

# **THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Saturday, August 14, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.**

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church**

**4101 Washington Street NE**

**Columbia Heights, MN 55421**

**+ CONNECT +**

## **OPENING MEDLEY:**

**“Come, Now Is the Time to Worship”**

**Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart.**

**Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.**

**One day, every tongue will confess You are God. One say, every knee will bow.**

**Still, the greatest treasure remains For those who gladly choose You now. *(Repeat first verse)***

*(“Come, Now Is the Time to Worship” by Brian Doerksen, copyright 1998 Vineyard Songs, CCLI Lic. #921494.)*

**“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.)*

## **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.

## **CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:**

**L:** God has designed creation to provide for our physical needs.

**C:** “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater...”

**L:** Wisdom invites us:

**C:** “Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight.”

**L:** God’s people are marked by how they share what they have received.

**C:** “If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.”

L: And listen to what God says He expects of His people:  
C: **“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.”**

L: Let's confess to Jesus our need for His forgiveness.  
C: **O Bread of Life Jesus, you are everything we need. Yet we have turned so many other places for fulfillment, contentment, peace and happiness. You have called us to be blessings in the lives of others and yet we have turned inward and only thought of ourselves. By our sin we have hurt you; we have hurt others; we have hurt ourselves. Just as you have always been faithful to meet our needs, we ask you to meet our needs for mercy and grace. Forgive us. Take the victory of your perfect life and innocent death and apply them to us. In your name, Jesus, Amen.**

## **FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED**

**SONG OF PRAISE: “Nothing But the Blood of Jesus”**  
**What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!**  
**What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!**

**REFRAIN: Oh! Precious is the flow That makes me white as snow;**  
**No other fount I know; Nothing but the blood of Jesus!**

**For my pardon this I see, Nothing but the blood of Jesus!**  
**For my cleansing, this my plea, Nothing but the blood of Jesus! REFRAIN:**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

L: The Lord be with you.  
C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.  
C: **God of grace and mercy, through the gift of Your Son, guide our walk in this fallen world. May it be worthy of the calling we have received, imitating Christ who loved us and gave Himself upon the cross for us. May it be a careful walk, discerning what pleases you in the way we think, speak, and live. To the glory of your name, and for the sake of your kingdom on earth as it will be lived in heaven. Amen.**

## **GREETING TIME**

**+ NURTURE +**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Proverbs 9:1-10**

Wisdom has built her house; she has set up its seven pillars. She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her servants, and she calls from the highest point of the city, “Let all who are simple come to my house!” To those who have no sense she says, “Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of insight.” Whoever corrects a mocker invites insults; whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse. Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you.

Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

### **EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 5:6-21**

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Be very careful, then, how you walk—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

### **HOLY GOSPEL:**

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter six.

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

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit<sup>and</sup> and life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them." From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

### **SONG OF THE DAY: "What Is the Food?"**



1 What is the food for our soul's starv - ing need,  
2 Where is the drink for our des - per - ate thirst,  
3 Who is the en - trance that takes us a - bove,



Heav - en - ly man - na to nour - ish and feed?  
 Well of re - fresh - ment from sin's parch - ing curse?  
 Beck - on - ing gate - way of God's sav - ing love?



Bless - ed Lord Je - sus, O true liv - ing bread,  
 Bless - ed Lord Je - sus, true wa - ter of life,  
 Bless - ed Lord Je - sus, O true o - pen door,



In You our deep long - ings and hun - gers are fed.  
 You cool fe - vered spir - its and quench all our strife.  
 You lead to our Fa - ther and life ev - er - more.

*("What Is the Food?" copyright 1989 by Stephen Starke, admin. Concordia Pub. House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)*

**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: "Sent Forth By God's Blessing" – Blue Hymnal #247**

**Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of His teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us,  
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving, To God everliving,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us,  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear!**

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**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:**

**Lay Ministers:** Larry Betzold & Jim Geslin