

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### *September 26, 2021*

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

# GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## PRELUDE

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to acknowledge this land on which St. Philip's Lutheran Church is located. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We are grateful to have the opportunity to meet, worship, and serve on this land.

## WELCOME

### GATHERING SONG

"All Are Welcome"

 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
 a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
 Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
 rock of faith and vault of grace;
 here the love of Christ shall end divisions: *Refrain*

*Refrain* All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place. ELW 641



4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain*

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

#### FIRST READING

#### Numbers 11: 4 – 6, 10 – 16, 24 – 29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

<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, 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!"

#### GOSPEL

#### Mark 9: 38 – 50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

<sup>38</sup>John said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, we saw someone 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, 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, to the unquenchable fire. <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>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>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. <sup>49</sup>"For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

#### SERMON

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lord Whose Love in Humble Service"

- Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed: we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart; consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.
- 2 Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread; still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead. As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul, by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984 Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

### THE PRAYERS

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

ELW 712

# MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

### SHARING OF PEACE

#### COMMUNION

## COMMUNION SONG

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

## SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### SENDING SONG

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Refrain

Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray. Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

ELW 484

ACS 942

- 1 Upon the mountain my Lord spoke, out of his mouth came fire and smoke. *Refrain*
- 2 All around me looked so fine, asked my Lord if all was mine. *Refrain*
- 3 Jordan river, chilly and cold, chills the body but not the soul. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **Thanks be to God.** 

## POSTLUDE

#### PERMISSIONS

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# SERVING TODAY

The Rev. Tuula Van Gaasbeek	Pastor
Chris Ritcey-Conrad	Music Director
Emily Savage	Reader
Arlene Somerville	Prayers
Sam & Judy Marcuson	Cantors
Dave Pascoe	Audio Visual

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Gus Berndt, Kevin Cartwright, Rodney Erlandson, Al Jacksteit, Mona Kibsey, Mark Kieswetter, Fran Moore, Marion Morningstar, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, Helen Scollnik, Elga Smidt, Juliet and Paul.

## COMMUNION

Keep 6 feet apart with your mask on. Receive the bread and then help yourself to an individual cup of wine. Remove your mask and have the wine and bread. Put the empty cup in the containers provided. Replace your mask.

## PASS THE OFFERING PLATE PLEASE

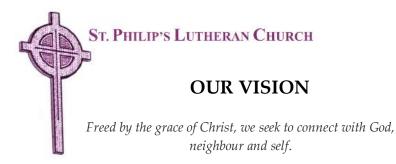
Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Our ministries need your support. Place your offering on the plate when you enter or leave today. Or find details for other options at <u>stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/</u>.

## YOGA

Does tending to your mind, body and spirit, while enjoying the peaceful setting of St. Philip's amongst friends in a gentle half hour free yoga class sound appealing? Tanya Weststeyn, certified yoga instructor, will lead you Wednesday @ 11am on the lawn (weather permitting).

# THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

Monday	Outdoor Zumba @1pm
Tuesday	Bible Study @ 7pm
Wednesday	Outdoor Yoga @ 11am
	Good Food Market 4-7pm
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	



## **VISION STATEMENT:**

We are a diverse and inclusive Lutheran faith community freed by the grace of Christ to find God and self as we connect with our neighbours. We **practise hospitality** of open hearts and open arms. We **unite with partners** to make a difference in our neighbourhood. We **nurture** the community of Christ.

## VALUES SUPPORTING THE VISION:

Our Lutheran heritage of grace. Our call to pray, worship and learn as we grow in our Christian faith. Our need to gather and belong in Christian community. The call to love our neighbours as Christ loves us. The acceptance of all people as children of God. The opportunities to meet God everywhere.

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