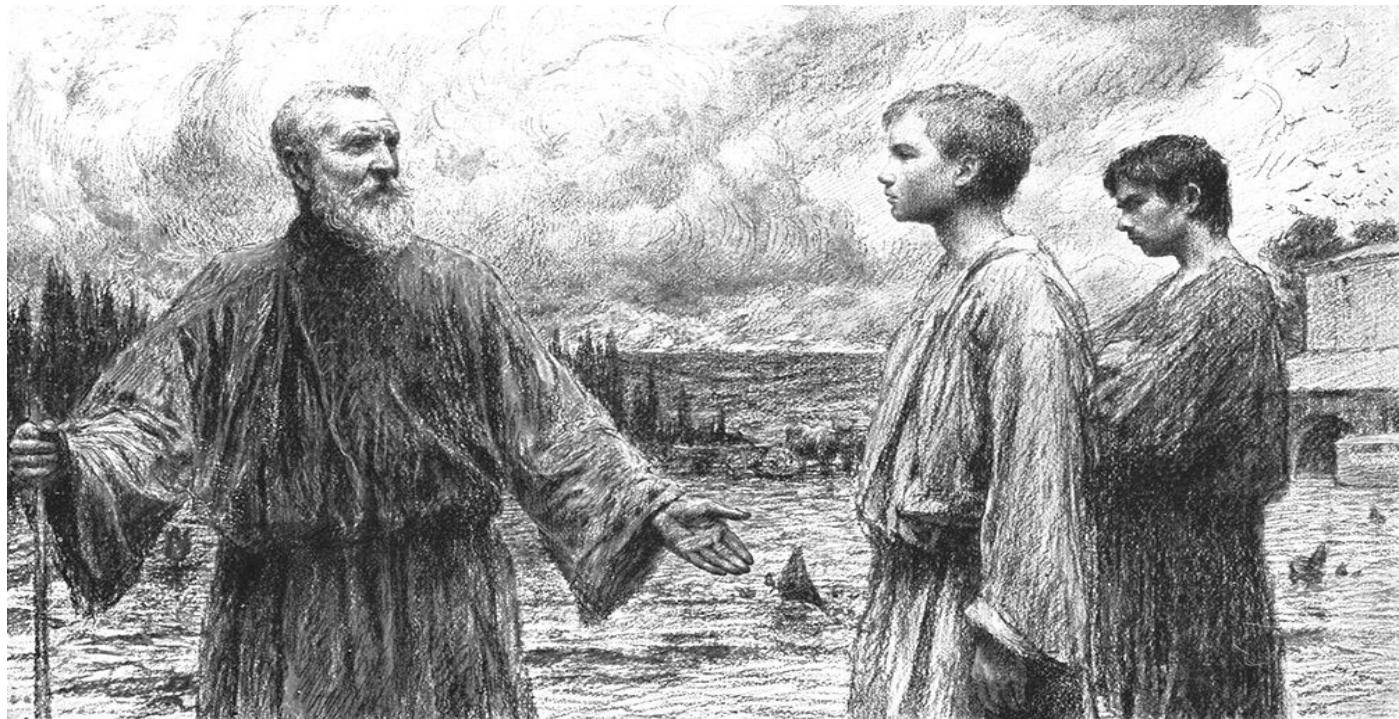




NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



OCTOBER 11, 2020

St. Matthew's Danube, St. John's Renville, and St. Matthew Flora Twp. MN (WELS)

St. Matthew Flora Twp. - St. Matthew's Danube - St. John's Renville (WELS)

www.stmatthewsdanube.org | Pastor Mike Kuschel | home: 320-826-2280 | cell: 320-522-2428

Little Lambs Learning Center: 100 Main St. Danube, MN | office: 320-826-2340

Prayer Before Worship: Holy Spirit direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you: Guide us to repentance that leads to thankful obedience. Amen.

"Lord to You I Make Confession" – CW # 302

Special arrangement by Koine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UWKILhyFR6Y>

Lyrics: We have come into God's presence; Maker of the heavens and earth.
He created us to love him; To serve him as his precious child.
We have disobeyed and errored, Thus deserving wrath and anger.

[1] Lord, to you I make confession;

I have sinned and gone astray;

I have multiplied transgression,

Chosen for myself my way.

Led by you to see my errors,

Lord, I tremble at your terrors.

For your Son has suffered for me,

Giv'n himself to rescue me,

Died to save me and restore me,

Reconciled and set me free.

Jesus' cross alone can vanquish

These dark fears and soothe this anguish.

[2] Yet, though conscience voice appall me,

Father, I will seek your face.

Though your child I dare not call me,

Yet receive me to your grace.

Do not for my sins forsake me;

Do not let your wrath o'ertake me.

[4] Lord, on you I cast my burden--

Sink it in the depths below!

Let me know your gracious pardon;

Wash me, make me white as snow.

Let your Spirit leave me never;

Make me only yours forever.

Composers & Copyrights:

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77

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Tune: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662

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SERVICE OF THE WORD – CW page 38

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON - *Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32*

The word of the LORD came to me: ² “What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: ‘The fathers eat sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge?’ ³ As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. ⁴ For every living soul belongs to me, the father as well as the son—both alike belong to me. The soul who sins is the one who will die. ²⁵ “Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear, O house of Israel: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? ²⁶ If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits sin, he will die for it; because of the sin he has committed he will die. ²⁷ But if a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he will save his life. ²⁸ Because he considers all the offenses he has committed and turns away from them, he will surely live; he will not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Are my ways unjust, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust? ³⁰ “Therefore, O house of Israel, I will judge you, each one according to his ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. ³¹ Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Alleluia. (Philippians 2:10,11)

SECOND LESSON - *Philippians 2:1-11*

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.⁴ Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.⁵ Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Alleluia Response (sung)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:28-32

²⁸ “What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ ²⁹ “‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ “Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.”

The Holy Bible : New International Version. 1996, c1984 . Zondervan: Grand Rapids

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

O Savior Precious Savior - CW # 368

[1] *O Savior, precious Savior,
Whom yet unseen, we love,
O name of might and favor,
All other names above,
We worship thee; we bless thee;
To thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise thee and confess thee,
Our holy Lord and King.*

{Sung by the minister}

[2] *O Bringer of salvation,
Who wondrously hast wrought,
Thyself the revelation
Of love beyond our thought,
We worship thee; we bless thee;
To thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise thee and confess thee,
Our gracious Lord and King.*

{Sung by the minister}

[3] *In thee all fullness dwelleth,
All grace and pow'r divine;
The glory that excelleth,
O Son of God, is thine.
We worship thee; we bless thee;
To thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise thee and confess thee,
Our glorious Lord and King.*

[4] *Oh, grant the consummation
Of this our song above
In endless adoration
And everlasting love!
Then shall we praise and bless thee
Where perfect praises ring
And evermore confess thee,
Our Savior and our King.*

Sermon: Hear the Call of the Father

Sermon Text: Matthew 21:28-32

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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:

Please mail in your offering as we continue to support the work of spreading the gospel throughout our community and the world. Thank you for your continued support!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

O Lord God, we thank you for the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ your Son and for all the promised graces we have received through him: that in his obedience to death on the cross we have been granted cleansing pardon for all our sins; that in his resurrection we have the promise of life everlasting; and that in his ascension to the right hand of your majesty we have the assurance of his intercession for our every need.

Help us that we may so believe and trust in him, and so faithfully love and serve him, that in all thought, speech and action we may imitate his obedience and humility. Rebuke our selfishness and subdue our self-indulgence. Enlarge our sympathies, deepen our hope, and confirm us in faith.

Dwell in our homes, O Lord, and let the trust of our families be centered in you alone that no difficulty, trial or adversity shall be able to move them the conviction that you are their helper in every time of need. Relieve the afflictions of the weary and sick, and dry the tears of the troubled and sorrowful. Lead them to look to you as the unfailing spring of all healing and hope.

Special prayers of thanksgiving or intercession may be spoken here

All these things, and whatever else we should have asked, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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.

THE BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen

Closing Hymn: "The Love of Christ that Died For Me" – CWS #749

**[1] The love of Christ, who died for me.
Is more than mind can know,
His mercy measureless and free
To meet the debt I owe.
He came my sinful cause to plead,
He laid his glories by,
For me a homeless life to lead,
A shameful death to die.**

{Sung by the minister}

**[2] My sins I only see in part,
My self-regarding ways;
The secret places of my heart
Lie bare before his gaze.
For me the price of sin he paid;
My sins beyond recall
Are all alike on Jesus laid,
He died to bear them all.**

**[3] O living Lord of life, for whom
The heavens held their breath,
To see, triumphant from the tomb,
A love that conquers death,
Possess my heart that it may be
Your kingdom without end,
O Christ who died for love of me
And lives to be my friend.**

Announcements - View our website and like us on Facebook for updated announcements.

Thank you for your continued support

We thank you for your continued support of our efforts to share the good news of Jesus with our community and the world.

Thank you for your mailing your offerings into the church the office.

St. Matthew's Danube
PO Box 67
Danube, MN 56230

St. John's Renville
209 Bryant Ave NE
PO Box 416
Renville. MN 56284

St. Matthew Flora Twp.
36313 Kenwood Ave
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
(temporary mailing address)

Please contact or write to us with any questions, concerns, words of encouragement or prayer requests. God be with you, and God willing we will be able to meet together in God's house soon. If you are in need of pastoral care and would like to have a visit over the phone please contact me. You can reach me either through my home number 826-2280 or cell phone 320-522-2428.

Stay Connected Wherever You Are:

We realize that not everyone will be ready or ought to return to public worship as our congregations reopen. We would like to encourage all those who are unable to come to worship or unsure if they ought to come to continue to make use of local radio, television, and online ministries. Below is a listing of different ministries available on different forms of media.

Television:

- Watch *Time of Grace* at 10:30am on Kare 11 on Sunday mornings - visit timeofgrace.org to learn more about Pastor Mike Novotny and other WELS pastors that contribute to Time of Grace and their varied resources.

Radio:

- Listen to St. John's Lutheran Church of Redwood Falls on 97.7 KLGR FM @ 8:00am Sunday mornings
- Tune in to Lutheran Chapel Services on KNUJ 97.3 FM or 860 AM @ 7:45 am Sunday mornings

Online: Join us for worship online in one of several ways: visit www.stmatthewsdanube.org or Search for St. Matthews Danube on YouTube for recorded services and livestreaming or follow us on Facebook.

Other Online Resources: wels.net, timeofgrace..org, nph.net forwardinchrist.net & Meditations online at nph.net

Share this information with neighbors, friends, relatives, and fellow members of our congregation as we put our hope and trust in the living God and make his name known among the nations and our communities.

God's Blessings to Local Schools

As children head back to school we pray that God would stretch his hand of protection and care over the children, the teachers, administrators, volunteers, and so many others who serve our communities through our schools. Lord, according to your gracious will, bless our schools as a safe place where children can learn and grow in knowledge and stature.

The Pankows Welcome A New Addition to their Family

Hattie Pankow was born on September 21 to Stephen and Megan Pankow. May God bless this young family. Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him. – Psalm 127:3.

Quarterly Meetings to be held this October

The quarterly congregational meetings for both St. Matthew's Danube and St. John's Renville are scheduled for October 25. All voting members are encouraged to participate in the meeting and all members are welcome to attend. The meetings will take place after Sunday morning worship. Pastor Kuschel will not be able to attend the meeting at St. Matthew's in Danube so a pastor's report will be supplied for the congregation at the meeting.

Faces of Faith Magazines are Available

WELS missions has produced a new resource called, *Faces of Faith*. Grab a copy today and learn about how the gospel is being spread throughout the world and the impact it is having on the lives of everyday people. Visit wels.net/missions to learn even more.

Council Meetings

St. John's Renville - Monday, October 19, 2020 @ 7:30pm

St. Matthew's Danube - Tuesday October 20 or Thursday October 22 @ 8:00pm

St. Matthew Flora Twp to hold free will offering to support MLC Food Bank

A door offering will be held on Sunday October 18 and Sunday October 25 in order to support the MLC Food Bank. As we have done in the past we ask for only check and cash donations so that those who manage the food bank can get the food items that they need, and often at a reduced price from organizations like Second Harvest. May God bless our efforts to support our present and future pastors, teachers, and staff ministers.

Please keep the students and staff of Martin Luther College in your prayers.

Visit mlc-wels.edu for more updates concerning your college of ministry.

St John Redwood Falls Extends a Call to Pastor Stephen Daley

On Monday, October 6 St. John Lutheran Church of Redwood Falls extended a call to Rev. Stephen Daley to be their pastor. Pastor Daley currently serves St. Paul Lutheran Church of South Haven MI. May God bless Pastor Daley as he deliberates where he may serve the Lord.

Tri-Parish Ministry: Sunday Worship Schedule

St. Matthew Flora Twp - 8:00 am St. Matthew's Danube - 9:30 am

St. John's Renville - 11:00am

Renville County COVID-19 Newsletter: Follow the link - <https://www.renvillecountymn.com/newslist.php>