

Grow ... Go ... Gather
September 26, 2021



ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
(LCMS)

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



Pastor Glenn E. Schaeffer

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offerings to the Lord: stjamesgr.com/give

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Order of Service

(Service of Prayer and Preaching, p. 260ff.)

(Please turn off your wifi)

Preservice Music, Call to Worship and Welcome

A Lay Reader Talk

The Opening Hymn: LSB 869, "With the Lord Begin Your Task"



1 With the Lord be - gin your task; Je - sus will di - rect it.
2 Let each day be - gin with prayer, Praise, and ad - o - ra - tion.
3 With your Sav - ior at your side, Foes need not a - larm you;
4 If your task be thus be - gun With the Sav - ior's bless - ing,
5 Thus, Lord Je - sus, ev - 'ry task Be to You com - mend - ed;



For His aid and coun - sel ask; Je - sus will per - fect it.
On the Lord cast ev - 'ry care; He is your sal - va - tion.
In His prom - is - es con - fide, And no ill can harm you.
Safe - ly then your course will run, Toward the prom - ise press - ing.
May Your will be done, I ask, Un - til life is end - ed.



Ev - 'ry morn with Je - sus rise, And when day is end - ed,
Morn - ing, eve - ning, and at night Je - sus will be near you,
All your trust and hope re - pose In the might - y Mas - ter,
Good will fol - low ev - 'ry - where While you here must wan - der;
Je - sus, in Your name be - gun Be the day's en - deav - or;



In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him com - mend - ed.
Save you from the tempt - er's might, With His pres - ence cheer you.
Who in wis - dom tru - ly knows How to stem dis - as - ter.
You at last the joy will share In the man - sions yon - der.
Grant that it may well be done To Your praise for - ev - er.

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The Opening Versicles

LSB 260

- P** This is the day which the Lord has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

C **Teach me Your paths.**

P Sanctify us in Your truth.

C **Your Word is truth.**

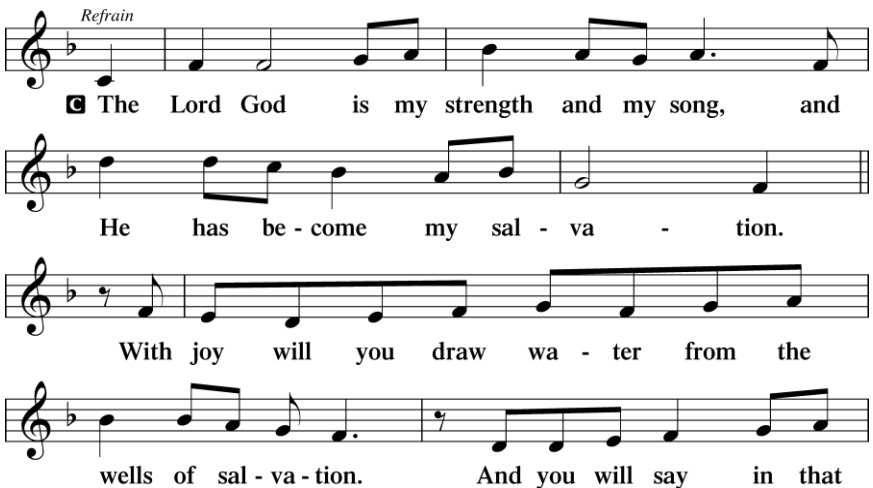
P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

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

The Old Testament Canticle *LSB 261*


Refrain



C The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.
With joy will you draw wa - ter from the
wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that



day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up-on His name,



make known His deeds a-mong the peo-ple, pro-



claim that His name is ex-alt-ed."

Refrain



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



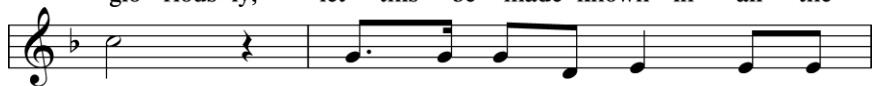
He has be-come my sal-va-tion.



Sing prais-es to the Lord, for He has done



glo-rious-ly; let this be made known in all the



earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in-



hab-i-tants of Zi-on, for great in your midst is the



Ho-ly One of Is-ra-el.

Refrain



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son

and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will

be for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

The Epistle Reading

James 5:13–20

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great

power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

A Hymn: "Wonderful, Merciful, Savior" (Selah)

Verse 1

Wonderful merciful Savior
Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men
Oh You rescue the souls of men

Verse 2

Counselor Comforter Keeper
Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way
Oh we hopelessly lost the way

Chorus

You are the One that we praise
You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for
Oh our hearts always hunger for

Verse 3

Almighty infinite Father
Faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne
Oh we're falling before Your throne (**Chorus 2Xs**)

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A Gospel Lesson:

Luke 9:1–6

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. And he said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them." And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

A Gospel Lesson:

Mark 9:38–50

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."

But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. For the one who is not against us is for us. For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

The Common Responory

LSB 263

P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

P Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

The Confession of our Christian Faith – The Lord’s Prayer

P: What is the Fourth Petition?

C: Give us this day our daily bread.

P: What does this mean?

C: God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

P: What is meant by daily bread?

C: Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

P: What is the Fifth Petition?

C: And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

P: What does this mean?

C: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither

worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

A Sermon Hymn: LSB 649, "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"



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 When here our path-ways part, We suf-fer bit-ter pain;
 5 From sor-row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free



The fel-low-ship of kin-dred minds 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.
 Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet a-gain.
 And per-fect love and friend-ship reign Through all e-ter-ni-ty.

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The Sermon: "Giving It Our Best!"

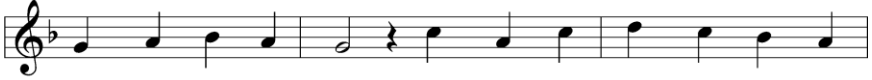
1 Corinthians 3:1-3

But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?

The Offering: We will sing, LSB 811, "Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices"



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
 5 Cre - a - tor, hum - bly I im - plore You To lis - ten



God with thou - sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -
 si - lence now no more; Put forth the strength that God has
 to my earth - ly song Un - til that day when I a -



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
 dore You, To - geth - er with the an - gel throug And learn with



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.
 choirs of heav'n to sing E - ter - nal an - thems to my King.

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The Prayer

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

The Collect of the Day

The Collect of the Word

Morning Prayer

- C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

A Hymn: LSB 538, "Praise Be to Christ"



1 Praise be to Christ in whom we see The im - age of the
 2 Praise be to Him whose sov - reign sway And will up - holds cre -
 3 Praise be to Him who, Lord Most High, The full - ness of the



Fa - ther shown, The first-born Son re - vealed and known, The truth and
 a - tion's plan; Who is, be - fore all worlds be - gan And when our
 God - head shares; And yet our hu - man na - ture bears, Who came as



grace of de - i - ty; Through whom cre - a - tion came to birth,
 world has passed a - way: Lord of the Church, its life and head,
 man to bleed and die. And from His cross there flows our peace



Whose fin - gers set the stars in place, The un - seen pow'rs, and
 Re - demp - tion's price and source and theme, A - live, the first - born
 Who chose for us the path He trod, That so might sins and



this small earth, The fur - thest bounds of time and space.
 from the dead, To reign as all - in - all su - preme.
 sor - rows cease And all be rec - on - ciled to God.

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Announcements

The Closing Hymn: "The Blessing" (Brown, Carnes, Jobi);

Verse

The Lord bless you
 And keep you
 Make his face shine upon you
 And be gracious to you
 The Lord turn his
 Face toward you
 And give you peace **(2Xs)**

Chorus

Amen

Amen

Amen **(2Xs)**

Verse

The Lord bless you

And keep you

Make his face shine upon you

And be gracious to you

The Lord turn his

Face toward you

And give you peace

CCLI Song # 7147007 Chris Brown | Cody Carnes | Kari Jobe | Steven Furtick
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Events of the Week: September 26 – October 3

- TODAY:** 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour
11:00 a.m. **Voters' Meeting**
After Voters': Pastor's Bible study
in-person & FB
4:00 p.m. **Christian Values Bible
Study Meeting**
3-5 p.m. **Youth Meeting**
- Monday:** 6:30 p.m. Monday Evening Worship
Service w/ Holy Communion
- Wed:** **Noon:** Devotional Boost w/ Pastor on FB
10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Darrell
- Friday:** Pastor's Day off
- Sunday:** 8:00 a.m. Gizmo Devotions on FB
9:30 a.m. COMMUNION WORSHIP at
St. James and on Facebook Live
11:00 a.m. Bible Study in-person & FB



Those who serve Today:

Deacon: Jerry Talen

Ushers: Dale & Grace Rosema, Orlin Bowman

Lector: Carol Bifulco

Those who serve October 3:

Deacons: Bryan Ensing and John Weiss

Ushers: Ben & Ashley Johnson, Jim & Nancy Spears

Lector: Rick Schantz

October Altar Guild: Sherry and Jennie Schmidt

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: September 19, 2021

General Fund	\$2,125.00
Plate Collections	615.00
<hr/>	
	Total: \$2,740.00
On-line giving	277.50
<hr/>	
	Total: \$3,017.50



This is the third week of our stewardship series, *"Fellow Workers on God's Team."* The theme for this week is "The Importance and Purpose of Ministry." When we speak of "ministry" in this context, it is seen as all that we do out of love for others in Christ's name. A daily recipients of God's love in Christ Jesus, we love and serve others. In our congregation and personal vocations, we want the best for others so we work to help them physically and spiritually. As God's fellow workers on His team, we are guided by Him and equipped by Him to do the works He has prepared for us to do. Each of us has a purpose to fulfill, so we are an important participants in God's plan. May God find each of us available and eager to be in ministry.

Championship Sunday is **NEXT week!** During the service we will be given the opportunity to respond to God's love by making a financial pledge to the Lord's work at St. James. There will also be a time of celebration following the service so please, plan to stay!

The **LWML Banner Workshop is next Sunday.**



The **sign-up sheet** is outside the office door. The event begins at 4:00 p.m. Pizza and pop provided. Questions? Contact Marjie Weiss.

The LWML Fall Rally registration deadline is today!

Sandra Schaeffer is the guest speaker for the LWML Grand Rapids Zone Fall Rally on October 2. Her presentation, "**Christ Lives in Me**", focuses attention on the key verse: **Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me."**



The Rally is at St. John's Lutheran Church in Allendale, on Saturday, from 9-12. The day will begin with a light breakfast and registration. The presentation will begin at 10 and followed by a short Zone business meeting. A registration fee of \$10.00 will be collected. Participants are invited to contribute baby bath items for an ingathering for the Grand Rapids Pregnancy Resource Center: baby towels, washcloths, soap, lotion, and socks!



The Lutheran's for Life Diaper Drive **ends, October 10th**. In **2018**, we collected 2,494 diapers. In **2019**, we collected 2,389 diapers. How many will we collect this year?

Dorcas will be meeting on **October 14, 2021 at 1:00 pm** in the church basement. Any questions, call Jennie Schmidt at 616-502-3376.

Take a Stand for Life. There will be a Life Chain on Sunday, October 3, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Life Chain will be on 44th Street between Breton Road and Ivanrest Ave. Life Chain affords the opportunity to peacefully assemble along 44th street for 1-1/2 hours to pray and silently witness against the sin of abortion. Shortly before 2:00 p.m. on Life Chain Sunday, signs to hold may be picked up at Crestwood School on 44th Street just east of Breton Road, at the southeast corner of 44th Street and Buchanan Ave., from Mel Cooke at Brummel's parking lot near the northwest corner of 44th Street and Clyde Park Ave, and at the northeast corner of 44th Street and Spartan Industrial Drive. Signs will be available the entire event. For additional information, call Mel Cooke (616) 676-9239 or John and Elsie Kuipers (616-534-9298) or Kim and Cindy Arnold (616) 299-0474).



HARVEST DINNER and BAKE SALE at Messiah Lutheran on October 10th, noon to 1:30 p.m. Please **RSVP** to Barb Brinkman, 866-0093, if you plan to attend the annual Harvest Dinner. The dinner is Dine-In or Take-Out. **Reservations** must be made in advance.

The menu: roast pork & gravy , baked red potatoes, green beans, butternut squash, homemade applesauce, fresh cranberry sauce, mac-n-cheese, rolls, homemade desserts, and beverages.

The cost: Adults - \$8, Children 6-12 - \$4, children under 5 – FREE!

Bake Sale: regular and mini-sized pies, breads, candy and kettle corn.



Trunk or Treat

Once again there is interest in reaching out to our church neighbors through **Trunks of Treats!** So if YOU are also interested, start looking for candy sales, AND plan on how you would like to participate on **Saturday, Oct. 30th, 2:30-4pm.** Look for a sign-up sheet the beginning of October, both at church and on the church website! Please direct any inquiries and suggestions to Cindy, #363-4087.



September 26- Lifesize Game Night!

3-5 pm at Church

We will be ordering Pizza so please bring \$2 to help with the cost.

Friends Are More Than Welcome to Attend!



I'm excited to announce that starting on **Sunday, Oct. 3** we will be starting up our **Sunday school programs** again. Families with children **PK-2nd grade** will have the opportunity to send their children on Communion Sundays to KIDZ time during the sermon. Our children will be learning some songs, and participating in a small Bible lesson. Families with children **PK-4th grade** will have the opportunity to send their children on Non-Communion Sundays to Sunday school immediately following the service. Sunday school time will include music, Bible story, activities, and a light snack. This will last about 45 minutes. We are very excited to bring our children's Sunday school back. In order to have a successful program, we are **in need of volunteers**. We need assistance with teaching and leading (all ages will be together), craft preparation, snack donations, and music talents. Youth, we will love to see you serve during this time as helpers also! If you are interested or have any questions about this program, please **contact Kim Urbanski at 616-901-4229 or urbanskifamily1@gmail.com**.

As many still have covid concerns with children that are still unable to be vaccinated, all individuals volunteering and attending this program will be asked to wear masks, following the same guidelines as ISJ Academy and other local schools.