TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 10 & 13, 2024

Followers of Christ Maintain Proper Priorities

Opening Hymn	633, "Speak, O Lord"	
Order of Service (From Supplement)G	athering Rite on the Word of God, Page 11	
Prayer of the Day: Lord Jesus Christ, whose grace always precedes and follows us, help		
us forsake all trust in earthly gain and find in you our heavenly treasure; for you live and		
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.		
FIRST READING		
Psalm of the Day (On Insert)	Psalm 90D (vv. 1 & 2)	
SECOND READING		
Gospel Acclamation Verse: Alleluia. For the word of God is alive and active. It judges the		
thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Alleluia.		
GOSPEL		
Hymn of the Day	560, "Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ"	
SERMON "What Must I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?" Mark 10:17-27		
Offering Hymn	717 v. 2, "What Is the World to Me"	
Apostles' Creed	Page 20	
Prayers/Lord's Prayer		
Hymn	807, "All Depends on Our Possessing"	
Closing Prayer/Benediction	-	
Closing Hymn	& 2, "You Are the Way; through You Alone"	

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 5:14-27

The prophet Elisha's servant, Gehazi, prioritized riches over his walk with God.

So he went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. Then his flesh was restored like the flesh of a small child, and he was clean. Then he and his whole escort went back to the man of God. He stood in front of Elisha and said, "To be sure, now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now accept a gift from your servant." But Elisha said, "As surely as the Lord lives, in whose presence I stand, I will not take anything." Even though Na'aman urged him to accept something, he refused. Then Na'aman said, "If you do not want anything, please give me, your servant, as much dirt as two donkeys can carry, for your servant will never again burn incense or sacrifice to other gods, but only to the Lord. But may the Lord forgive your servant this one thing: When my master goes into the house of Rimmon to bow down there and he supports himself on my arm, then I too have to bow down in the house of Rimmon. When I bow down in the house of Rimmon, may the Lord forgive your servant this one thing." Then Elisha said to him, "Go in peace."

When Na'aman had gone some distance from him, Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, "My master was too easy on this Aramean, Na'aman, when he did not accept anything that he brought. As surely as the Lord lives, I will run after him and get something from him." So Gehazi chased after Na'aman. When Na'aman saw him running after him, he got down from his chariot to meet him. He said, "Is everything all right?" Then Gehazi said, "Yes, everything is all right. My master sent me to say, 'Look, just now two young men from the hill country of Ephraim, from the sons of the prophets, have come to me. Please give them a talent of silver and two sets of clothing." Na'aman said, "Certainly! Take two talents!" He urged Gehazi and tied up the two talents of silver in two bags with the two sets of clothing. Then Na'aman gave them to his two servants, and they carried them ahead of Gehazi. When he came to the hill, he took the gifts from them. Then he hid them in the house and sent the men back, so they left. Then he went in and attended his master. Elisha said to him, "Where were you, Gehazi?" Gehazi said, "Your servant didn't go anywhere." Then Elisha said to him, "Didn't my heart go along when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take silver, or to accept clothing or olive groves or vineyards or sheep or cattle or male and female servants? Na'aman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever." Then Gehazi went out from his presence, leprous like snow.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 4:12-13

God's Word is like a sword. It cuts through our pretentions and pride and exposes our true priorities.

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It penetrates even to the point of dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow, even being able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from him, but everything is uncovered and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we will give an account.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-27

Jesus helps a young man see a problem deeper than his failure to keep God's law perfectly—that he prioritized his wealth above the call to follow Christ.

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, one man ran up to him and knelt in front of him. He asked, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except one—God. You know the commandments. 'You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.'" The man replied, "Teacher, I have kept all these since I was a child." Jesus looked at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack. Go, sell whatever you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When he heard this, he looked sad and went away grieving, because he had great wealth.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus told them again, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in their riches to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." They were even more astonished and said to one another, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For people, it is impossible, but not for God, because all things are possible for God."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEAD USHERS: Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart; next Sunday: Don Koch/Doug Schulz

CALL MEETING/QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING: All voting members are urged to participate in the upcoming Call Meeting -AND- Quarterly Voters' Meeting which are scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, at 7:00 PM. The Call Meeting will be held first. We will be extending a call to replace Pastor Mose who is retiring in June 2025. Upon completion of the Call Meeting, the Quarterly Voters' Meeting will immediately proceed. Mark your calendars today!

<u>CRAFT FAIR @ TRINITY COMMUNITY CENTER</u>: On Saturday, October 12, from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM you are invited to attend an area craft/bake sale at the Trinity Community Center (N6409 County Road P, Mayville). The sale will benefit Branch Lutheran Schools in Haiti. To learn more about the children at Branch in Haiti, please visit www.branchlutheranschoolshaiti.org.

PIZZA/CHEESE BREAD/JERKY SALE: The PTL is currently holding a pizza/cheese bread/beef jerky sale to raise funds for our church refurbishment project. If you are interested in purchasing some of these items, please look for the order forms on the table at the back of the gym or speak to any of our school families. Orders <u>and money</u> are due by **Monday, October 21**. Orders may be turned in to the school office. Checks should be made payable to: **St. Matthew's Lutheran School**. We are also looking for volunteers to help make the pizzas. This will be done on **Friday, November 1**, from 1:00 PM – 9:00 PM -and- **Saturday, November 2**, from 7:30 AM – until done. <u>Please note that because the gym is set up for church during our refurbishment project, we will be making our pizzas this year at the IRON RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>. If you would be willing to help, please sign up on the sheets posted on the school bulletin board in the school hallway. Any questions about this sale may be directed to **Brian Youngbeck (920) 296-1128**. Thanks, in advance, to everyone who helps with or supports this sale!

<u>WLA FALL CONCERT</u>: Everyone is invited to attend WLA's Fall Concert which is scheduled for **Sunday**, **October 20**, at **4:00 PM**. This will be an amazing performance showcasing the various bands and choirs at Winnebago Lutheran Academy. Don't miss it!

JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE: The WLA Association Joint Reformation Service will be held on Sunday, October 27, at 4:00 PM at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1600 Main Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. The WLA choirs will be singing for this service, and Prof. Steve Pagels of the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will be the guest preacher. Mark your calendars today!

<u>WOMEN IN THE WORD WORKSHOP:</u> Save the Date for "Women in the Word Workshop" on Saturday, November 16. You are invited to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Neosho for a morning of fellowship and learning about using God's Word to guide your life, decision-making, and even how you manage your everyday mood. God's Word is powerful and effective for all these things! Authors Angie Molkentin and Stephanie Ihlen will lead us through the workshop. The day starts with coffee and conversation at 9:00 AM, workshop from 9:15 AM to 11:00 AM, updates on area women's ministry activities, followed by lunch from 11:15 AM – NOON. It will be held in St. Paul's beautiful fellowship hall at 132 E. School Street in Neosho. There is no cost for this event, although we will be grateful for any free-will offerings to help cover the cost of lunch. Encourage your friends to attend with you! To help us plan for food, please register by calling, texting, or emailing Sam Kesting at 920-625-2021/samanthakesting@gmail.com or Rachel Wisniewski at 920-860-1583/ office@bethanyhustisford.com.

SPIRIT T-SHIRTS: You may have seen our students and/or faculty wearing school spirit shirts in pictures or on our Facebook posts. They feature our theme for the year: *Grace Upon Grace* (John 1:16). If any member of our congregation is interested in purchasing a shirt to promote our school or show their school spirit, please speak with **Ruth Callies** for sizing and pricing information, and we can have you outfitted in no time!

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 25; Sunday: 64

Offerings: \$7,375.00

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$7,355.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$293.00; Church Refurbishment: \$35.00; Missions: \$50.00; Christian Aid & Relief: \$50.00

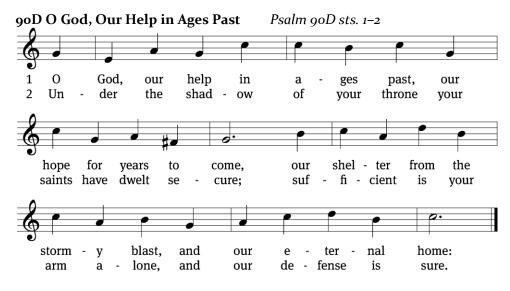
Memorials: In Memory of Elaine Schultz: \$35.00 (Church Refurbishment)



We invite you to support this ministry through financial offerings out of thanksgiving for the Gospel you have received here. Offerings may be placed in the plates located on the tables at the back of church, or you may scan the QR code to give electronically.

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday:	Worship Service	
	Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School	10:15 AM
Wednesday:	CALL MEETING & QUARTERLY VOTERS'	
	MEETING	7:00 PM
Thursday:	Communion Worship Service	7:00 PM
	Scrip Order Due!	
Sunday:	Communion Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School	



Text: Isaac Watts, abr., alt. Tune: William Croft Text and tune: Public domain