**Shape

Description automatically generated with low confidenceGood Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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**18th Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 1, 2023, 9:00 am**

***Introduction to the day…***

Jesus’ parable about two sons who don’t do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

**GATHERING HYMN Kyrie and Song of Praise ACS 31**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be God, the one who forms us,

☩ Jesus who bears the cross,

the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;**

**in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,

God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God’s compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ☩ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MUSIC I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me ELW 860, verse 1**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

1The word of the Lord came to me: 2What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? 3As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. 4Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.  
 25Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? 26When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. 27Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. 28Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. 29Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?  
 30Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. 31Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? 32For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9**

1To you, O Lord,  
  I lift up my soul.  
 2**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,**  
  **nor let my enemies triumph over me.**  
 3Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
  rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.  
 4**Show me your ways, O Lord,**  
  **and teach me your paths.**  
 5Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
  for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.  
 6**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,**  
  **for they are from everlasting.**  
 7Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
  remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.  
 8**You are gracious and upright, O Lord;**  
  **therefore you teach sinners in your way.**  
 9You lead the lowly in justice  
  and teach the lowly your way.

**SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13**

1If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
 6who, though he was in the form of God,  
  did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
 7but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.  
 And being found in human form,  
  8he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—  
  even death on a cross.

9Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,  
 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
 11and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.  
 12Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ACS 33**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32**

23When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” 24Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ 26But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” 27So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.  
 28“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ 29He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. 30The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. 31Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** **Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us ELW 789**

**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 power of the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**A close-up of hands shaking

Description automatically generated with medium confidencewas 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**

…Merciful God,

**Receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**OFFERING***In addition to our normal offering, a* ***Special Benevolence in October*** *(collected in a special envelope) will go to* ***Marshfield Community Foundation "Keeping Kids Warm" coat drive.***

**OFFERING HYMN Make Me an Instrument**

***Refrain***

**Make me an instrument of your love. Let me be a channel from above.**

**Make me an instrument of your love, an instrument of your love.**

When a friend is in need of an open heart, let me be there, oh let me be there.

When a friend is lost with nowhere to go, let me be there. ***Refrain***

When someone is hungry, when someone is cold, let me be there, oh let me be there.

When someone needs help to carry their load, let me be there. ***Refrain***

If someone should wonder is God still alive, let me be there, oh let me be there.

If someone should wonder does God really care, let me be there. ***Refrain***

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.

We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.

Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Sung) ACS 36**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life;

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:

the promise to Israel,

the rescue from Egypt,

the gift of the promised land,

the words of the prophets;

and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,

who proclaimed the good news in word and deed

and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,

we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup

we remember the life our Lord offered for us.

And, believing the witness of his resurrection,

we await his coming in power

to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,

that we who share in Christ’s body and blood

may live to the praise of your glory

and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants

of every time and every place,

and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest

until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

**THE 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** *- Certified gluten-free crackers are in the bowl on the communion plate.*

Jesus invites you to this table.

Come, eat and live.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word,

Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.

Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet,

where none are left out and all are satisfied.

In Jesus’ name we pray.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The God of glory,

☩ Jesus Christ, name above all names,

and the Spirit who lives in you,

bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN Guide My Feet ACS 987**

**DISMISSAL**

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us.

So be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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| ***Upcoming Worship Assistants*** | | | | | |
|  | **Usher** | **Lector** | **Communion** | **Offering Counters** | |
| October 1 | Brett & Breanna Butler | Nancy Tibbett | Matt & Margo Barrier | Dan Mundt | Jon Hill |
| October 8 | Chris & Robin Beeman | Richard Kopitzke | Sarah Kopitzke Tammy Neumann | Nancy Leonard | Breanna Butler |
| October 15 | Heidi Binder | Andrea Hovick | John Wagner Nancy Leonard | Robin Beeman | David Schneider |
| October 22 | Matt & Margo Berrier | Kris Tarter | Dan & Pam Mundt | Heidi Binder | Kami Weis |
| October 29 | Dennis & Deb Janz | Christine Tipping | Bruce & Nancy Tibbett | Pam Mundt | May Hill |

**Thanks be to God.**

Please sign-up in the narthex to help with food for the 40th Anniversary Brunch!

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| **Coming up at GSLC** | | |
| Sunday, October 1 | 9:00 am | Worship Service – Sunday School   * 18th Sunday after Pentecost   Matthew 21:23-32; a parable of doing God’s will |
|  | 11:30 am | Private Baptism of Kinsley Lynn Porter |
| Tuesday, October 3 | 6:00 pm | Executive Committee Meeting |
|  | 7:00 pm | AA Meeting |
| Wednesday, October 4 | 12:00 pm | * Bible Study (discuss Season 1 Episode 3 of “The Chosen”) |
|  | 7:00 pm | Midweek Worship   * Confirmation Class |
| Sunday, October 8 | 9:00 am | Worship Service   * 19th Sunday after Pentecost   Matthew 21:33-46; the parable of the vineyard owner’s son |

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