



September 22, 2024  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year B  
9:00 a.m.

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*St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA*

**Reverend Maggie Westaby**

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**Wausau, Wisconsin 54401**

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## WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us give up boasting and dishonesty, turning to God with our confessions, because the one who knows us through and through has promised to renew us. Gracious God,  
**We confess we are weighed down by our shortcomings: envy distances us from other people and greed alerts us only to our own desires. Where we might bring reconciliation, we create conflicts. Where you call us to give, we take. Where your presence beckons, we resist. Forgive us, O God, and teach us your way. Amen.**

Hear the good news: Into the blessed community of freedom and light that lives in Jesus † Christ, you are forgiven. Remember the poor and the outcast and welcome the child.  
**Amen.**

## God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,  
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
 Christ sas - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
 help us work your par - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gentle Jesus,

You call us to live in your name with honor and respect, fully known to you and precious in your sight. Draw us near to you each day as you teach us how to feed on your gifts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20**

<sup>18</sup>It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew;  
then you showed me their evil deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me  
that they devised schemes, saying,  
“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

<sup>20</sup>But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously,  
who try the heart and the mind,  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **READING: Psalm 54**

Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

**Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.**

For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

**Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

## READING: James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.<sup>4:</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

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

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;<sup>31</sup> for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

The Gospel of The Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## Children of the Heavenly Father

*Tryggare kan ingen vara*

*Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,*

1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

*stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.*

nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958  
 Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk 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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. Responding to "God of grace," with "hear our prayer."

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Like the child Jesus held, we live and move and have our being inside the circle of his arms. Let us open our hearts so that our offerings bring others into that circle as well.

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,

We thank you for the wealth you shower on us daily, and we witness the marvelous goodness that comes from you. Transform these gifts into signs of welcome for all who are touched by their use. Transform us into people who bless others throughout each day, in Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

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.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may. Come, because you love God a little and would like to love God more. Come, because Christ loved you and gave himself for you. Come and live in the Spirit, who loves, forgives, and restores. Amen.





Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Bread of Life from Heaven

*Refrain*

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,  
we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing  
2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your  
3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -  
4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your  
5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this

thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be  
hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the  
self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is  
home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly  
bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

*Refrain*

sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.  
liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.  
food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.  
One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.  
ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

Text: Susan R. Biehl, b. 1952  
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas  
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## Blest Be the Tie That Binds

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Blest Be the Tie That Binds'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.  
Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God,

You have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table.

Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

May the love of God thrive in your heart,  
May the compassion of Christ be heard in your words,  
May the movement of the Spirit be seen in your actions,  
And may the peace of the Triune † God be with you every day. **Amen.**

### Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:  
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional  
Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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## DISMISSAL

Be gentle, honest, and merciful with those you meet; ask for wisdom, and wisdom will fill you with joy.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Welcome to all!** Welcome to worship in the name of God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — who created you, saved you and makes you holy. Amen.

“Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth. ... I will praise your name, Lord, for it is good” (Psalm 54:2, 6, NIV).

Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones during services.

**To those who are visiting:** Welcome to St. John and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex.

**Reminder!** If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John (715) 675-6950

**Holy Communion** is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to Christ’s Table.

**Food Basket.** Each week you are invited to bring non-perishable grocery items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Shopping Cart* next to the main entrance. **Reminder, food pantries cannot accept expired donations.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Monday, September 23 at 6:30 p.m.** The Book Club will discuss, *Strangers Tend To Tell Me Things: A Memoir of Love, Loss, and Coming Home* By Amy Dickinson.

**Sunday, October 13 at 10:00 a.m. Chili Dinner & Raffle!** We are in need of prize and food donations. Drop prizes off at St. John – if you would like acknowledgment for your prize, please label them with your name. All food items need to be at St. John by October 11<sup>th</sup> thank you for your generosity & support!

**Sunday, October 13 at 10:15 a.m. discussion and approval of St. John’s constitution!** As per St. John’s constitution guidelines, the constitution itself needs periodic updates. This is a long document and limited copies are available. You are welcome to take one home, but please bring it back when you are done.

**Maine Elementary School, Snacks Drive:** As we kick off our education season at St. John, we would like to also support our neighborhood school, Maine Elementary School! Time is set aside for a snack every day, but not every student has the resources to bring a snack each day. Teachers tend to provide snacks to these students, paying for them on their own. We'd like to help with that! The school is in need of individually packaged snacks, no nuts/peanuts, and they prefer cracker/pretzel type snacks (not sugar/cookie type snacks). Thank you for your generosity and support to Maine Elementary!

**St. John Cemetery Association Needs Your Help!** Our cemetery needs your help. If you have family or friends buried at our cemetery, we could use your support. We have many fallen-down stones that require perpetual care. Please reach out to Sara Stubbe for details. If you know of any non-St. John member with family or friends buried here, please share this request. The Association is also looking for lawn care help (about 4 hours/5 times per summer). If interested, please contact Sara at 715-571-2584 or [mskr.stubbe@gmail.com](mailto:mskr.stubbe@gmail.com).

**Kwik Trip Gift Cards Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall.** Help support St. John when buying groceries, gas, or getting your car washed at Kwik Trip! **In the month of September, there is an extra 5% on cards purchased. This means Gas cards are 10% donation and Grocery cards are 20% donation.**

**Men’s Breakfast.** Pastor Will from Trinity in Stettin and St. Peter’s in Marathon has invited all men from St. John to meet the second Saturday of the month at 8:00 a.m. At LC Restaurant, in Marathon (Formerly the Village Inn). The first gathering will be Saturday, September, 14 at 8:00 a.m.

**Live Streaming and Photography Notice.** When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children’s sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

**Coming This Week @ St. John September 22 – September 29**

**Today**

9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School

**September 23**

6:30 p.m. Book Club

**September 24**

9:00 a.m. Pr. Maggie @ Pr. Meeting

**September 25**

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

**September 29**

9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School