



Live Stream via
facebook.com/salcwausau
Eighteenth Sunday in Pentecost
Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46
October 4, 2020

GATHERING

Today we worship through the livestream.

PRELUDE

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

A reading from Isaiah.

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel,

and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

A reading from Philippians.

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel is read.

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

SERMON

MUSIC OFFERING

"How Firm a Foundation"

APOSTLE'S CREED

HEALING SERVICE

MUSIC OFFERING

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

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.**

PEACE

OFFERING MOMENT

"You Are Mine"

SENDING

BLESSING

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.
Almighty God ☩ bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us. **Thanks be to God.**

Serving in Worship

Pr. Jenn Collins
Pr. Justin Smoot
Joy Mitchell - Soloist & Layreader

Pianist

Joel Freiberg

Technical Support

Mark Clark
Ryan Josiger
Patrick Kieper
Travis Puig
Troy Radtke
Ryan, Eleanor and Peter Schwantes
Bob Wiederhoeft

Altar Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Scott and Pam Sleeter in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary; and by David and Susan Paisar in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Thank you for your offerings and continued support!

Now more than ever we are grateful for a gift of any amount you might share to further support the ministry of Saint Andrew. What you share makes a difference as we seek to be "open to all". For the many ways you give, thank you.

Christ in our Home Devotional

Christ in Our Home quarterly devotional resource encourages readers to live out their faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary. ***The fourth quarter devotional (October-November-December) is now available at church in a plastic bin outside the north (Chapel) entrance. Please feel free to pick up a copy.***



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OCTOBER 4, 2020
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



We want to know Christ Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants
Monday	Isaiah 5:1-7	A song about a vineyard
Tuesday	Philippians 3:4b-14	To know Christ
Wednesday	Exodus 20:1-20	The Ten Commandments
Thursday	Psalms 19	The wonders of God
Friday	1 Peter 2:1-10	A chosen people
Saturday	Psalms 80:7-15	Prayer for Israel's deliverance
Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death.

Philippians 3:10 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, help us to trust that in your death there is eternal life and in suffering there is the power of love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Nurturing God, we thank you for this food; help us to use food wisely so that others may have enough to eat. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. (Philippians 3:10)



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OCTOBER 4, 2020

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Come and Fill Our Hearts



WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Describe or think about what you feel are the characteristics of a good friend.
- Are you a good friend? How would others describe you?
- How does your faith in Jesus free you to care for—even feel the pain of—others?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Philippians 3:4b-14.

We don't get it. According to research on American religious views, we want to be saved by God because we are "good people." We prefer to rely on our own merits rather than trust the power of Christ's death and resurrection that conquers our sin. Perhaps this is part of the sinful self-centeredness that Christ comes to cleanse us of. Paul writes to the church at Philippi and points out that if anyone has a claim to self-righteousness based on the law that measures our goodness, Paul would be pretty unbeatable; he would be "blameless" (v. 6). But he counts all of his religious success as "loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (v. 8). The truly amazing part of his testimony is that knowing Christ does not free him from suffering; he is not concerned about why "bad things happen to good people." Paul announces his freedom to suffer with Christ. This "theology of the cross" sees life in death, sees joy in suffering and sees hope in despair. Paul presses "on to make it my own" (v. 12). He is announcing a view of life, and this way of life sees Christ as the source of all our hopes of salvation. How is freedom from judging our own goodness important to our salvation?

Pray: **Dear God, help us to know Jesus; may we focus our attention on the needs of others and to care for them through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Grapevines and vineyards are written about more than any other plant in the Bible. They were important in Biblical times and part of the culture. They were often used as symbols of producing fruit. In this context, fruit means one's actions that come from the heart. Place grapes in a bowl and as you eat them, think about what it means for you to produce good fruits (take positive actions). What positive actions can you take to care for others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



In Philippians 3, Paul talks about pressing towards the goal to reach the prize of knowing Christ Jesus. Think about a time you tried to reach a goal. What happened? Whether we reach the goal or not, God is always with us. **Pray: Lord, help us to keep our eye on the goal, the prize of the "heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org