



Sunday, September 19, 2021
9:15 am

Seventeenth Week After Pentecost
Jeremiah 11:18-20
Psalm 54
James 33:13 -- 4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

GATHERING HYMN

vs. 1 & 5

"All Are Welcome"

GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

A reading from Jeremiah.

It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. 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!" 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.**

Psalm

¹Save me, O God, by your name;
in your might, defend my cause.

²**Hear my prayer, O God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.**

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life,
those who have no regard for God.

⁴**Behold, God is my helper;
it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me;
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice
and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**
⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble,
and my eye looks down on my enemies.

A reading from James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. 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. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? 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. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; 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." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "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

HYMN OF THE DAY

vs. 1-4

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

APOSTLE'S CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The response is:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

CHILDREN'S TIME

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

GREAT THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

BENEDICTION

HYMN

vs. 1

"On Our Way Rejoicing"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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Serving in Worship

Pr. Justin Smoot

Barb Geiger - Assisting Minister

Mark Clark - Layreader & Vocalist

Al Freiberg - Pianist

Technical Support

Troy Radtke

Patrick Kieper

Joel Freiberg

Bob Wiederhoeft

Holy Communion

All are welcome. The communion elements are available on the table in the Narthex along with a plastic bag to dispose of the empty cup(s) following communion which can then be placed in the waste can as you leave the Sanctuary. Communion is received together as directed during the service.

Noisy Offering

A Noisy Offering will be received today in support of our companion church, Zeerust Lutheran Church in South Africa.

Altar Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Doug and Mavis Bloom in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary on September 18.

Lutheran World Relief Quilts, School Bags and Personal Care Kits

We give thanks to all the volunteers who gave many hours of their time and talent and/or monetary contributions so that we can send 135 quilts, 63 school bags filled with school supplies and about 40 personal care kits. Over 100 quilts were also given to local community facilities. May those who receive these items be blessed and comforted.

Liturgical Arts Tree

Look for the display table in the Narthex to write a short, simple prayer request on a leaf and place it in the basket under the tree in the Sanctuary. Children are invited to draw a picture. The names of those on our prayer list are already on the tree as we remember them in our prayers.

Volunteers Needed

Sunday school teachers, helpers, group leaders, small group confirmation mentors/facilitators are needed to make Sunday school and confirmation a success! Curriculum, lesson plans and teaching materials are provided. If you are interested and feel called to support these programs with your time and talent, please reach out to Jenna at jenna@salc-wausau.org.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, September 30, 1-6 pm

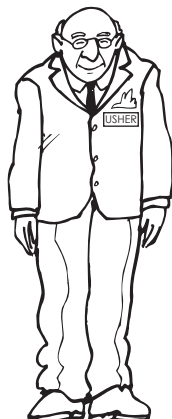
Mark your calendar! A blood drive supporting the American Red Cross will take place in the Fellowship Hall.



**American
Red Cross**

Jesus says in order to be great we need to be servants of all. Look around your worship space.

Check off all the ways you see people serving each other and God.

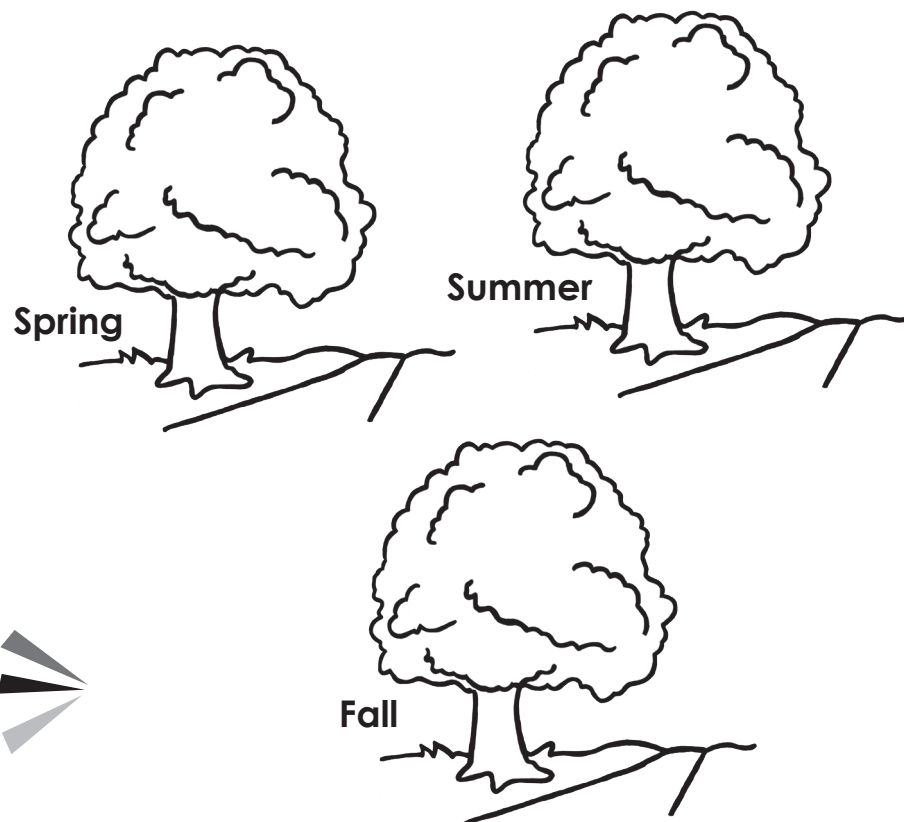


PRE-READER

Pentecost 17

- Today is the **17th Sunday** after Pentecost.
- The season after Pentecost continues throughout **spring, summer, and fall.**
- Pentecost is the season of **growing.**

Color these trees to show how they look during the different seasons.





Jesus said, “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me.”

Jesus' disciples argued over who was the greatest.

Circle the thing in each pair you think is the greatest.



Remember that Jesus tells us a surprising message about what it means to be great!

Count the Kids!

Jesus loved kids. He encouraged his disciples to welcome kids, too. He said that welcoming a child was like welcoming him. Count the number of kids you see in worship today. Write that number in the first box below. Then see how many of them you can give high-fives to after worship. Write that number in the second box. In the third box, write the names of those you high-fived.

Number of kids you see.

Number of kids you high-fived.

Names of the kids you high-fived.



READER

Pentecost 17

- Today is the **17th Sunday** after Pentecost.
- The season after Pentecost begins **50 days** after Easter.
- A symbol of the season after Pentecost is a **tree**.
- The season after Pentecost gives us time to **grow our faith** and grow with each other.

Name that Tree

Draw a line to match the type of tree with its name.

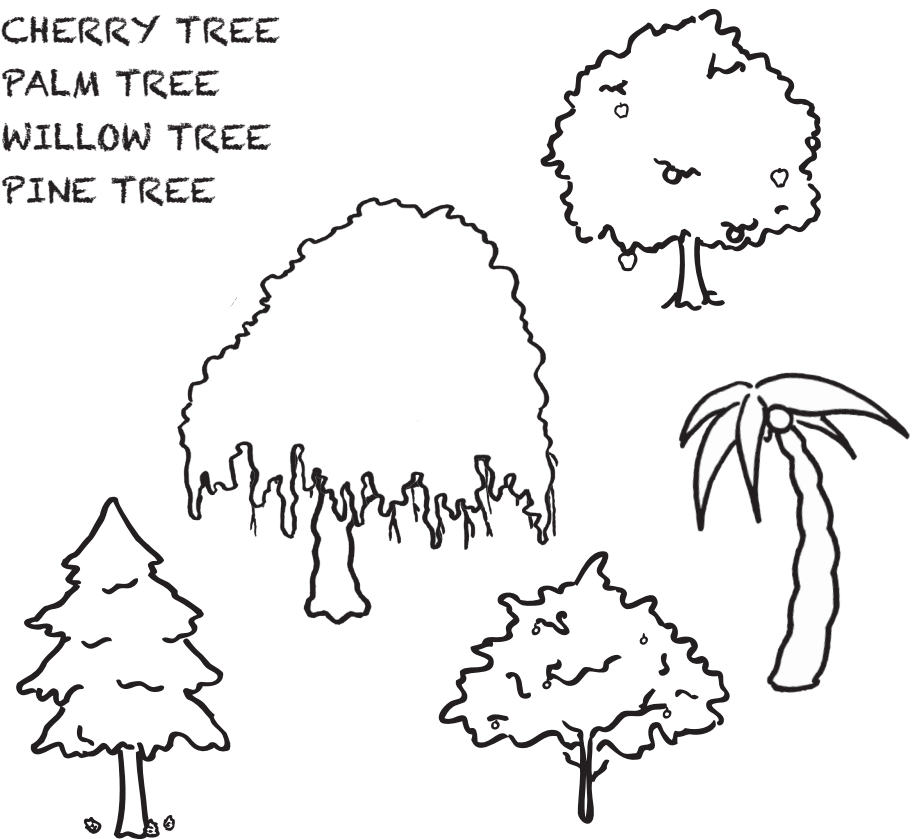
APPLE TREE

CHERRY TREE

PALM TREE

WILLOW TREE

PINE TREE



Jesus turned around how the disciples understood greatness. Below is the turned around memory verse. Unscramble the letters to find out who Jesus thinks is great.

Memory Verse

“ WROEEVH STANW OT

EBIRSTF TUMS EB

TLASFO LAL NDA SVATERN

FO LLA.

Mark 9:35b

The Greatest of These

In today's reading, Jesus' disciples argued about who was the greatest. Below, write in what you think is the greatest.

Greatest movie: _____

Greatest book: _____

Greatest food: _____

Greatest song: _____

Greatest friend: _____

Greatest Bible story: _____

Greatest holiday: _____

Greatest gift you've received: _____

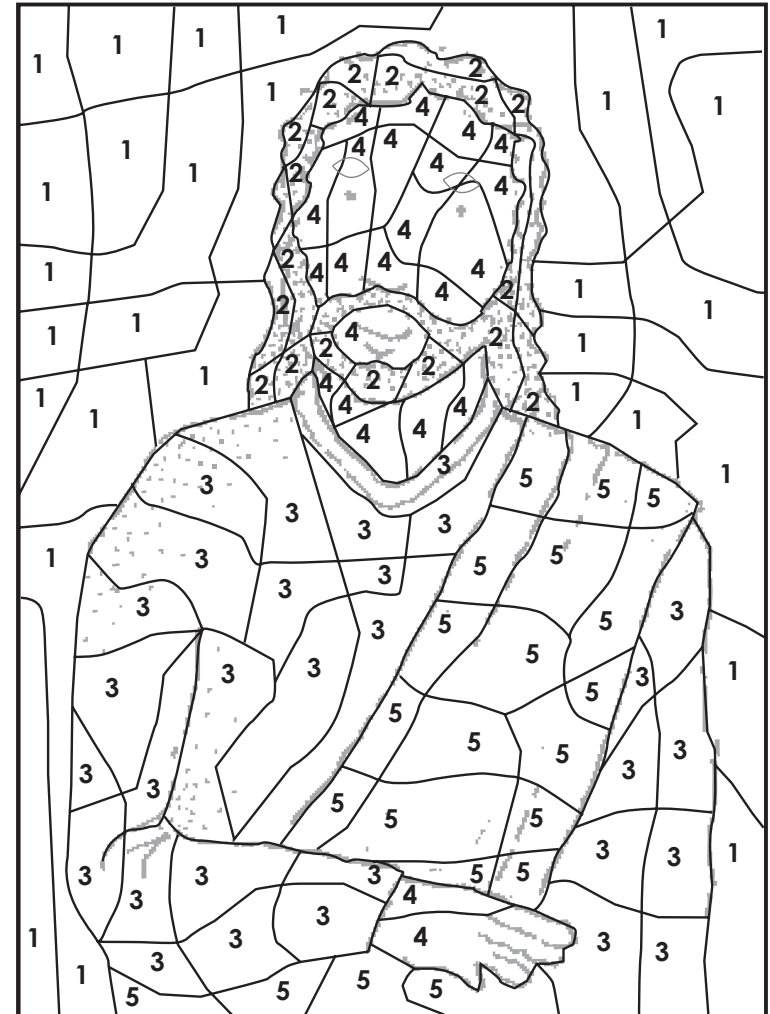
Greatest subject at school: _____

Greatest sport: _____

Color by Number

Jesus says “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me.” Color in the image below using the color key. You can shade in the gray parts to add more detail.

1. light blue	2. black	3. tan	4. brown	5. dark blue
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Look it Up!

Want to read more about being a servant? Read **1 Peter 5:2-4** to see how God calls us to serve.

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking† faith home

Jesus' followers are to care for the powerless.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 9:30-37	The servant of all is the greatest
Monday	Jeremiah 11:18-20	Plot to kill Jeremiah
Tuesday	James 3:13—4:8a	Wisdom from above
Wednesday	Galatians 5:13-15	Christ gives freedom
Thursday	Isaiah 42:1-9	A servant song
Friday	1 Peter 4:7-11	Serve others
Saturday	Psalms 54	A cry to God for help
Sunday	Mark 9:38-50	Avoiding sin

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

[Jesus] sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Mark 9:35 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of heaven and earth, may we follow the way of Jesus and learn what it means to trust in you through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, just as you feed us with this gift of food today, we thank you for caring for us with your goodness and mercy. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May your life be blessed by the love of God through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.



SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Will You Let Me Be
Your Servant*



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:

- How would you describe your friends, the people with whom you associate regularly?
- Society encourages us to "climb the social ladder." What does that mean to you?
- How would you describe the life Jesus wants you to follow?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Mark 9:30-37.

Chapters 8-10 in Mark include three predictions of Jesus' death. Each prediction is connected with his disciple's misunderstandings and then some kind of teaching about discipleship. The focus of Jesus' words is more than a general endorsement of humility. It moves us in the direction of personal association with the vulnerable and the powerless, those considered "last" in society. In Jesus' day and in the Roman Empire, a child was without power or importance. To lift up and value a child was contrary to social norms of Jesus' day. When Jesus describes his own life's work, he makes a claim on us. We are to follow his way, the way of suffering and being the last. It is an active rejection of domination and the powers of this world. What is evident in these predictions is that Jesus' followers don't get it. His understanding of what it means to be "first" in life is so different from what we hear and see in daily life. It takes time to understand what it means to follow Jesus. It may take a lifetime. In the meantime, we are to care for the people who feel unimportant and powerless and be able to celebrate with them that life is redeemed and blessed. Who would you identify in your community as those who are considered powerless and "last of all"?

Pray: **Almighty God, through Jesus, you come to us with a power like no other. Help us to follow Jesus into a new way of life that loves you and all others. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me." (Mark 9:37) Many places in the world and in our own communities have children in need. Think or talk about children who are in need of food, clothing, and shelter. Keep them in your prayers. Is there a way you can help and support children in need or an organization that works with them?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The International Day of Peace is observed each year on September 21st. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1981. The Bible reading for Tuesday this week is from James 3. "And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace." (v. 18) Think or talk about what it takes to make peace. Then write a list of situations or places that are in need of peace. Light a candle as you pray for each one on your list. Then pray:

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, please bring your peace to _____. Amen.

