

# **THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Saturday, August 22, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.**

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
4101 Washington Street NE  
Columbia Heights, MN 55421**

**+ CONNECT +**

## **INVOCATION:**

**L:** Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK: Psalm 138**

**L:** I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart; before the “gods” I will sing your praise.

**C:** **I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name**

**L:** For your unfailing love and your faithfulness, for you have so exalted your solemn decree that it surpasses your fame.

**C:** **When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.**

## **RESPONSE: “Awesome Power & Awesome God”**

**Awesome power, boundless grace; None can fathom all Your ways.**

**Truth and love are found in Your heart alone; Righteousness surrounds Your throne.**

**CHORUS: Holy, holy, holy Lord most high; Holy, holy, holy Lord most high. (repeat chorus)**

*(“Awesome Power” by John Elliott, copyright 1990 BMG Songs, CCLI License #921494.)*

**Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from heaven above**

**With wisdom, pow’r and love, Our God is an awesome God! (repeat verse)**

**Our God is an awesome God! Our God is an awesome God!**

*(“Awesome God” by Rich Mullins, copyright 1988 Edward Grant, Inc., CCLI Lic. #921494)*

**L:** May all the kings of the earth praise you, LORD, when they hear what you have decreed.

**C:** **May they sing of the ways of the LORD, for the glory of the LORD is great.**

**L:** Though the LORD is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;

**C:** **Though lofty, he sees them from afar.**

**L:** Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life.

**C:** **You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with your right hand you save me.**

**L:** The LORD will vindicate me; your love, LORD, endures forever—

**C:** **Do not abandon the works of your hands.**

## **CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:**

**L:** Lord God, you call me to a life of service in the mission of your church to use my gifts to spoil the ways of Satan. Forgive me, Lord, when I seek safety and security over mission’s messy work. Deal with me gently, that your compassion and mercy work through me to cancel anger, rage and injustice in this world. Amen.

## **FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED**

## **SONG OF PRAISE: “I’m Forever Grateful”**

**You did not wait for me to draw near to You, But You clothed Yourself with frail humanity.**

**You did not wait for me to cry out to You, But You let me hear Your voice calling me.**

**REFRAIN: And I'm forever grateful to You, I'm forever grateful for the cross.**

**I'm forever grateful to You That you came to seek and save the lost. (Repeat refrain)**

*(I'm Forever Grateful" by Mark Altrogge, copyright 1986 People of Destiny International/Pleasant Hills Music, CCLI Lic. #921494.)*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

**L:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**L:** Let us pray.

**C:** **Holy Spirit, restore your church to its mission. May your powerful word go out from it, proclaiming that your 'justice is to become a light of the nations' as you draw near with righteousness and salvation – to all who 'wait in hope.' For you live and reign with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**+ NURTURE +**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 51:1-6

"Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn; look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth. When I called him he was only one man, and I blessed him and made him many. The LORD will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; he will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing. Listen to me, my people; hear me, my nation: Instruction will go out from me; my justice will become a light to the nations. My righteousness draws near speedily, my salvation is on the way, and my arm will bring justice to the nations. The islands will look to me and wait in hope for my arm. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will last forever, my righteousness will never fail."

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

**EPISTLE LESSON:** Romans 11:33-12:8

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them? For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

**HOLY GOSPEL:**

**L:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 16.

**C:** **Glory to You, O Lord!**

**L:** When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples,

**P:** *"Who do people say the Son of Man is?"*

L: They replied,  
C: **“Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”**

P: *“But what about you? Who do you say I am?”*  
L: Simon Peter answered,

C: **“You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”**

L: Jesus replied,

P: *“Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”*

L: Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Built on the Rock”**

**Built on the Rock the Church shall stand, Even when steeples are falling;  
Crumbled have spires in ev’ry land, Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest, Calling the souls of those distressed,  
Longing for life everlasting.**

**Not in our temples made with hands God, the Almighty, is dwelling;  
High in the heav’ns his temple stands, All earthly temples excelling.  
Yet he who dwells in heav’n above Deigns to abide with us in love,  
Making our bodies his temple.**

**We are God’s house of living stones, Built for his own habitation;  
He fills our hearts, his humble thrones, Granting us life and salvation.  
Were two or three to seek his face, He in their midst would show his grace,  
Blessings upon them bestowing.**

**Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing;  
Hither we come to praise his name, Faith in our Savior confessing.  
Jesus to us his Spirit sent, Making with us his covenant,  
Granting his children the Kingdom.  
Through all the passing years, O Lord,  
Grant that, when church bells are ringing,  
Many may come to hear God’s Word, Where he this promise is bringing:  
I know my own, my own know me; You, not the world my face shall see;  
My peace I leave with you. Amen.**

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**MESSAGE:** Pastor Keith Brutlag

**CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles’ Creed**

**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.

+ EMPOWER +

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:**

*(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our 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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING SONG: “Christ the Eternal Lord”**

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;  
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,  
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word to ev’ry passing age,  
Whose timeless teachings still are heard Set forth on Scripture’s page;  
Transform our thought and mind, Enlighten all who read,  
Within Your Word by faith to find The bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son, Who share our human birth,  
And by His death salvation won For ev’ry child of earth  
Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad,  
That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,  
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The life, the Truth, the Way;  
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,  
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth’s brief journey ends.

Christ the ascended King Exalted high above,  
Whose praise unending ages sing, Whom yet unseen we love;  
When mortal life is past Your voice from heaven’s throne  
Shall call Your children home at last To know as we are known.

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**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:**

**Lay Minister:** Jim Geslin

**Altar Guild:** Sheila Beers & Pat Rosenberg