

Traditional

Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church
Order of Worship
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 26, 2021

Abundant Grace to Walk with Wandering People

Welcome to all who gather to worship the Lord this day! As our Creator designed green leaves to turn fiery yellow, orange and red, may today's worship rekindle your faith with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Welcome.

Please sign your name in the Attendance pad at the end of the pew. If you are a guest, please take one of the visitor bags at the *Welcome Center* counter at the front entrance.

As We Gather



God's grace is always abundant; it goes beyond the limits we might set. When seventy elders are supposed to report to Moses to help him, two remain in the camp. But the Spirit rests on them! In the Gospel, the disciples following Jesus on the way to Jerusalem complain. A non-disciple is able to cast out demons in His name! And Jesus tells them not to stop him. His grace even includes us despite our inability to do His will. Confident of our Lord's return, the Epistle urges us to serve one another, healing, praying, cheering up, confessing, and forgiving. Jesus says we are as valuable as salt for one another, preserving our relationship to Him. "Have salt in yourselves," He says, "and be at peace with one another."

Welcome

Memory Verse of the Month: "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up." (James 4:10)

Opening Hymn: "When Morning Gilds the Skies" # 807

Invocation

Pastor: *In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

People: **Amen.**

Psalm of the Day *Psalm 103:1-12*

Pastor: *Bless the LORD, O my soul,*

People: **and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

Pastor: *Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.*

People: **Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits -**

Pastor: *who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,*

**People: who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,**

Pastor: *who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

**People: The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all the oppressed.**

Pastor: *He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel:*

**People: The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.**

Pastor: *He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbor his anger forever;*

**People: he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.**

Pastor: *For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;*

**People: as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.**

Pastor: *Bless the LORD, O my soul,*

People: and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us*

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness**

Pastor: *Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We
have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and
by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we
have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and
eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in
Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: *In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

People: Amen.

Pastor: *May the God who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Praise: “From All That Dwell Below the Skies” # 816

Prayer for the Day

Pastor: *Let us pray. Everlasting Father, source of every blessing, mercifully direct and govern us by Your Holy Spirit that we may complete the works You have prepared for us to do. Help us to be attentive to Your voice as You call us to serve one another in Your name. Help us to be encouraged in our service as we trust in You for strength and guidance. This we pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

People: Amen.

Old Testament: *Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29* (God equips Moses to serve Him.)

Pastor: *This is the Word of the Lord*

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: *James 5:13-20* (James outlines what Christians ought to do for one another.)

Pastor: *This is the Word of the Lord*

People: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: *Mark 9:38–50* (Jesus teaches how much God values all who have a relationship with His Son.)

Pastor: *The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.*

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: “Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service” # 848

Sermon: “Walking with Wandering People” by *Pastor Scott Malme*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering: *“Coins for Christ” is an important part of the Mission funding at Pilgrim. Through this program all loose coins in the offering plate are donated to a mission project. During September, “Coins for Christ” is supporting **Orphan Grain Train.***

As the offerings are received, please sign the register in the pews, whether you are a member of Pilgrim Lutheran or a visitor. The person at the end of the pew should start and then pass it along. *Thank you for making worship with us a priority this Lord's Day.*

Offering Music: “Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling” # 827

Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Christian Church and for all people in their various needs. For the Church here and around the world, witnessing to the good news in Christ, that we see the worth within one another that God has assigned, the value our heavenly Father places on us, and serve each other in light of that value, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: For those who do not know Christ but support the work of the Church to meet people's physical, social, and spiritual needs, that God would bless their work and draw them close to Himself in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: For people who serve in positions of governmental authority among the nations, for those who raise crops and tend herds, and for all who connect resources with the needs of their fellow citizens, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all who struggle to put bread on the table and a roof over their families, those who face injustice and discrimination, and all who are denied human rights, that God would provide for their basic needs and use us to help one another in greater ways, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: *For all near and dear to us who call out to God in their distress, including . . . , that God would give them healing and hope in answer to our prayers, let us pray to the Lord.*

People: Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: *For ourselves, that we recognize the gifts God has placed among us by which we may care for one another and our community, let us pray to the Lord.*

People: Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: *Grant us, heavenly Father, that what we ask for in faith we may obtain through Your unfailing mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: *Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray,*

All: 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.

Benediction

Pastor: *The Lord bless you and keep you.*

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

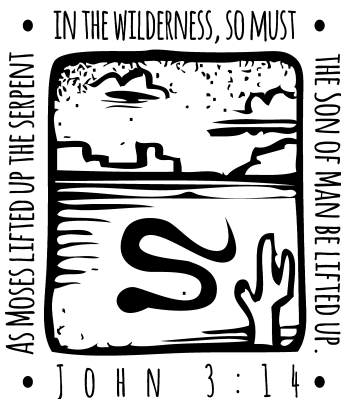
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Pastor: *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God!

Closing Hymn: "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go" # 854



“Walking with the Wandering”

Wandering is a _____ Theme –

A.) **Numbers:** Numbers 11:1 – “The people complained about their hardships.”

B.) **James:** James 5:19 - “Brothers, is someone among you wanders from the truth.”

C.) **Jesus (Wandering Sheep):** Ez. 34:6 & Matt. 18:12,

D.) **Timothy:** I Tim. 6:10 -

Wandering is a _____ Theme – We sometimes say something like, “I still believe,” but our faith can be dying rather than blossoming. Example = The dying succulent.

Wandering is a _____ Theme - Statistics and comments today tell us that people are wandering away from the Lord today just like Israel did in the wilderness. Congregations often see much larger membership numbers than worshiping, studying or serving numbers.

“Walking with the Wandering” is a _____ Theme – God’s work in the life of Moses teaches us how to walk with the wandering.

Humble Faith – Numbers 12:3 says that Moses was the humblest man alive.

Patience Faith – Moses stayed with the people of Israel through Numbers 11, 12, 13 and was found viewing the promise land in Deut. 34.

Prayerful Faith – Moses is constantly praying for himself and for Israel. He is begging God to forgive the wanderings of the flock.

Pleading Faith – Moses continues to share God’s Word with God’s people. The entire book of Deuteronomy is like a father sharing final words with his family

“Walking with the Wandering” is a _____ Theme – Jesus Christ is the world’s greatest example of ONE who is always walking with and for the wandering.

Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

⁴ Now the rabble that was among them had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, "Oh that we had meat to eat!" ⁵ We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. ⁶ But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰ Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased.

¹¹ Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me?" ¹² Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,' to the land that you swore to give their fathers? ¹³ Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, 'Give us meat, that we may eat.'

¹⁴ I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. ¹⁵ If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness."

Elders Appointed to Aid Moses

¹⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you.

²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.

²⁶ Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸ And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, "My lord Moses, stop them." ²⁹ But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

James 5:13-20

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Mark 9:38-50

³⁸ John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹ But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰ For the one who is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

Temptations to Sin

⁴² "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' ⁴⁹ For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."