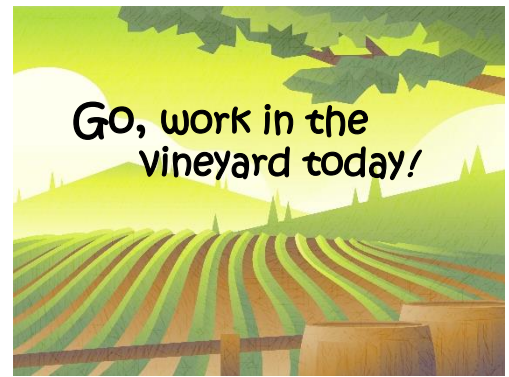


**Sunday, October 1, 2023**

**After Pentecost Lectionary 26, Year A**

MAIL



*Ringin' of Bell*

PRELUDE

HYMN OF THE MONTH ***We Come to You for Healing Lord***

**No. 617**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 25:1-9

- L: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.  
C: **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**  
L: Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.  
C: **Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**  
L: Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.  
C: **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**  
L: Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.  
C: **You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**  
L: You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

HYMN: ***We Plow the Fields and Scatter***

**No. 681**

- 1 **We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand,  
who sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.**

*Refrain* **All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above.  
We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.**

- 2 **You only are the maker of all things near and far.  
You paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star.  
The winds and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed;  
much more to us, your children, you give our daily bread.** *Refrain*

- 3 **We thank you, our creator, for all things bright and good,  
the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.  
No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts,  
but what you most would treasure—our humble, thankful hearts.** *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

L: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

**God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-32 *The fairness of God's Way.*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13 *Christ humbled to the point of death on a cross.*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: MATTHEW 21:23-32 *A parable of doing God's will.*

**C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD**

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. >>

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it,

P: THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD. C: **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

## PRESENTATION OF THIRD GRADE BIBLES

## BLESSING OF TEACHERS, STUDENTS & BACKPACKS

MESSAGE Pastor Kris Ferkin

### HYMN: O God, My Faithful God

No. 806

- 1 O God, my faithful God, true fountain ever flowing,  
without whom nothing is, all perfect gifts bestowing:  
give me a healthy frame, and may I have within  
a conscience free from blame, a soul unstained by sin.
- 2 Give me the strength to do with ready heart and willing  
whatever you command, my calling here fulfilling--  
to do it when I ought, with all my might--and bless  
whatever I have wrought, for you must give success.
- 3 Keep me from saying words that later need recalling;  
guard me, lest idle speech may from my lips be falling;  
but when, within my place, I must and ought to speak,  
then to my words give grace, lest I offend the weak.
- 4 When dangers gather round, oh, keep me calm and fearless;  
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheerless;  
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,  
and, by your Spirit's might, to live at peace with all.

### 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. Amen.

INVITATION TO PRAYER – PRAYERS P: ...Lord in your mercy: C: **Hear our prayer**

SHARING OF PEACE: P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

### OFFERING—OFFERTORY—GLOBE OFFERING

*Children are invited to bring forward an offering to the globe in the front of the church. Globe offerings go to one of our global mission partners.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of power, God of plenty,

C: **all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.  
Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION – LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION – *Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live."*

## DISTRIBUTION -&- HYMN    **O Jesus Joy of Loving Hearts**

**No. 658**

- 1 **O Jesus, joy of loving hearts, the fount of life, the light of all:  
from ev'ry bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.**
- 2 **We taste you, ever-living bread, and long to feast upon you still;  
we drink of you, the fountainhead; our thirsting souls from you we fill.**
- 3 **For you our restless spirits yearn, where'er our changing lot is cast;  
glad, when your smile on us you turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.**
- 4 **O Jesus, ever with us stay! Make all our moments fair and bright!  
Oh, chase the night of sin away! Shed o'er the world your holy light.**

## COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.

**C: Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

P: The God of Glory, + Jesus Christ name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN    **Give to Our God Immortal Praise**

**No. 848**

- 1 **Give to our God immortal praise! Mercy and truth are all his ways.  
Wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.**

- 2 **God sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and darkness and the grave.  
Wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.**
- 3 **Give to the Lord of lords renown; the King of kings with glory crown.  
His mercies ever shall endure when lords and kings are known no more!**

### *Ringling of Bell*

#### DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE

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#### **PARTICIPANTS**

INTERIM PASTOR—Kris Ferkin      WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Tanya Short      ORGANIST—Tammy Hanson  
 COMMUNION SET-UP—Amy Lee      GREETERS—Erica Aronson, Sherry Sathrum  
 COMMUNION SERVERS—Amy Lee, Erica Aronson & Tanya Short  
 COFFEE SERVERS—Cora Lee & Dennis Monroe  
 TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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#### **CONNECTIONS**

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#### **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Sid Strandemo, Lila Cole, Helen Aase, Jennifer Lorfald, Joy Estrem, Carolyn Walker, Renee (Spidahl) Carmichael, Lavon Underdahl, Kevin Hildebrandt, Jim Fountaine, Liz Flaten, Boe Aronson, Donna Berge.

#### **CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

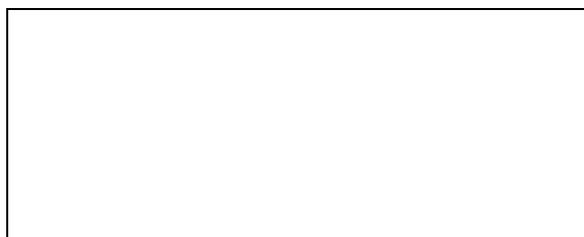
SUN/OCT 1	9 AM	WORSHIP-In person & Live-streamed
		Third Gr. Bibles—Blessing Teachers/Students/Backpacks Sunday School
	10 AM	Sunday School
	10 AM	Coffee
	7 PM	AA
WED/OCT 4	6 PM	Wednesday Worship
	6:30 PM	9th Grade Confirmation
THU/OCT 5	7 PM	AA
SUN/OCT 8	9 AM	Worship – In person & Live-streamed
	10 AM	Sunday School
	10 AM	Coffee
	7 PM	AA

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
309 Forest St., Kenyon, MN 55946

## Worship Bulletin

**October 1, 2023**

After Pentecost, Lect. 26, Yr A



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Lord, keep us steadfast  
In your WORD  
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