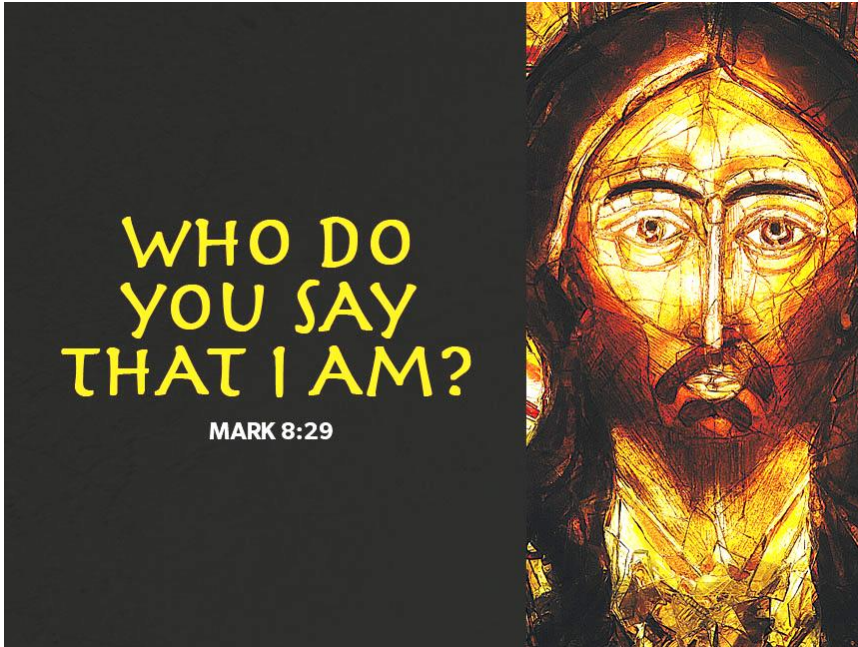


**17th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**



Pastor Liz Cheney  
**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**  
Virginia, MN



## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,  
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.**

**We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.**

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.**

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,**

**and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

*Gather Us In*

ELW 532

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** Holy One, you stretch wide your tent that all may be welcomed in, and in  
Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a weary and wounded world. Help us to  
reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the  
world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## CELEBRATION OF VOCATION AND BLESSING OF HANDS FOR MINISTRY

We are called to proclaim the good news:

**God is at work!**

This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:

**God is at work in the world still today!**

In us and through us, God is glorified in our work.

When we offer a helping hand, God is praised.

When we share of our abundance, God is known in the world.

**God is at work in us!**

In our service today and in our daily lives,

Let us live out what God has called us to in baptism,

**God is at work through our hands!**

## PSALM: Psalm 116:1-9

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the LORD and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD watches over the innocent;  
I was brought low, and God saved me.**

<sup>7</sup>Turn again to your rest, O my soul. for the LORD has dealt well with you.

<sup>8</sup>**For you have rescued my life from death,  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

<sup>9</sup>I will walk in the presence of the LORD in the land of the living.

## SPECIAL MUSIC “Amazing Grace” (House of the Rising Sun)

*Sung by George Croft and Kristi Ongalo; Accompanied by Mark Ongalo*

## SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: MARK 8:27-38

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*“WELCOME BACK MYSTERY BOX”*

## SERMON

**Pastor Liz Cheney**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Here I Am Lord*

**ELW 574**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*River Cheney, Zach Cheney, Roberta Palen, Joy Toole, Macy Viita, Zachary Lampinen*

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

## GIVING BIBLES TO 3 YEAR OLDS, 3<sup>RD</sup> GRDERS AND CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

## OFFERING

Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry and missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving.

- + online links can be found by accessing our website at <https://www.oslcmn.com/>
- + Using the QR code found here:
- + Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving
- + Dropping off or mailing in your offering



## OFFERING PRAYER

**Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.**  
**By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God. All are welcome!

## LAMB OF GOD

Musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN

*We are Baptized in Christ Jesus*

ELW 451

## TABLE BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table.  
Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### BLESSING OF BAGS, BACKPACKS, AND BODIES

### SENDING SONG

*We Are Called*

ELW 720

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

**Kris Weikum**

*“We finally meet one another,  
not in our agreements or disagreements,  
but at the foot of the + cross,  
where God is faithful,  
where Christ is present with us,  
and where, by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we are one in Christ.”*

*-Reverend Mark Hanson, previous Presiding Bishop*

## WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Ryder, Deb, Luddy, Bruce & family, Andrew T., Sharon P., Sue, Tyler, Gerilyn, Andrew, Alexandria, Diane, Courtney, people impacted by the flooding, the people of Guatemala, Jill & husband, Amelia, Archer, Kim, Gordy, Sarah, Nancy, Jarie, Nicole, Thomas, Kathy M., Pastor Erika, Phyllis, Roy, Ross-(needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas). Laurie, Amy, Colton, Wally, Deb, Adeline, Tedd, Ed & Karen, Ralph, Chuck, Sue, Mike, Matt. Call Ginny Ahrlin @ 218-749-0056, for prayer needs

**If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.**

### **CONTACT US**

OSLC, 1111 8<sup>th</sup> St. South, Virginia, MN Church Office: 218-741-6207

Email: [office@oslcmn.com](mailto:office@oslcmn.com)

Online: [www.oslcmn.com](http://www.oslcmn.com)

[www.facebook.com/oslcmn](http://www.facebook.com/oslcmn)

YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Office Admin hours are 9am – 5pm, Tuesday – Friday.

**There will be times we're away from the office doing errands, for this reason, please call ahead if you plan on coming to the church or need assistance!**

### **PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor Liz will be here Tues. – Thurs. & off Fridays.

Call @ 218-780-8907

or email at [lizcheney44@gmail.com](mailto:lizcheney44@gmail.com)

### **STAFF**

**Pastor:** Rev. Liz Cheney

**Secretary:** Colleen Brown Jacobson

**Bookkeeper:** Carole Rutka

**Custodian:** Steve Gagnon

**Musicians:** Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, and Ginny Ahrlin



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

**You will see below that we have some great things happening this fall! We hope that you can join us! Here are a few save the dates for you:**

September 15th WELCOME SUNDAY - Bibles, new members, blessing backpacks, work bags and our hands, mystery box!

September 14th - Community Breakfast! Egg Bakes!

September 18th 6-8 L.I.F.T. parent meeting (6-6:30) and Kick off event for Grades 4 - 12

September 25th Adult forum at Messiah on Gaza and Israel 6:30

October 2nd L.I.F.T. groups begin 6-8

October 6th Special Congregational meeting

October 6th Adult Forum "Acceptance with life differently" The Klatts







## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**WELCOME BACK SUNDAY!** Welcome back from summer vacations, etc., Today we will have a Backpack Blessing and New Member Recognition during worship.

**SPECIAL MEETING OCT. 6<sup>TH</sup>** If you are a voting member please be here! We will have a special congregational meeting to vote on the upgrades for the sound system in the sanctuary, as well as information on Livestream upgrades. *Look for the letter informing you in the mail this week.*

**L.I.F.T. KICK-OFF AND PARENT MEETING** Our L.I.F.T. Program will begin September 18th 6-8 L.I.F.T. The parent meeting will be 6-6:30pm, and the Kick-off event for Grades 4–12 will be 6-8pm. October 2nd will be the next L.I.F.T. meeting, 6-8pm.

**ADULT FORUMS** The first Sunday of each month we plan on hosting Adult Forums **after worship. October 6<sup>th</sup>** (right after the Congregational Meeting) Morgan Klatt will start us off with “Acceptance with Life, Differently.” **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** Angela Sipila will be here to share information about Wills, etc. And **December 1<sup>st</sup>** Shelley Svatos will talk about prayer practices & Labyrinths.

**ELCA-50 YEARS OF WORLD HUNGER** We are celebrating the last 50 years joined together as Lutherans in support of the ministry “World Hunger.” Our Synod has a goal of raising \$500,000 the next 3 yrs for ELCA World Hunger! There are special envelopes in the back of the sanctuary to use if you would like to provide a gift toward this amazing ministry. You can learn more online about *World Hunger*, watch videos, and ways to give at [ELCA.org/WH50](https://elca.org/WH50).

**WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS** This work belongs to **all of us**, as ministers of the congregation ~ prayerfully consider how you might be able to sign up and assist. *Your presence makes a difference in creating a wonderful worship service for all.* There are different opportunities: **serving communion, being a lector, ushering or greeting, and Coffee serving.** The sign-up sheets are located on the kiosk in the narthex.

**TECH TEAM** Are you more of a “behind the scenes” person? If you’re comfortable recording nature, or your children/grandchildren with a phone, using a computer, or using the options on a smart tv, it may be in your skillset to join us! Let Pastor, Dan Peliska, John Elofson or Colleen know if you think you could serve occasionally. There are small tasks that only take a minute or two before or after the service.

**RADIO SPONSORSHIP** Today’s Broadcast is sponsored by **Roberta Palen, in memory of George and Grace Peliska, who welcomed Roberta to our community!** If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday Worship in honor of someone or a special event (wedding anniversary, birth of children, baptism date) or in memory of a loved one who has passed, and/or the tech equipment, you may do so in full for \$90 or shared/partial at \$45. **Sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board by the fountain.**

## EVENTS & MEETINGS COMING UP

9/18 6-8pm, L.I.F.T. PARENT MEETING (6-6:30) AND KICK OFF EVENT FOR GRADES 4 - 12

9/25 6:30pm, ADULT FORUM AT MESSIAH ON GAZA AND ISRAEL

10/02 6-8pm, L.I.F.T. GROUPS

10/06 SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

10/06 ADULT FORUM "ACCEPTANCE WITH LIFE DIFFERENTLY" THE KLATTS AFTER CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

# Wednesday, September 18th

L.I.F.T. Kick-Off  
and  
Parent Meeting

Our Savior's 1111 8th St S Virginia

Opportunity to register your 4th - 12th graders, get informatin on L.I.F.T. - Faith Formation program for Gethsemane, Messiah and Our Savior's. Dinner and welcome activities for 4th - 12th graders. You can pre-register using the link posted above.

Parent Meeting  
6-6:30

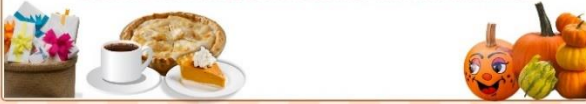
4th - 12th grade  
Kick-off activities  
6-8



## Fall Festival

Join us for WELCA'S 2nd Annual Fall Festival!  
Saturday, October 5th, 9am - 2pm

Our Fellowship Hall will be filled with Fall favorites  
Household Treasures, Bake Sale items, Coffee An',  
a Silent Auction & a Kid's Corner with fun activities!



# HALLOWEEN

## TRUNK OR TREAT

### CANDY NEEDED

Drop off candy  
in the youth room.

Look for the  
candy donation box!



## Adult Forums

AS THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR GETS UNDER WAY,

WE'LL BE HOLDING ADULT FORUMS MONTHLY AFTER WORSHIP.

OUR FIRST ONE WILL BE PRESENTED BY

MORGAN KLATT, SUNDAY, OCT. 6TH.

GRAB A COFFEE & JOIN US!