

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church  
1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

8:30 & 10:15 a.m. Services

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*With Unwashed Hands*

**Introduction for the Day:** Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

## *Gathering*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Ann Williams

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Call to Worship

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad!**

Response

## #643 We Are All One in Christ

*Please feel free to sing in English or Spanish*

We are all one in Christ, we are one bod - y, all one  
So - mos u - no en Cris - to, so - mos u - no. So - mos

1. peo ple out of man-y. man-y. There is one God, and on-ly one  
u - no. So-mos u - no. u - no Un so-lo Dios, un so-lo Se-

Lord; there is one faith, one ho - ly love. There is one  
ñor, u - na so - la fe, un so - lo a - mor. Un so - lo bau -

bap - tism; there is one Spir - it, who is God the com - fort - er.  
tis - mo, un so - lo Es - pí - ri - tu, y e - se es el con - so - la - dor.

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## Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord our God is near whenever we call.

**Let us therefore give heed to the Word.**

With true and honest hearts, let us confess our sins to the Lord.

*(Silence is kept for reflection)*

O God, the Giver of every good and perfect gift,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you in our thinking, in our speaking, and in our doing. We take your mercy for granted, and accept your loving kindness. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive our sins that we may follow where you lead, and fill us with perfect goodness, that we may live as your Spirit directs us, filled with all the fullness of God.**

The will of God is your redemption. The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. In his name and for his sake, I declare to you the full forgiveness of all your sins. Honor him with your lips and your hearts.

**We will be doers of God's Word! Amen.**

Gathering Song

**#870 We Praise You, O God**

1. *We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.*
2. *We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers; through trial and tempest our guide you have been. When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us, and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.*
3. *With voices united our praises we offer and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us. To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!*

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963. Music: A. Valerius, Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck, 1626. Tune: Kremser 12 11 12 11.

Litany for “*With Unwashed Hands*” Sunday

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
**and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Our hearts harbor sin and fear of those who are different from themselves.

**Wash the evil and fear from our hearts.**

Our hearts are jealous and angry of others.

**Wash these jealous feelings and angry thoughts from our hearts.**

With hearts that are cleansed, the people of God are free to perform the work of the Church.

**May we be refreshed and ready to serve you wholeheartedly.**

With hearts that are cleansed,  
**we worship the Lord.**

## Apostolic 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

Let us pray. O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures.

Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Word

*(Please be seated)*

## First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

*The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

Psalm 15

*LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? (Ps. 15:1)*

Let us read responsively from Psalm 15.

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.**

**They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

**Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.**

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

Second Reading

James 1:17-27

*The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.*

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

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Gospel Acclamation

**#512 Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil**

*Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow, and peace is understood.*

*When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.*

*Lord, let me hear, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.*

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Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.*

The holy gospel according to Mark the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to You O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord for you this day.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

Sermon

Pastor Ann Williams

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Hymn of the Day

**#717 Let Justice Flow like Streams**

*(Prayer Cards will be collected during the hymn of the day)*

1. *Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure, enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.*
2. *Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed, an ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.*
3. *So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true, and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.*

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Profession of Faith

The 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 Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

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

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

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

**Amen.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Meal**(Please be seated)*

Musical Offering

8:30 *Meditation* by Richard Syner – John Paradowski, Organ10:15 *Berceuse* by Gina Sprunger – George Ubell, Piano*(Please stand as you are able)*

Offertory Response

**#884 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711. Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561. Tune: Old Hundredth, LM.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Teach us, O God, not to be hidebound “teaching human precepts as doctrines.” Motivate us by a love for you the selfsame love that offers these gifts. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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 thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Jesus, Bread of life, we receive from your table more than we could ever ask.

**As you nourish us in this meal, strengthen us to love the world.**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

*(Please be seated)*

*Please take your belongings with you to communion.*

### Communion Hymn

#### **#465 As the Grains of Wheat**

*Please meditate on the hymn text.*

**Refrain:** *As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.*

- 1. As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of your love.*
- 2. Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come when all creation shares this feast with you.*

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