

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, September 18, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ CONNECT +

OPENING MEDLEY:


“The Greatest Thing”



1. The great - est thing _____ in all my life is
2. The great - est thing _____ in all my life is
3. The great - est thing _____ in all my life is



know - ing You. _____ The great - est thing _____ in
lov - ing You. _____ The great - est thing _____ in
serv - ing You. _____ The great - est thing _____ in



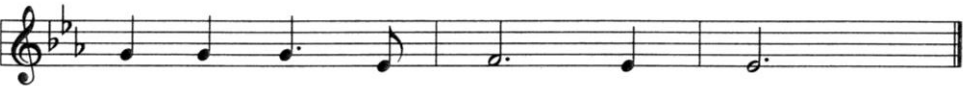
all my life is know - ing You. _____
all my life is lov - ing You. _____
all my life is serv - ing You. _____



_____ I want to know You more. I want to
_____ I want to love You more. I want to
_____ I want to serve You more. I want to



know You more. The great - est thing _____ in
love You more. The great - est thing _____ in
serve You more. The great - est thing _____ in



all my life is know - ing You.
all my life is lov - ing You.
all my life is serv - ing You.

("The Greatest Thing" by Mark Pendergrass, copyright 1977 Sparrow Song/
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“Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways” – Blue Hymnal # 392
Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do his will!

Order my footsteps by your Word And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep
If ever I forget your way, Restore your wand’ring sheep.

Make me to walk in your commands, A most delightful road;
Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.

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 SINS: Psalm 54 and James 3:13-4:10

L: O God save me, by your name.

C: **And vindicate me by your might.**

L: O God hear my prayer;

C: **Give ear to the words of my mouth.**

L: Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

C: **But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.**

L: What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. You adulterous people don’t you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?

C: **But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”**

L: Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

C: **Come near to God and he will come near to you.**

L: Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

ALL: **Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.**

SONG OF CONFESSION: “In Adam We Have All Been One” – Blue Hymnal #292

**In Adam we have all been one, One huge rebellious man;
We all have fled that evening voice That sought us as we ran.**

**We fled our God, and, fleeing him, We lost our brother too;
Each singly sought and claimed his own; Each man his brother slew.**

**But your strong love, it sought us still And sent your only Son
That we might hear his shepherd’s voice And hearing him, be one.**

**O Savior, when we loved you not, You loved and saved us all;
O great good shepherd of mankind, Oh, hear us when we call.**

**Send us your Spirit, teach us truth To purge our vanity;
From fancied wisdom, self-sought ways, O Savior, set us free.**

**Then shall our song united rise To your eternal throne
Where with the Father evermore And Spirit you are one.**

(“In Adam We Have All Been One”, text by Martin Franzmann, copyright 1969 Concordia Publishing House, tune setting copyright 1969 Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

SONG OF PRAISE: “No Other Name”

**No other name but the name of Jesus,
No other name but the name of the Lord;
No other name but the name of Jesus is worthy of glory,
And worthy of honor,
And worthy of power and all praise. *(Repeat refrain)***

**His name is exalted far above the earth,
His name is high above the heavens,
His name is exalted far above the earth,
Give glory and honor and praises to his name. *(Refrain X2)***

(“No Other Name”, copyright 1988 & 1992 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music, CCLI Lic. #921494.)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

C: We draw near to you, O God, Source of all understanding, and ask you to draw near to us. Teach us your wisdom from above, that we may bear good fruit in our lives. Inspire in us a faith that leads us when we don’t know where we are going, and moves us to obedience even when we don’t understand. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Because the LORD revealed their plot to me, I knew it, for at that time he showed me what they were doing. I had been like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter; I did not realize that they had plotted against me, saying, "Let us destroy the tree and its fruit; let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name be remembered no more." But you, LORD Almighty, who judge righteously and test the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance on them, for to you I have committed my cause.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter nine.

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

They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it. They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Servant's Prayer"

Lord, it's You who has brought me to this day, who has
 May my feet nev - er stum - ble and nev - er stray, nor grow
 May my eyes ev - er fixed on Your king - dom be, as my

car - ried and kept me in Your care. I look back and I see You in
 we - ary up - on this ro - cky road. For the path I am on is a
 heart ev - er longs for joy to come. For my hope is in things that I

all my years, and so for - ward I go know - ing You are
 nar - row way, but I know You are with me so on I
 can - not see, but be - cause of Your pro - mise I press

there. May each word from my lips be a song of good news, ev - ery
 go.

touch of my hands be a gift of grace, ev - ery beat of my heart be a prayer to You, and the

16

 sum of my days be a life of praise.

20

 on. Christ be - fore me to guide me

23

 on my way. Christ be - side me so I am not a-lone. Christ-with - in me to give me

27

 words to say. Christ-be - hind me to bring the har - vest home. May each

30

 word from my lips be a song of good news, ev - ery touch of my hand be a

33

 gift of grace, ev-ery beat of my heart be a prayer to You, and the sum of my days be a

37

 life of praise. And the sum of my days be a life of praise.

41

 And the sum of my days be a life of praise.

("Servant's Prayer", copyright 1995 by Catherine Pino, CCLI Lic. #921494.)

MESSAGE: "Following Jesus When You Don't Understand" – Pastor Bill Hugo

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 HYMN: “Grace is God’s Love Undeserved, Yet Abounding”

**Grace is God’s love undeserved, yet abounding,
Wealth of love lavished upon our poor race,
Mercy toward sinners, all reason confounding,
God deemed us worthy to save by His grace!
Deep this rich kindness the earth still is sounding—
God’s love is grace not deserved, but abounding!**

**Grace is God’s love we are shown in Christ Jesus:
God in the flesh took our sin and our shame.
Death-conqu’ring life of our Lord truly frees us,
Faced our foes for us, His triumph we claim!
Good news now soars on God’s Spirit-wrought breezes—
God’s love is grace all are shown through Christ Jesus!**

**Grace is God’s love bringing peace beyond measure,
Peace none can find in the Law’s harsh demand,
Guarding our hearts in Christ Jesus, our treasure,
Peace far surpassing what we understand;
Peace, a sweet foretaste of heaven’s pure pleasure—
God’s love is grace that brings peace none can measure!**

**Grace is God’s love here in time and forever.
God’s work begun in us He will complete!
Nothing in life from this grace can us sever;
Nothing in death brings God’s children defeat.
Grace, timely love for God’s timeless endeavor—
God’s love is grace for all time, yes, forever!**

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Lay Minister: Larry Betzold