

**Grow ... Go ... Gather**  
**October 4, 2020**

**LWML SUNDAY**



*Kingdom people produce*  
**KINGDOM FRUIT**

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*"The kingdom of God will be ... given to a people  
producing its fruits" (Matthew 21:43).*

**ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH  
(LCMS)**

2040 Oakwood Avenue N.E.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505



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# The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

(please turn off your wifi)

## The Preservice Music/Call to Worship/Welcome

(Please wear your mask when singing)

### The Opening Hymn: LSB 811, "Oh, That I Had A Thousand Voices (verses 1, 2, 4)



1 Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es To praise my  
2 O all you pow'rs that He im - plant - ed, A - rise, keep  
4 All crea-tures that have breath and mo - tion, That through the



God with thou-sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -  
si - lence now no more; Put forth the strength that God has  
earth, the sea, the sky, Come, share with me my heart's de -



joic - es, Would then pro-claim in grate - ful songs To all, wher -  
grant - ed! Your no - blest work is to a - dore. O soul and  
vo - tion, Help me to sing God's prais - es high. My ut - most



ev - er I might be, What great things God has done for me.  
bod - y, join to raise With heart - felt joy our Mak-er's praise.  
pow'rs can nev - er quite De - clare the won-ders of His might.

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## CONFESSIO AND FORGIVENESS

(adapted from LSB, Divine Service, Setting Two)

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves  
and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not fully lived as Your kingdom people. We have not brought forth the fruits of righteousness as we ought. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will, walk in Your ways, and bear kingdom fruit to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all of your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

P: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever! The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

**C: This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

P: This is the day that the LORD has made;

**C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

**A Hymn of Praise: "Lift High the Name of Jesus"**  
(Getty)

**Verse 1**

Lift high the name of Jesus  
Of Jesus our King  
Make known the power of His grace  
The beauty of His peace  
Remember how His mercy reached  
And we cried out to Him  
He lifted us to solid ground  
To freedom from our sin

**Chorus**

***Oh sing my soul***

***And tell all He's done***

***'Til the earth and heavens are filled with His glory***

**Verse 2**

Lift high the name of Jesus  
Of Jesus our Lord  
His pow'r in us is greater than  
Is greater than this world  
To share the reason for our hope  
To serve with love and grace  
That all who see Him shine through us  
Might bring the Father praise **(Chorus)**

### **Verse 3**

Lift high the name of Jesus  
Of Jesus our Light  
No other name on earth can save  
Can raise us a soul to life  
He opens up our eyes to see  
The harvest He has grown  
We labor in His fields of grace  
As He leads sinners home **(Chorus)**

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### **The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 5:1-7**

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; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men 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 looked for 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 weeded, and briers and thorns shall grow up; 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 men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and

he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 21:33-46

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

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

[Jesus said,] "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one

who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **LWML Pledge**

(© 1955 LWML authored by Rev. Harry Fricke)

**ALL: In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen.**

### **The Sermon Hymn: "Praise, Love, Serve"**

(Based on LWML Pledge, Text: Jean Hansen Kammerer, Tune: *LSB* 361)

1. Our God and Father, made the earth, And  
when we went astray,  
Our God, the Son, descended here To take our  
sins away.  
With His own blood He bought us. He broke the  
bonds of sin.

Then God the Spirit came into Our hearts to dwell within.

2. In gratitude we pledge ourselves, To Him with all we have.  
Our hands will work; our voices sing; Our lips proclaim His love.  
His errands we'll do gladly; His Gospel we'll defend;  
Our silver and our gold we'll use — His Kingdom to extend.
3. Wherever He has need of us, We will His call obey.  
Whenever He calls out to us, We'll answer right away.  
His will is ours that lost souls Will turn away from sin  
And come to have eternal life Through fellowship with Him.

**The Sermon** – Philippians 3:12-21, "I Can Do All Things Through Christ -- Even Persevere"

**The Offering Prayer**

**The Prayer of the Church**

**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.**

**A Hymn:** "Serve the Lord with Gladness" (Text: Prof.  
Ernest Lewerenz, Tune: LSB 662)

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

It is He alone

Who redeemed us sinners,

Guides us as His own

To enjoy the blessings

Of His love and grace,

Will at last in glory

Meet us face to face.

Onward, then, for Jesus!

Let this be our aim:

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

Glorify His name.

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

He gave us command

To proclaim His Gospel

Now in every land

So that fellow sinners

May, like us, be blest.

Leading them to Jesus,

We can serve Him best.

Onward, then, for Jesus!

Let this be our aim:

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

Glorify His name!

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

There's no greater joy

Than to serve the Master,

Work in His employ.

As we build His kingdom

Angels, too, rejoice

Over every sinner  
 Brought to hear His voice.  
 Onward, then, for Jesus!  
 Let this be our aim:  
 "Serve the Lord with gladness!"  
 Glorify His name!

## (Announcements and Benediction for Online Worshippers)

### ✠ The Service of Holy Communion ✠

**A Communion Hymn:** LSB 630, "Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling" (verses 1, 3, 4, 5 – **Please stand for verse 5.**)



1 Now, my tongue, the mys - t'ry tell - ing Of the glo - rious  
 3 That last night at sup - per ly - ing Mid the Twelve, His  
 4 Word made flesh, the bread He tak - eth, By His word His  
 Δ 5 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing To the Fa - ther



bod - y sing, And the blood, all price ex - cel - ling,  
 cho - sen band, Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing,  
 flesh to be; Wine His sa - cred blood He mak - eth,  
 and the Son, Hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,



Which the Gen-tiles' Lord and King, Once on earth a -  
 Keeps the feast its rites de - mand; Then, more pre - cious  
 Though the sens - es fail to see; Faith a - lone the  
 While e - ter - nal a - ges run; Ev - er too His



mong us dwell - ing, Shed for this world's ran - som - ing.  
 food sup - ply - ing, Gives Him - self with His own hand.  
 true heart wak - eth To be - hold the mys - ter - y.  
 love con - fess - ing Who from both with both is One.

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 Tune: Public domain*

## **The Words of Institution**

## **The Distribution of the Lord's Supper**

### **A Post-Communion Prayer**

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the kingdom feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us as Your kingdom people throughout our days that we may bear fruit in keeping with repentance till that day when we celebrate the feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**The Benediction/Closing Hymn: "The Barocha"**  
(Michael Card)

### **Chorus 1**

The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make His face shine upon you  
And give you peace and give you peace  
And give you peace forever

### **Chorus 2**

The Lord be gracious to you  
The Lord turn His face towards you  
And give you peace and give you peace  
And give you peace forever

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# COMMUNION

## What do I do?



The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. James Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as Jesus says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our relationship with Him and one another.

Our Lord invites to His table those who:

- trust His words,
- repent of all sin,
- and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their spiritual harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed in this church, *any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, unrepentant of sin, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or deacon.*

If you are unsure about receiving Holy Communion but desire to receive a blessing, we invite you to come forward at the time of Holy Communion to receive a blessing from Pastor Schaeffer. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that he knows you are not partaking of Holy Communion but desirous of a blessing.

**NOTE:** For those whose diets restrict the intake of gluten or alcohol, gluten free wafers are available as well as non-alcoholic wine. As Pastor Schaeffer is distributing the wafer, let him know you prefer a gluten free wafer. For those who require non-alcoholic wine, please take the purple foil individual cup as the deacon passes by you with the individual cup tray.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Events of the Week: October 4-11, 2020

- TODAY:** 11:00 a.m. Bible study on Facebook Live
- Monday:** 10:00 a.m. Registration for **October 11**  
Worship begins  
6:30 p.m. Monday Evening Worship Service with Holy Communion  
7:30 p.m. Council Meeting at St. James
- Wed.:** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Darrell  
12 Noon Devotion w/ Pastor Schaeffer on Facebook Live
- Thursday:** 7:30 p.m. The Means of Mission Bible study
- Friday:** 12:00 Noon Registration closes for phone-in Worship registration.
- Saturday** 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast  
6:00 p.m. Registration for Worship is closed
- Sunday:** 9:30 a.m. Worship at St. James (for registered members) and on Facebook Live  
11:00 a.m. Bible Study on Facebook Live  
**Deadline to sign-up for Trunks of Treats**



**Today's Deacon:** Craig Popma and Bryan Ensing

**October Altar Guild:** Sherry & Jennifer Schmidt  
**November Altar Guild** is still available

### FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP (September 27, 2020)

General Fund	\$1,455.00
Reimbursement (copies)	35.00
Roof Repair Fund	75.00
Plate Collection	2,217.00
<hr/>	
Total:	\$3,782.00



## Used Book Sale

ISJ Academy is collecting used children and adult books for a **used book sale** to kick off our reading incentive program.

If church members would like to donate books, they can be dropped off at the school **between now and October 6th**.

**The Book Sale is Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**, after school. ALL are welcome to buy books!

### **To register for worship, please go to:**

1. Go to [bit.ly/stjamesqr](http://bit.ly/stjamesqr)
2. Click on the worship service you wish to attend.  
**Worship Service –October 11, 9:30 am**
3. Click on the green “**register**” box.
4. Put in the **number attending**.
5. Click on the orange “**register**” box.

Enter **your first name** and **ALL the first names** of those attending with you in the “first name” box.

Enter **only one last name, e-mail address and confirm e-mail address**.

6. Click on the orange “**register**” box.
7. Your ticket(s) will arrive in your e-mail inbox confirming your sign-up.

### **Life Quote for Sunday, October 4:**

“Whenever I read Scripture that talks about how much God loves each of us, that He has created us, and that He wants us to share His love, I am always struck by the lack of qualifiers. I do not see where God makes distinctions about who He loves and calls into His family. He loves and calls all—each and every one of us.”

*Mona Fuerstenau*



**Trunks of Treats** is around  
the corner.  
**AND WE NEED CARS!**

On **Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**, from 2:30-4, St. James will be welcoming our neighborhood friends to the 2020 revised edition of this outreach. We want to assure our neighbors that St. James Lutheran Church is still open, active and here for them.

**Registration DEADLINE to reserve your parking lot spot is Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.** Please call the church office (#363-7718) OR Cindy (#363-4087) A.S.A.P. so we can continue to go forward with planning. (purchasing giveaways for children and adults, advertising, etc).

We also need help around the church grounds and extra candy donations, **BUT, WE NEED CARS FIRST! Not enough have signed up yet!**

Further details are outlined in the October Newsletter, but please mark your calendar now!!  
Thank YOU!

The Meijer “Simply Give” gift card program at Plainfield Meijer runs through **October 24.**

**Dorcas Society**

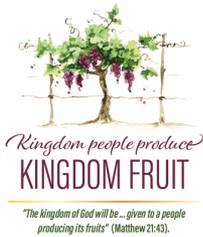
The Dorcas Society will meet in-person on **Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 1:00pm** in the **church sanctuary.** Members are required to wear face masks and to social distance. The purpose of this short meeting is for the election of officers for the 2020-2021 year.

All members are **urged** to please attend. If you have questions, please contact either Mary Ward (365-1019) or Rachel Palmer (883-6949).

**Church Council** has scheduled the next St. James. **Voters Meeting** for **Sunday, December 6,** immediately following the church service.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we were forced to cancel/postpone the meetings for March, May and September.

This will be held in the Sanctuary, with spatial distancing. We are also working on having an option to participate online. We have items that need to be presented and voted on, including, but not limited to, the budget and officer election for next year. We look forward to your participation.



**A special thank you to Sandy Ryke for making our LWML banner.**

**Meeting:** We will be meeting **today** at **6:00pm** for a **Bible study** led by **Sandra Schaeffer**. A short meeting will follow. We would like to invite you to join us **in person as we social distance in the church basement AND via Zoom**. Please let Grace Rosema know if you would like to attend via Zoom.

**Mites:** We **thank you** for your dedication to freely giving your mites for the purpose of reaching out to others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. **We are collecting mites today**. Please place your mites in the big mite box located on one of the treat tables after church.



Greetings sisters and brothers in Christ!

The deacons have decided that church groups (e.g. Dorcus, LWML, Friends in Faith, Saturday Men's Bible study, Youth, Bell choir, choir, ISJ Board, etc.) can meet in the building but there are a number of stipulations that need to be followed:

1. Masks must be worn when we are in the building (unless we can maintain at least 6 feet of separation from one another). We have some masks on hand for those who forget their masks at home. NOTE: Masks should not be placed on children younger than 2 years old, anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, and anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
2. We are to observe social distancing of at least 6 feet.
3. We encourage good hand hygiene, washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Plenty of hand sanitizer is available.
4. If food is offered at any event, pre-packaged options are preferred. Buffet or family-style meals are not allowed.
5. Group members must sanitize the area following their meeting. This includes: wiping down chairs, tables, door knobs, elevator buttons, etc.). Cleaning supplies and plastic gloves will be made available.

Please contact Karen to request that your meeting be placed on the church calendar so that we know who is using the building. This will help with cleaning preparation and also ensure there is no scheduling conflict.

We also take this opportunity to remind you that:

- a. We will continue to have no more than 75 people attend worship services in the sanctuary.
- b. A [video](#) is posted on the St. James website in which Pastor Schaeffer describes what takes place on Sunday morning when you worship in the sanctuary.
- c. We ask that all people who worship in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, register on [Eventbrite](#). Monday evening communion service attendees do not need to register. Our average Sunday morning in-house worship attendance since starting services on July 5 is 39. We have had a high attendance of 63 and a low of 25. Monday evening communion services average less than 10 people.
- d. You can arrange to meet with Pastor Schaeffer for private communion.
- e. Dale provided a description of the cleaning process of the sanctuary in the [September newsletter](#) (which also was printed in two bulletins, the last [Sunday of August](#) and the first Sunday in September.)
- f. If you are sick or have had close contact with a person with COVID-19, please stay home.

**NOTE:** If you are exposed to COVID-19 or test positive, please contact the office so that we can contact the other members with whom you may have been in contact.