

Sunday, June 11, 2023 Second Sunday after Pentecost

Service Theme THE HOLY MINISTRY IS FILLED WITH SINNERS CALLED BY GOD

They never forgot their past. Moses never forgot how, in a fit of anger, he killed a man. Paul never forgot how he had savaged the Church of God, overseeing the persecution and execution of Christians around Jerusalem. Matthew never forgot how, as a tax collector for the Roman Empire, he was distained as a swindler and traitor to his people. These men never forgot their past. But God did. God forgave them all their sins and called them into gospel ministry. The holy ministry is not filled with perfect people. The holy ministry is filled with sinners whom God has called out of his boundless mercy. The holy ministry is God's gift to the Church. But it is also God's gift to ministers, who certainly do not deserve the privilege of being God's public servants. God calls sinful and weak individuals into the ministry, so that as his kingdom advances, we give credit where credit is due—to the Holy Spirit.

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Chief of Sinners Though I Be



Opening Prayer

M: In the name of Jesus our Lord and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we call on you, dear heavenly Father:

C: Hear us for Your name's sake.

M: We approach you confidently at the beginning of this day, for we rely on Jesus, our Redeemer, for the full forgiveness of sins:

C: Receive our thankful worship for His sake.

M: By the Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of You and of Your will for our lives. Fill our hearts with joy and peace into eternity:

C: In You, O Lord, have we taken refuge; never let us be ashamed.

M: O Lord, our Rock and our Fortress, assure us that because you live, we shall live also:

C: In You we hope: Our praise is for You. Amen

M: Let us pray:

Almighty and merciful God, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear his call and follow him by faith that we may feast with him forever in his kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Old Testament Lesson Exodus 3:1-15 (EHV)

Moses asked a good question: "Who am I to bring the Israelites out of Egypt." Answer: the one the LORD himself had chosen for that holy ministry."

Now Moses was shepherding the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, a priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²The Angel of the LORD appeared to him in blazing fire from within a bush. Moses saw that the bush was on fire, but the bush was not burning up. ³So he said, "I will go over and look at this amazing sight—to find out why the bush is not burning up."

⁴When the LORD saw that Moses had gone over to take a look, God called to him from the middle of the bush and said, "Moses! Moses!"

Moses said, "I am here."

⁵The LORD said, "Do not come any closer. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He then said, "I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

⁷The LORD said, "I have certainly seen the misery of my people in Egypt, and I have heard their cry for help because of their slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. ⁸So I have come down to deliver them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹Now indeed, the Israelites' cry for help has come to me. Yes, I have seen how the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰Come now, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

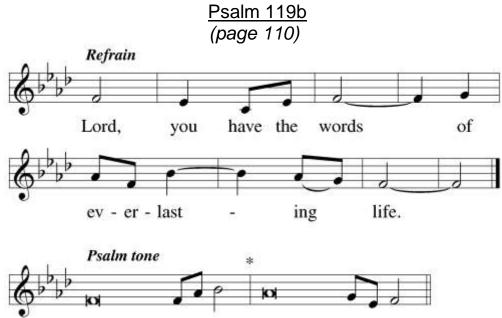
¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

¹²So he said, "I will certainly be with you. This will be the sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will serve God on this mountain."

¹³But Moses said to God, "If I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what should I say to them?"

¹⁴So God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He also said, "You will say this to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you."

¹⁵God also told Moses, "Say this to the Israelites: 'The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you. This is my name forever, and this is how I am to be remembered from generation to generation.'



Teach me, O LORD, to follow <u>your</u> decrees:*

then I will keep them to the end.

Give me understanding, and I will keep your law*

and obey it with all my heart.

Direct me in the path of <u>your</u> commands.*

for there I find delight.

Refrain

Turn my eyes away from worthless things;*

preserve my life according to your Word.

Fulfill your promise to your <u>ser</u>vant,* so that you <u>may</u> be feared.

How I long for your <u>pre</u>cepts!* Preserve my life in your righteousness.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son*

and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Epistle 1 Timothy 1:12-17 (EHV)

To demonstrate mercy and patience, God called the Paul, the self-identified "worst of sinners," into the holy ministry.

¹²I give thanks to the one who empowered me, namely, Christ Jesus our Lord, that he treated me as trustworthy, appointing me into his ministry. ¹³He did this even though formerly I was a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a violent man. But I was shown mercy, because I acted ignorantly in unbelief. ¹⁴The grace of our Lord overflowed on me along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵This saying is trustworthy and worthy of full acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners," of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶But I was shown mercy for this reason: that in me, the worst sinner, Christ Jesus might demonstrate his unlimited patience as an example for those who are going to believe in him, resulting in eternal life. ¹⁷Now to the King eternal, to the immortal, invisible, only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia! Alleluia! It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners. Alleluia! (Matthew 9:12,13)

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
These words are writ-ten that we may be-lieve that Je-sus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Gospel Matthew 9:9-13 (EHV)

Jews considered tax collectors to be among the worst of sinners. To demonstrate grace, Jesus called one of them to be his disciple.

⁹As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting in the tax collector's booth. He said to him, "Follow me." Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰As Jesus was reclining at the table in Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners were actually there too, eating with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹²When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "The healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. ¹³Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' In fact, I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

CW 304:1,5-7 Jesus Sinners Does Receive

Jesus sinners does receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander. Here is hope for all who grieve—Jesus sinners does receive.

I, a sinner, come to you With a penitent confession. Savior, show me mercy, too; Grant for all my sins remission. Let these words my soul relieve—Jesus sinners does receive.

Oh, how blest is it to know, Were as scarlet my transgression, It shall be as white as snow By your blood and bitter passion, For these words I do believe—Jesus sinners does receive.

Jesus sinners does receive. Even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave—Jesus sinners does receive.

Sermon Text & Theme

Matthew 9:9-13 - Jesus, the caring physician . . .

- 1) Meets us where we're at.
- 2) Makes our home his clinic for others.

The Apostles' Creed

(Melody: CW 365 "Love Divine, All Love Excelling")

I believe in God the Father, Maker of the heav'n and earth. And in Jesus Christ, our Savior, God's own Son, of human birth. Virgin born, the Lord incarnate, whom the Spirit did conceive, suffered under Pontius Pilate; He's the God whom I believe.

Crucified, was dead and buried; Down to hell in victory; From the dead He rose the third day; Up to heaven triumphantly. There at God's right hand He's ruling, by his will the world is led. He will come to judge the nations, both the living and the dead.

I believe in God the Spirit; in His Church, His chosen band. They are joined in sweet communion; Holy in his sight they stand. I believe in sins forgiven; I believe I'll rise again; I believe in life eternal. Amen! Amen! Amen!

Offertory Prayer

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Please stand)

- M: My fellow disciples, in the Lord's Supper, Jesus is coming to us in a very special way: as we receive the bread and the wine of communion, Jesus is present to give us his actual body and blood, and to personally pronounce forgiveness to each one of us. Because of the Lord's presence and his forgiveness in communion, the Apostle Paul wrote, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28) Therefore, before the Lord comes to meet with us, let us honestly ask ourselves before God who knows our hearts:
- 1) Do you confess that you have sinned against God and deserve his anger and punishment? If so, then answer, "I do confess!"

C: I do confess!

- M: It is good for you to confess, because God's word says, "When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long." (Psalm 32:3)
- 2) Are you sorry for the sins you have committed against God by things you have done, said and thought, and by the things you have failed to do? If so then answer, "I do repent!"

C: I do repent!

- M: It is right for you to repent, because God's Word says, "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not within us." (1 John 1:8)
- 3) Do you now believe that God will forgive you and save you for the sake of Jesus' perfect life and redeeming death? If so then answer, "I do believe!"

C: I do believe!

- M: It is right for you to believe because Jesus himself says, "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)
- 4) Do you now promise by the power of the Holy Spirit to make every effort to turn away from sin and live for your Lord? If so then answer, "I do so promise!"

C: I do so promise!

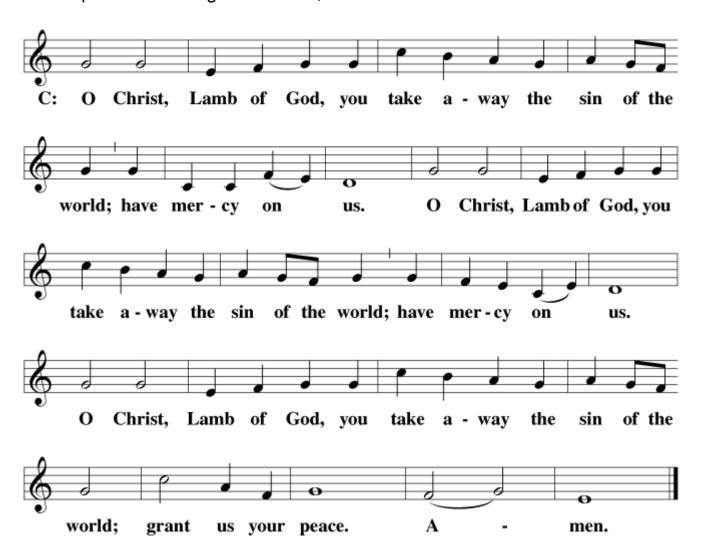
M: It is right for you to promise, because God's Word says, "Produce fruit in keeping with repentance." (Matthew 3:8)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

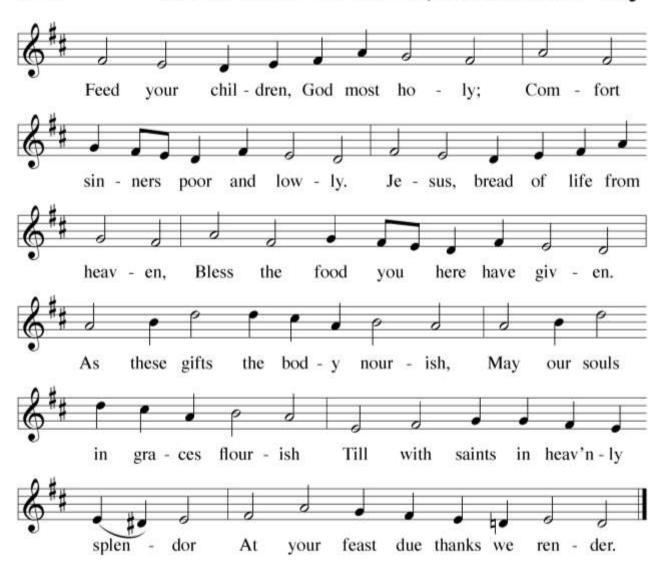
M: As repentant and forgiven sinners, we now come to meet with our Lord.



<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Feed Your Children, God Most Holy



THANKSGIVING

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

Prayer of the Church

M: Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.

C: Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.

M: Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

C: Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.

M: Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

C: Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer.

M: Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

C: Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

C: Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

380 Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You



Announcements

Church Cleaners:

June 18 - Peter // June 25 - James

Farewell for Pastor Goetzinger

A special service will be held at St. Paul's on Sunday June 18th at 2:30 P.M. with a fellowship meal afterwards. If you would like to join us please RSVP to the church office at stpaulwels@rogers.com with your name, and number of people.

If you would like to contribute towards a special WELS-Canada gift for Pastor Goetzinger and Karen, please do one of the following before June 18th:

- 1) Use a special envelope marked "Farewell gift" and place in the collection plate <u>after the service</u> on June 4th or 11th.
- 2) E-transfers funds to Divine Word with "Farewell gift" written in the memo box.

<u>Please Note</u>: As per CRA rules, *donations made towards Pastor Goetzinger's farewell gift are NOT tax deductible*. No receipts will be issued as Jim will simply forward the funds on to be given to Pastor Goetzinger on our behalf.

	DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR	
Su (11)	9:30 am 10:45 am 3:00 pm	Worship with Communion Divine Sisters Meeting Worship & Communion in Poltimore
Th (15)	6:30 pm	Confirmation (W)
Fr (16)	10:30 am 4:30 pm 6:00 pm	Bible Information Class Confirmation (D) Friday Fellowship & Bible Study
Su (18)	9:30 am 10:45 am 2:30 pm	Worship with Communion Bible Class Farewell Service for Pastor Goetzinger
Tu (20)	7:00 pm	Elders Meeting
Th (22)	6:30 pm	Confirmation (W)
Fr (23)	10:30 am 4:30 pm	Bible Information Class Confirmation (D)
Su (25)	9:30 am 10:45 am	Worship with Communion Voters Meeting & Evangelism Seminar



Divine Word

Evangelical Lutheran Church

1081 Greenbank Rd., Ottawa, ON., K2B 5A8 613-825-1629 www.divinewordottawa.ca