

# Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion

August 21, 2022 9:00 a.m.

Welcome to worship this morning!

If you are new to the congregation, please know that **children** are welcome to remain in worship or take a break in our “Kids’ Korner” in the gathering space where the service is piped in for parents. **Bathrooms** are located down the hall past the church office. All who desire the sacrament are welcome for **communion**. Pre-filled communion cups are available at the usher’s table. During Holy Communion we will invite all who desire to come forward to kneel at the altar rail. Please bring your communion kit with you at that time.

The **hymns** are printed in the red book available in the pew rack. “ELW” refers to the book’s title, “Evangelical Lutheran Worship.”

CHORALE PRELUDE: *Praise to the Lord*

Paul Manz

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the **†** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. I invite you to kneel or remain standing.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

ELW 858

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

## KYRIE

ELW 157



Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.  
Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer - cy.  
Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14**

*God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.*

A reading from Isaiah.

- 9b If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
10 if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
11 The Lord will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
12 Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.  
13 If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,  
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;

if you call the sabbath a delight  
 and the holy day of the Lord honorable;  
 if you honor it, not going your own ways,  
 serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;  
 then you shall take delight in the Lord,  
 and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;  
 I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,  
 for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

The Word of the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*sung twice*)

ELW 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -  
 - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -  
 lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954  
 Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

## **HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17**

*Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding “sabbath work” to include setting people free from bondage.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

10Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” 13When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

14But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” 15But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? 16And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?” 17When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Brian**

HYMN OF THE DAY: *O Christ the Same*

ELW 760 (Tune: Londonderry Air)

1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—  
 2 O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing  
 3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing

our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;  
 our in - most thoughts, the se - crets none can hide;  
 our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;

e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,  
 still as of old up - on your bod - y bear - ing  
 our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,

un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:  
 the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:  
 our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:

O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,  
 O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—  
 O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,

who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;  
 O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;  
 for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;

O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,  
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en:  
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,

we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.  
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.  
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926  
 Music: LONDONDERRY AIR, Irish tune

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## 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

**A brief silence.**

God of the universe, you crown your church with steadfast love and mercy. Guide us continually in our baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Use our diverse gifts in service to the whole people of God. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of creation, you satisfy the needs of all creatures. Protect the habitats of fish and birds. Repair ecosystems damaged by misuse, neglect, or natural disaster, that all creation may thrive. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of the nations, you make your ways known to all people. Inspire the rulers and leaders of nations with your compassion and mercy. Raise up activists and community organizers to restore places affected by violence, poverty, and inequality. We pray especially for peace in Ukraine and an end to all war. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of the poor, you provide justice for all who are oppressed and relief to all who are afflicted. Heal those who are bent over by addiction, depression, and anxiety. Set free all who cry out under the weight of mental, emotional, or physical distress. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of the sabbath, you call us to delight in the sabbath. Renew our bodies, minds, and spirits in this worshiping assembly. Give rest to all who lead our congregation in worship, study, and service. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray? (*Here worshippers may raise other prayers, aloud or silently, ending each prayer with the words, Merciful God, to which the congregation may respond, receive our prayer.*)

God of the departed, generations bless your holy name. We give you thanks for the communion of saints who have gathered in prayer and praise in this place. Support us in your love until we rest forever in you. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **Amen.**

## PEACE

*The minister and the congregation greet each other in the peace of Christ.*

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*St. Matthew members and friends joyfully offer themselves, their time, and their possessions as a grateful response to God's generosity. Thank you for your continued faithfulness! Financial gifts may be given in person in the offering plate on your way out of church, online at [www.stmatthewavon.org](http://www.stmatthewavon.org) or mailed to the church.*

## DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

*Following the Lord's Prayer, we invite you to come forward with your communion kit and kneel at the altar rail or to remain in your seat to commune there. Trash cans will be available at the side of the altar rail and as you exit the church.*

## HOLY COMMUNION

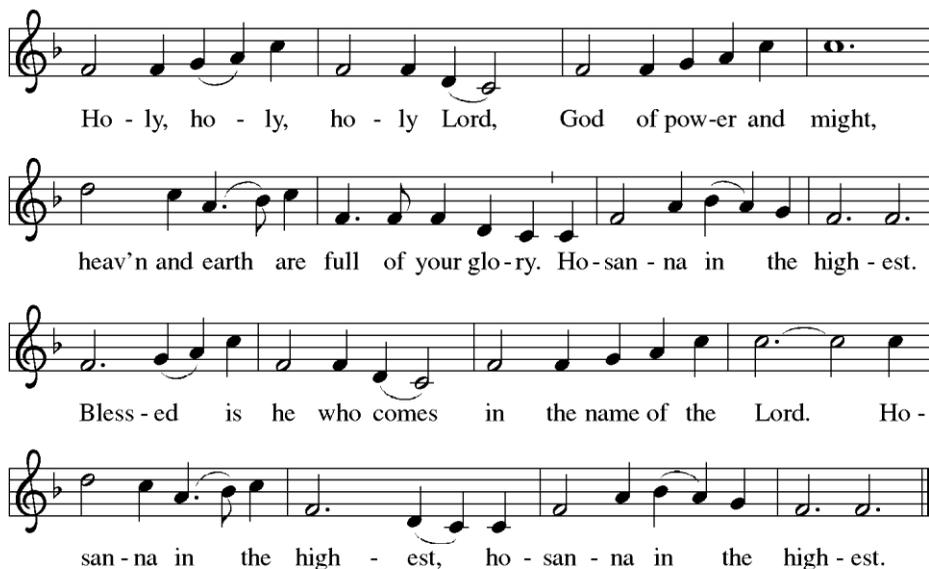
The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

## GREAT AMEN

*“Amen” is sung over and over to the tune of “Amazing grace.”*

## LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## THE DISTRIBUTION

In Christ’s presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

*At this time all who desire to come forward may do so at the direction of the ushers.*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION HYMN: *Let Us Break Bread Together*

ELW 471

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

As you go on your way may Christ go with you.  
May he go before you to show you the way,  
behind you to encourage you,  
beside you to befriend,  
above you to watch over,  
and within you to give you ✝ peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN: *Sent Forth by God's Blessings***

**ELW 547**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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**Altar flowers this morning are given by Kevin Reichler in loving memory of Linda Marie Reichler.**

**For those who would like to linger a bit and enjoy fellowship, please join us after the service in the Gathering Space for coffee, tea, lemonade, and refreshments.**

## MANY THANKS THIS MORNING TO OUR:

**Ushers:** Ernie Jaschinski & Kevin Reichler

**Lector:** Kathy Alsgaard

**Assisting Minister:** Rick Hanson

**Live Stream:** George Spoering

**Altar Guild:** Ellen Ericson & Kris Pearson

### Staff:

Pastor Brian R. Rajcok, Associate Pastor-pastorbrian@stmatthewavon.org

Richard Silbereis, Director of Music - contact the Church office (860) 673-3301

Diane Oates, Church Administrator - office@stmatthewavon.org

Roy Zurell, Sexton - contact the Church office (860) 673-3301

Visit us on our website: [www.stmatthewavon.org](http://www.stmatthewavon.org)

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**Wednesday:** 9:30 WW Meeting - Hall of the Evangelists

5:00 Centering Prayer

5:15 WW Meeting - Hall of the Evangelists

**Sunday:** 9:00 Sanctuary Communion Service

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN**, please join Anne Fenn and Debbie Steinberg on **Saturday, September 17, 2022 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm** at Debbie's house in Old Saybrook. We will explore the theme of **CELEBRATION** and enjoy being together again! **Currently there are 5 spots remaining!** Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the Church office, or call the office at (860) 673-3301 and ask Diane to add your name to the list. Contact Debbie for more info by text, phone, or email - (860) 463-9212/deborahsteinberg@mac.com.

### FALL WORSHIP SERVICE

There will be one sanctuary worship service offered at 9 a.m. in the fall, followed by Sunday School and Adult Forum at 10:15.

### SAVE THE DATE!

**Sunday, September 25 is Rally Day!** Join us to celebrate the start of the new Sunday School year with worship at 9 a.m., followed by food, fellowship, and fun! Refreshments provided by Fellowship.

### *St. Matthew Mission Statement:*

*St. Matthew Lutheran Church is a worshipping community called to proclaim God's love for all and to grow spiritually together. Challenged by Jesus' example, we strive to connect people of all ages, abilities, and needs, and to nurture them to be disciples of Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we reach out to the wider community and welcome our neighbors to a life of worship, preaching, teaching, Christian care, service, and spiritual growth.*

*In Christ, We Are*

*Digging Deep, Reaching Out, Changing Lives.*