

September 26, 2021  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Our Savior Lutheran Church



**Thought:** “I did it my way,” so says a well known song, or do we do it God’s way...in His name? Does God listen to us or do we listen to God? We should say – both, as we pray and put our lives and energies into His hands. All three lessons today speak of not following the “rules” as laid out by the many, but following the path of God in Christ. It has to be God’s work, our hands and not because we said so. Jesus in our Gospel: *Whoever is not against us is for us.* Sharing the love of God often goes beyond what we might consider the “rules.” When someone says to you – “you’re not doing it right,” what do they mean?

## Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### Prayer Concerns

### Sharing of the Peace

### Call to Worship

A: We gather in this place on this day in Jesus' name.

**C: We worship together in Jesus' name.**

A: We sing and pray in Jesus' name. We give to and for each other and others in Jesus' name.

**C: We reflect and consider in Jesus' name.**

A: We doubt and question, affirm and celebrate in Jesus' name.

**C: And in the fullness of this hour, we will go from this place this day in Jesus' name, to live our lives in Jesus' name in this and all places, on this and every day.**

A: May it be so.

**C: May it be so.**

### Gathering Hymn

<https://youtu.be/TD5YwR2ND6I>

Let Justice Flow like Streams – Ray Edwards M Div.

### ELW 717 Lillian Pinkston

1 *Let justice flow like streams  
of sparkling water, pure,  
enabling growth, refreshing life,  
abundant, cleansing, sure.*

2 *Let righteousness roll on  
as others' cares we heed,  
an ever-flowing stream of faith  
translated into deed.*

3 *So may God's plumb line, straight,  
define our measure true,  
and justice, right, and peace pervade  
this world our whole life through.*

### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness**

P: You, O Christ, are the vine; we are but branches.

**C: We have difficulty remembering that.**

*A time of silence for reflection*

P: You, O Christ are the cornerstone; we are but bricks.

**C: We often forget that, too.**

P: You, O Christ, are perfect and whole; we are woefully incomplete.

**C: So, in our helplessness and weakness, we cast ourselves upon the altar of your mercy. Turn our inadequacies into powers that will benefit others, and motivate us to care for your environment. Support our efforts and the efforts of others to relieve misery in the world and keep our world safe from destruction.**

P: Replace our tendency to destroy with a desire to build.

Transform us into helpers and healers. In Jesus name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

### **Greeting**

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

**And also with you.**

## Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the people of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen and Amen!**

## Hymn of Praise

[https://youtu.be/w3gc\\_YTLB0s](https://youtu.be/w3gc_YTLB0s)

O Day of Peace – First Plymouth Church, Lincoln Nebraska

## Prayer of the day

A: Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you.

**C: Give us a share of your Spirit and in all we do, empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## The Word

### Old Testament reading – Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

*The Lord's Spirit comes upon seventy Elders, including Eldad and Medad*

<sup>4</sup> The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! <sup>5</sup> We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; <sup>6</sup> but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

<sup>10</sup> Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. <sup>11</sup> So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? <sup>12</sup> Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? <sup>13</sup> Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' <sup>14</sup> I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup> If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery." <sup>16</sup> So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

<sup>24</sup> So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. <sup>25</sup> 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 when the spirit rested upon them,

they prophesied. But they did not do so again.<sup>26</sup> 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.<sup>27</sup> And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.”<sup>28</sup> And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men,<sup>[c]</sup> said, “My lord Moses, stop them!”<sup>29</sup> But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 19:7-14

*The commandment of the Lord gives light to the eyes.*

<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul;

the decrees of the LORD are sure,  
making wise the simple;

<sup>8</sup> **the precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;**

**the commandment of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;**

<sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;

the ordinances of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup> **More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

<sup>11</sup> Moreover by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup> **But who can detect their errors?**

**Clear me from hidden faults.**

<sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from the insolent;<sup>[a]</sup>  
do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless,  
and innocent of great transgression.<sup>14</sup> **Let the words of my  
mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable to you,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

**Epistle Reading - James 5:13-20**

*Prayer and anointing in the community*

<sup>13</sup> Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

<sup>15</sup> The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup> My brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup> you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's<sup>[b]</sup> soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Holy Gospel – Mark 9:38-50**

<https://youtu.be/yuA4A7Cx0E0>

*Warning to those who obstruct faith*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>38</sup> John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone<sup>[a]</sup> casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup> Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup> For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. <sup>42</sup> “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me,<sup>[b]</sup> it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup> If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell,<sup>[c]</sup> to the unquenchable fire.<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>45</sup> And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.<sup>[e][f]</sup> <sup>47</sup> And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell,<sup>[g]</sup> <sup>48</sup> where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. <sup>49</sup> “For everyone will be salted with fire.<sup>[h]</sup> <sup>50</sup> Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it?<sup>[i]</sup> Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Children’s Message**

[https://youtu.be/o\\_ISsOQq34A](https://youtu.be/o_ISsOQq34A)

## **Homily: “Hooray for Eldad and Medad!”**

<https://youtu.be/9CEA8pPRw5Q>

## **Hymn of the Day**

<https://youtu.be/nz5zRSJiBsl>

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life – Virtual Hymn –  
Sammamish Hills Worship

### **ELW #719 – Lillian Pinkston**

- 1 *Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife,  
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.*
  
- 4 *The cup of water giv'n for you  
still holds the freshness of your grace;  
yet long these multitudes to view  
the strong compassion in your face.*

### **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.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

P: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: We pray for the church and its ministry. Bless the newly baptized and encourage them in their journey of faith. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for natural wonders of your creation (*local waterways, forests, and natural areas may be named*). Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for those in authority. Give them wise minds and compassionate hearts. Strengthen in them a desire to protect the vulnerable and care for those underserved. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: musicians, readers, acolytes, and ushers (*other roles may be*

*added to reflect your context*). Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: We give thanks for all your saints, those we have loved and known and those from every time and place. Continue to guide us by their example and reassure us of your promised salvation.

Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Offering – A time of silence and reflection**

#### **Offertory Prayer**

A: You have sent your Spirit into the world, O God –

**C: into our hearts.**

A: Never let us be stingy with your Spirit's power.

**C: Let us be generous...as generous as is our generous God.**

A: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

### **Preface**

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Lamb of God – Mass Song**  
<https://youtu.be/LcgpnvQPoaQ>

### **Words of Institution**

#### **The 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.

## Distribution

### Communion Music – Lillian Pinkston

OR

<https://youtu.be/piUHVTZchYE>

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart – RJ Alvarez

### Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

#### Post Communion Prayer

A: Lord Jesus Christ, on the night you were betrayed you took bread...you took cup –

**C: and offered yourself to all who would follow.**

A: Lord Jesus Christ, on the night you were betrayed you promised to send us aid –

**C: your counselor – the Holy Spirit.**

A: Enrich us with your Holy Spirit.

**C: May your Spirit breathe through this world!**

A: You are the Lord forevermore.

**C: Amen.**

### **Benediction – Numbers 6**

#### Sending Hymn

<https://youtu.be/trhxP6VAOuc>

Canticle of the Turning – Michelle Sherliza

### ELW #723 – Lillian Pinkston

1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,  
and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest.

Could the world be about to turn? **Refrain**

2 Though I am small, my God, my all,  
you work great things in me,  
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past  
to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame,  
and to those who would for you yearn,  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,  
for the world is about to turn. **Refrain**

### **Refrain**

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.

### **Dismissal**

A: Sharing Word and Deeds among the many, we go to serve.

**C: With our hearts open we celebrate in community and the world.**

### **Postlude**

## **Unity**

- Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.  
(Romans 15:7)
- <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, "Do not hinder him, for there is no one who will perform a miracle in My name, and be able soon afterward to speak evil of Me. <sup>40</sup> For he who is not against us is for us." (Mark 9:39-40)