

**St. Olaf Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday, September 19, 2021**  
**9 am Traditional Service**  
**Lectionary 25, Year B**  
**Setting Ten**

**\*Introduction**

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**  
**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**  
**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**  
**We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.**  
**Free us from our sin, gracious God.**  
**Listen when we call out to you for help.**  
**Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.  
Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*“All Are Welcome”*

**ELW 641**

**Vs. 1, 3 & 4**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

**\*Kyrie**

**p. 203**

**\*Canticle of Praise** (Come let us join...)

**p. 204**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

C: **O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

**First Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20**

*Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.*

<sup>18</sup>It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;  
then you showed me their evil deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me  
that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

<sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,  
who try the heart and the mind,  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.

**L: Word of God, word of life.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 54**

*God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life. (Ps. 54:4)*

<sup>1</sup>Save me, O God, | by your name;  
in your might, de- | fend my cause.

<sup>2</sup>**Hear my | prayer, O God;  
give ear to the words | of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have | sought my life,  
those who have no re- | gard for God.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, God | is my helper;  
it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life. R**

<sup>5</sup>Render evil to those who | spy on me;  
in your faithful- | ness, destroy them.

<sup>6</sup>**I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice  
and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued me from | every trouble,  
and my eye looks down | on my enemies. **R**

## **Second Reading: James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a**

*The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.*

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.<sup>4:</sup>

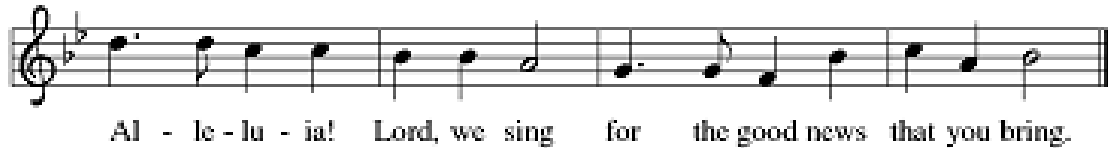
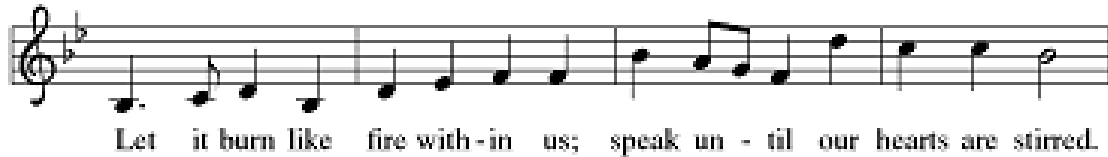
<sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

L: Word of God, word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

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**\*Gospel: Mark 9:30-37**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;<sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."<sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?"<sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.<sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."<sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,<sup>37</sup>"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

**P:** **The gospel of our Lord.**

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated.)*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*Pastor Emily Sauer*

**SERMON**

*Pastor Emily Sauer*

**HYMN of the Day**

*"Children of the Heavenly Father"*

**ELW 781**

**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.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

**P:** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C:** **hear our prayer.**

**P:** We lift all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**C:** **Amen.**

### **\*Peace**

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**C:** **And also with you.** (feel free to do an 'air' high five or a peace sign).

### **Offering**

*Thank you for joining us in worship. At this time we will receive the offering for the mission and ministry at St. Olaf Lutheran Church. Our congregation relies on the generosity of God's people to sustain the work of our Lord. You can give by mailing a check to the church or on our Paypal link [paypal.me/stolaffd](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/display_cup.cgi?cn=paypal&st=stolaffd)*

## **\* Offering Prayer**

P: O God,  
receive these gifts as you receive us:  
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.  
Nourish us anew in your tender care,  
and empower us in faithful service  
to tend to others with this same love,  
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

C: Amen.

## **\*Great Thanksgiving**

**p. 206**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## **\*Holy, Holy, Holy**

**p. 207**

## **\*Words of Institution**

## **\*Christ Has Died**

**p. 207**

## **\*Great Amen**

**p. 207**

## **\*Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father  
Who art in Heaven  
Hallowed be thy name  
Thy kingdom come  
Thy will be done  
On earth as it is in Heaven  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our trespasses  
As we forgive those who trespass against us  
And lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil  
For thine is the Kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
Forever and ever. Amen.**

## **\*Lamb of God**

**p. 208**

**HYMN**

***“Let Us Break Bread Together”  
“In the Singing”***

**ELW 471  
ELW 466**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

**P:** Christ Jesus,  
at this table we have feasted on your very life  
and are strengthened for our journey.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
nourished in body and in spirit  
to proclaim your good news  
and serve others in your name.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Blessing**

**P:** May the God of all creation,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved,  
who strengthens us for service,  
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!  
The blessing of God,  
Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit,  
be with you today and always.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN**

***“On Our Way Rejoicing”***

**ELW 537**

**\*Dismissal**

**P:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Assisting in Worship**

Presider: Pastor Emily Sauer  
Children’s Sermon: Pastor Emily Sauer  
Reader: Viv Nore  
Communion: Rick & Mary Kuhlman, Viv Nore  
Fellowship Hosts: Tammy Oester  
Organist: Jason Swedlund  
Greeters & Ushers: Rick Kuhlman, Fran Long,  
David Osterberg

Van Driver: Fran Long  
Sound Tech(s): Marc Matthes  
Mark Oester  
Robert Younie