord, grant to Your people courage, that with boldness we may speak Your name in witness and warn sinners so that they may come to faith and repentance and so enjoy the forgiveness of their sins. Give Your Church wisdom and strength by Your Spirit, that she may be steadfast and unmovable in Your Word and truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, be present among Your people to serve us with the gifts of Your grace, and grant that we may receive them with joy. Give to us faithful pastors and church workers who will minister to us in Your name and strengthen our faith and life together as Your baptized people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, give to us good and honest leaders who will govern according to Your Word and will. Give us grace, that we may not fail to pray for those who lead us and to act as good citizens and good neighbors to one another. Give peace to the nations, and bring an end to violence, prejudice and racism. Guide us to know and respect all life, from the infant in the womb to the youth beginning maturity, and from the mature to the aged. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You send rain upon the earth and turn the seeds into plants rich with fruit for harvest. Accept our thanks and praise for Your continued goodness in providing a good harvest and food for all. Give us wisdom so that we may use Your resources wisely and extend Your care to those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You urge us to give special care and guidance to the young and those new to the faith. Give us grace, that we may not lead them into temptation or sin but guard their faith by making known to them the full counsel of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Hear us on behalf of _____, that they may be sustained in their afflictions, comforted in life and death, and delivered to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You have given the day for work and the night for rest. Bless all honest labor and industry, artists and artisans, and those in caring professions. Keep us in humility, and guard us against pride and arrogance. Give to us a spirit of generosity, that we may share with others the blessings that flow from our labors. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, teach us to forgive others as You have forgiven us and bless the fellowship of the forgiven, that we may be united in doctrine and life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, deliver us from pandemic and pestilence, from disaster and danger, and from a sudden death, that kept in faith, we may be preserved through this mortal life and in death be received into the arms of Your mercy and into the blessed rest of everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Hear us, O Lord, who cry to You in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, whom with the Spirit, You are one God and one Lord, now and forevermore.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING - "Tell the World" Matthew 16:15

- 1 Tell the world the message
 Take it everywhere
 To every tribe and nation
 We are called to share
- 2 Go ye therefore to every nation
 Preach the gospel in every land
 To every language and every people
 In My name, reach out your hand
- 3, 5, 7, 8 Tell the world the message, take it everywhere
 To every tribe and nation, we are called to share
 Tell the world the message, take it everywhere
 To every tribe and nation, we are called to share
- 4 Go ye therefore to every neighbor
 Share My love with every man
 The world will know that you are Mine
 If in My name, you reach out your hand
- 6 Tell the world, oh, tell the world, go ye and tell
 Tell the world, oh, tell the world, go ye and tell

(Marsha Skidmore ©1994, arr. ©1997 Doulos Publishing, a div. of Maranatha! Music CCLI #288089)

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.

