



**St Michael's**  
L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

**Sunday, October 3, 2021—8:45 a.m.**

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

## Welcome Statement

St. Michael's Lutheran Church lives out God's grace and love for all people. Faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we welcome those who have been part of church communities, those who have no previous church experience, and those who have felt excluded by the Church because of their race or ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental capabilities, financial resources, or family circumstances. In this witness we seek reconciliation, healing, and wholeness. As a diverse people we are then empowered by the Holy Spirit to live and work together for God's promised day of justice, peace, and mercy.

In Christ's love, we welcome you!



St. Michael's Lutheran Church is a Reconciling In Christ Congregation.



St. Michael's Lutheran Church is a member of the ELCA.

Worship Activity bags are located at the back of the Sanctuary to keep little fingers and minds busy with worship-themed activities.

The nursery is open! However, it is currently unstaffed. Parents/Guardians are welcome to accompany their child(ren) in the nursery. We ask that you help us provide a safe space for the littles by following the sanitizing instructions in the room after its use. \*Special holidays and festivals will remain staffed; those dates will be indicated in the bulletin\*

We continue to use protocols in worship and in the building to protect children, youth and those who have not yet completed COVID-19 vaccinations. Our protocols will continue to adapt in the weeks and months ahead.

# Sunday, October 3, 2021

## Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

### +GATHERING+

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Holy Manna*  
William Moore

### INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.

**Amen.**

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

God of all creation,  
we confess our inability to tread lightly on the earth.  
**Our use of resources, the lives we live, have done harm to our earthly home. Help us, O God, to repent, and to find new ways to interact with the world you gave us. Lend us your mercy and show us your way: that we may travel as lightly as the birds of the air, and dwell as effortlessly as the flowers of the field.**

In the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal, "hymn" numbers are found at the top of the page; "page" numbers are found at the bottom of the page.

*God draws us together and dwells within the community*

All are invited to make the sign of the cross † as the presiding minister begins. This sign given to us in our baptism reminds us of our identity as followers of Christ, of God's own.

God of community

we confess our struggles to care for one another.

**The privilege and prestige we seek for ourselves, the relationships we undervalue, and neglect of the vulnerable have done harm. Help us, O God, to repent, and find new ways to interact with the people with whom you have called us into relationship. Guide us in love and show us your way: that we may care for strangers, welcome the children, and dwell in peace with one another.**

God will give us what we need: strength for today, hope for tomorrow, and forgiveness for all that is past.

Live anew in the promise of God—

Trusting in God's grace for you, and responding in love toward one another and in care for the world around you.

**Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN**

*God is Here*  
ELW 526: 1, 2

Worship begins with a prayer of mutuality - the presider and the congregation seeking the presence of God with and for one another.

## **THE 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Sovereign God,

**you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## +WORD+

*God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, silence, and song.*

### FIRST READING

Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then God took one of man's ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man was made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman,  
for out of Man this one was taken."

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

### PSALM

Psalm 8

O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in community. Out of love for humanity, God creates people in relationship to one another, to provide companionship and to see in each other "one flesh." Throughout the first three chapters of Genesis there is Hebrew wordplay with words like adam (human) and adamah (ground/soil); ish (man) and ishshah (woman); arum (clever) and erumin (naked) that are meant to instill a sense of wonder, comedy, and shared story.

**what are mere mortals that you should be  
mindful of them,**

**human beings that you should care for them?**

Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
with glory and honor you crown them.

**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet:**

all flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts of the field,

**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,**

**and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *O God, Whose Word Well Planted*

1 O God, whose word well-planted yields fruit a hundred-fold,  
we praise your graces granted to those who sowed of old,  
who by their witness scattered good seed upon the soil  
where others, reaping, gathered the harvest of their toil.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a '1' indicating the start of the first line of lyrics. The music concludes with a double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007  
Music: Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952  
Text and music © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

ABIDING PRESENCE  
7 6 7 6 D

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 10th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men. Relationships are to be about partnership and connection.

## SERMON

Pastor Brad Froslee

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Praise and Thanks and Adoration*

ELW 783

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ in the Sacrament of Communion.*

**+MEAL+**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all

**And also with you.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

*Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy"*

*The congregation responds, "**Hear our prayer**"*

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is Christ's table where all are welcome!

The body of Christ is given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of life and promise,  
**in the gift of the bread that is broken and the cup that is shared you claim us in healing and hope.**  
**Now send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,**  
**bearing witness to the abundance of your love,**  
**living in service to others, and embodying the welcome made known in Jesus Christ, our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

**+SENDING+**

## BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a world in need.  
The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever  
as you live in love toward God and one another.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*The Lord Now Sends Us Forth*  
ELW 538

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Cantad al Señor*  
Brazilian folk tune

Communion will be distributed in the pews. If you did not receive elements upon entering the sanctuary an usher can provide them to you.

*God blesses us and sends us into the world.*

Our worship is over, our service begins.

## WORSHIP NOTES

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### Participants in Today's Worship

**Pastors:** *Rev. Ali Ferin, Rev. Brad Froslee*

**Musician:** *Jill Schendel, Pianist*

**Lector:** *David Black*

**Usher:** *Mary Lisa Wermager*

**Worship Flowers:** *Janet & Bob Hanafin*

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### **St. Michael's Lutheran Church**

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## Announcements

### **Sunday School**

Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

### **Confirmation**

Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m.

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.

### **Youth Music Rehearsals**

Wednesdays

Youth Bells 5:30 p.m.

Celebration Singers 6:30 p.m.

Spirit Choir 7:30 p.m.

### **Chapel Ringers**

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

### **Adult Choir Rehearsal**

Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

### **Fall Yoga Devotion**

Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

### **Rezek House Meal**

Monday, October 4

### **Sara Circle**

Tuesday, October 5, 9:30 a.m.

### **Elisabeth Circle**

Wednesday, October 6, 1:00 p.m.

### **Sandwich Making for Union**

### **Gospel Mission**

Sunday, October 10, 10:00 a.m.

### **Messenger Deadline**

October 22

Register for Sunday School by  
scanning this code:



**SCAN ME**

### **Worship Leaders Needed**

Ushers

Lectors

Fellowship Hosts

Altar Flowers



**SCAN ME**



## This Week at St. Michael's

### **Sunday, October 3**

- 8:45 a.m.      Worship
- 10:00 a.m.     Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m.     Worship Outside — *Blessing of the Animals*
- 12:30 p.m.     10th grade Confirmation    Capstone

### **Monday, October 4**

- 12:00 p.m.     Staff Meeting
- 4:00 p.m.      Rezek House Meal
- 6:30 p.m.      Yoga Devotion

### **Tuesday, October 5**

- 9:30 a.m.      Sarah Circle

### **Wednesday, October 6**

- 1:00 p.m.      Elisabeth Circle
- 5:30 p.m.      Youth Bells
- 6:15 p.m.      Confirmation
- 6:30 p.m.      Chapel Ringers
- 6:30 p.m.      Celebration Singers
- 7:30 p.m.      Spirit Choir

### **Thursday, October 7**

- 9:30 a.m.      Thursday Morning Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m.      Adult Choir

### **Sunday, October 10**

- 8:45 a.m.      Worship
- 10:00 a.m.     Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m.     Sandwich Making
- 11:00 a.m.     Worship