

The Macedonian Model (2 Corinthians 8:1-9)

September 11, 2022

Stewardship Service 1

INVOCATION

- P** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
C Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Selected verses from 2 Corinthians 8–9)

- P** For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that we by his poverty might become rich.
- C** **The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.**
- P** Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
- C** **And God is able to make all grace abound, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, we may abound in every good work.**
- P** So that we will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way.
- C** **For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.**
- P** Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

Hymn “The Earth is the Lord’s”

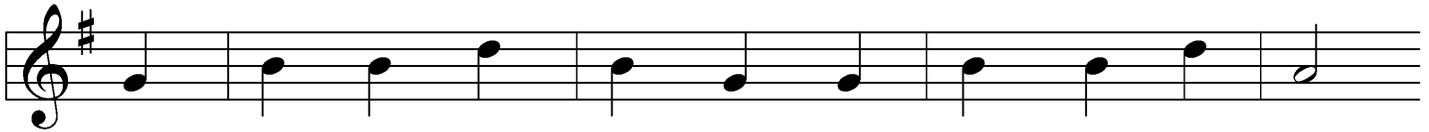
Tune of LSB #802



The earth is the Lord's and the full-ness there of
Too of-ten, O God, we a-buse your good earth.



Re-demp-tion re-minds us, O God, of your love.
We fail to re-mem-ber its beau-ty and worth.



By grace we are learn-ing, as year leads to year.
We take from cre-a-tion much more than we need,



We're called to be ste-wards, your care-tak-ers here.
We threa-ten your mission through exc-ess and greed.

This hymn is adapted by R. Lessing
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Email: hwg@krtco.comcast.net

Stand

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION (From 2 Corinthians 8:1–9)

- P** In today's second reading Paul describes the generosity of the Macedonian churches.
- C** They gave in the midst of severe trial.
- P** They gave out of extreme poverty.
- C** They gave even beyond their own ability.

- P** And the Macedonian churches gave themselves first to the Lord.
- C** **Forgive us, merciful Father, for too frequently our giving is nothing like this.**
- P** Instead we hoard our wealth, make excuses for our miserliness, and stubbornly refuse to give ourselves to you, to others, or to anyone else.
- C** **Forgive us, merciful Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**
- P** Hear the best news you will ever hear! “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we by his poverty might become rich.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I announce that you are forgiven—richly, fully and eternally—in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!**

Hymn “The Earth is the Lord’s”

Tune of LSB #802



May we be good stew - ards of all that you give.



Ex - ten - ding your Gos - pel wher - ev - er we live.



May we be a church that re - news and re - stores



And lov - ing - ly cares for these gifts that are yours.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

C Lord Jesus Christ, make us wise and faithful stewards of your gifts, so that we serve our neighbors in need, extend the Gospel to people without hope, and live to the praise of your glorious grace; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Apostles' Creed

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.

From thence 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.**

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

Scripture: The theme of today's readings reflect the theme of generous stewardship

First Reading

1 Chronicles 29:1–9

¹And David the king said to all the assembly, “Solomon my son, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced, and the work is great, for the palace will not be for man but for the LORD God. ²So I have provided for the house of my God, so far as I was able, the gold for the things of gold, the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, besides great quantities of onyx and stones for setting, antimony, colored stones, all sorts of precious stones and marble. ³Moreover, in addition to all that I have provided for the holy house, I have a treasure of my own of gold and silver, and because of my devotion to the house of my God I give it to the house of my God: ⁴3,000 talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and 7,000 talents of refined silver, for overlaying the walls of the house, ⁵and for all the work to be done by craftsmen, gold for the things of gold and silver for the things of silver. Who then will offer willingly, consecrating himself today to the LORD?”

⁶Then the leaders of fathers' houses made their freewill offerings, as did also the leaders of the tribes, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and the

officers over the king's work. ⁷They gave for the service of the house of God 5,000 talents and 10,000 darics of gold, 10,000 talents of silver, 18,000 talents of bronze and 100,000 talents of iron. ⁸And whoever had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the LORD, in the care of Jehiel the Gershonite. ⁹Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the LORD. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 8:1–9

¹We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. ⁶Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. ⁷But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

⁸I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he

was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 12:41–44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the twelfth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁴¹And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. ⁴⁴For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

730 What Is the World to Me



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,
I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Offering ~ ~ drop your offering in the box in the narthex, mail it, use the link on the church website or the GivePlus app. ~ ~

Offertory

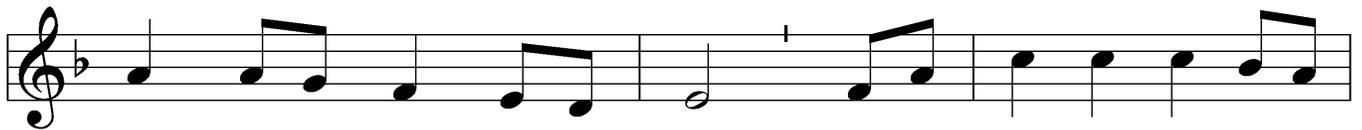
LSB 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Stand

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(From 2 Corinthians 8:1–9 and LSB, 730 stanza 1)

P All things are yours, blessed Lord, and you have granted us so much to use and manage to extend the mission of your church. We trust in your mercy and have confidence that you will grant us all things needful, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C What is the world to me, with all its vaunted pleasure.

P Create in us overflowing joy that wells up in rich generosity.

C When you, and you alone, Lord Jesus are my treasure.

P Empower us to delight in the privilege of sharing our financial resources.

C You only dearest Lord, my soul's delight shall be.

P We give ourselves first to you, Lord, and then to our church, in keeping with your will.

C You are my peace, my rest, what is the world to me.

+ Additional prayers +

P What is the world to me, my Jesus is my treasure.

C O God, empower us to be more like the Macedonians and less like the Corinthians.

P My life, my wealth, my health, my love, my friend, my pleasure.

C We have freely received, now let us freely give.

P My joy, my crown, my all; my bliss eternally.

C Once more then I declare, what is the world to me!

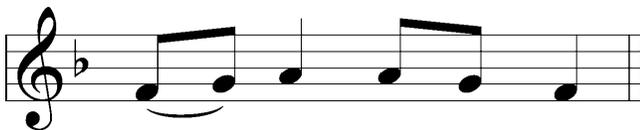
P In Jesus' name. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



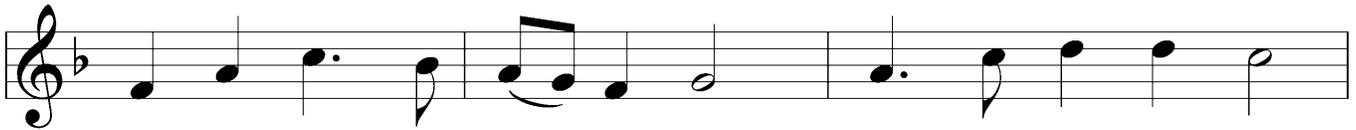
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take,

eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord’s Prayer

C **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**

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

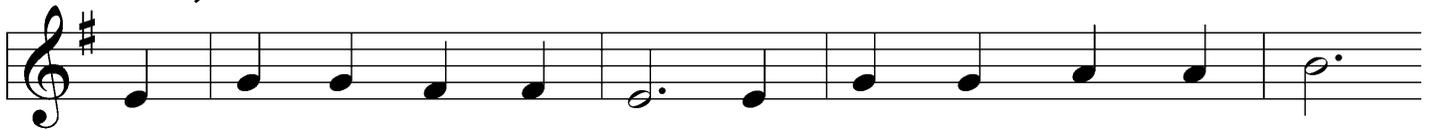
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C **Amen.**

610 Lord Jesus, Think on Me



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me A - mid the bat - tle's strife;
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me Nor let me go a - stray;
 5 Lord Je - sus, think on me That, when this life is past,



From world - ly pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.
 Let me Your lov - ing ser - vant be And taste Your prom - ised rest.
 In all my pain and mis - er - y, O be my health and life!
 Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out Your cho - sen way.
 I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see And share Your joy at last.

602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me
2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
3 The gifts of grace and peace From ab - so - lu - tion flow;
4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho - sen, saved and free!
New life He gives that makes Us His and His a - lone.
The pas - tor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
God's chil - dren lis - ten, hear, Re - ceive, and they are fed.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil - dren who pro - claim
Here He for - gives our sins With wa - ter and His Word;
For - give - ness that we need Is grant - ed to us there;
Christ fills them with Him - self, Blest words that give them life,



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
The tri - une God Him - self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
The Lord of mer - cy sends Us forth in His blest care.
Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's strife.

5 The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.

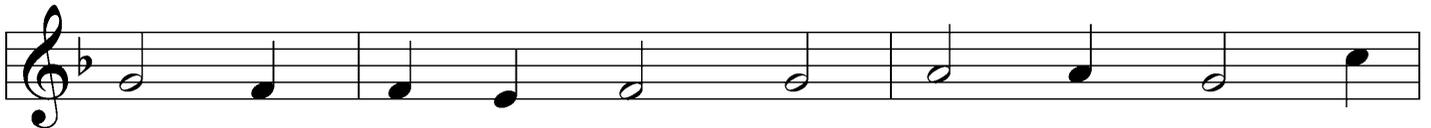
6 All glory to the One
 Who lavishes such love;
 The triune God in love
 Assures our life above.
 His means of grace for us
 Are gifts He loves to give;
 All thanks and praise for His
 Great love by which we live!

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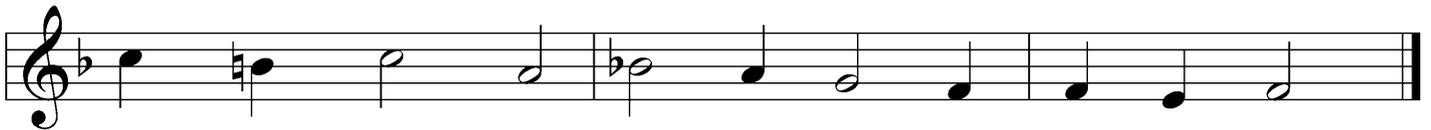
623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray That we may
 2 Give us, who share this won - drous food, Your bod - y
 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the
 4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, Re - joic - ing
 5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us



feast on You to - day; Be - neath these forms of
 bro - ken and Your blood, The grate - ful peace of
 gift of love re - told; All that You are we
 in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim Your love un -
 stead - fast till that day When each will be Your



bread and wine En - rich us with Your grace di - vine.
 sins for - giv'n, The cer - tain joys of heirs of heav'n.
 here re - ceive, And all we are to You we give.
 til You come To bring Your scat - tered loved ones home.
 wel - comed guest In heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844-1932, alt.
 Tune: Canticale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim
 Text and tune: Public domain

627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's
2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious
3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you
4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this



wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe
food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,
are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,
food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,



He saved us from the e - vil foe.
And with the wine the blood He shed.
His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.
Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken
That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.

6 Agony and bitter labor
Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose
You need not Him who died and rose.

7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,
And receive My grace and favor:
Those who feel no pain or ill
Need no physician's help or skill.

8 “For what purpose was My dying
If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food
If you yourself were pure and good?”

9 If your heart this truth professes
And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior’s guest,
Be at His banquet truly blest.

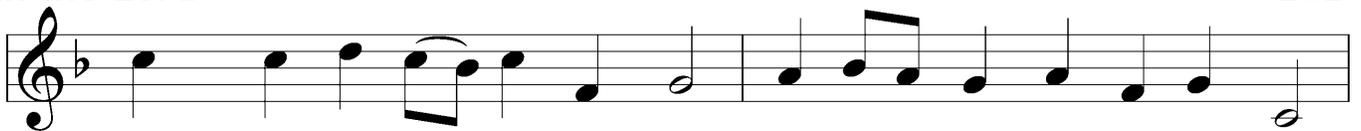
10 Let this food your faith so nourish
That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you
How much God’s wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.
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Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 164



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

783 Take My Life and Let It Be

sts. 1, 4, 6



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;
6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its trea - sure store;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
Take my - self, and I will be Ev - er, on - ly, all for Thee.

Silent Prayer: Lord Jesus, make our church more like the Macedonians and less like the Corinthians. And begin with me! Amen.



“Hey, Big Spender!” (2 Corinthians 9:1–7) – September 18

For next week read 2 Corinthians 9:1–7 and answer these questions:

1. What is the difference between a “generous gift” and one “grudgingly given”? (2 Corinthians 9:5)
2. Which one defines your stewardship?
3. What comes to mind when you hear the term “cheerful giver”? (2 Corinthians 9:7)





Sunday School begins today!!

*“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter
3:18*

Today, we install our Christian Education staff.
Is there an area that you could help?

Sunday School Staff

Sunday School Superintendent: Marie L. Johnson
Sunday School Treasurer: Ashley Mickelsen
Preschool & Early Elementary: Heather Volk & Wendy Grant
Elementary and Middle School: Megan Kramar

Confirmation Instructors

Pastor Kirk Peters

Sunday School Substitute Teachers

Ashley Mickelsen | Alison Smith
Substitute Aide – Kennedy Mickelsen
Would you serve in this area?

Board of Christian Education

Cole Johnson, Chairman | Ashley Mickelsen | Dave Grant
Would you serve in this area?



Join us in the fellowship hall this morning, for muffins and a new Bible Study about the stewardship series.

“The Macedonian Model” (2 Corinthians 8:1–9) – September 11

“Hey, Big Spender!” (2 Corinthians 9:1–7) – September 18

“Sowing and Harvesting” (2 Corinthians 9:8–15) – September 25

Sunday morning Adult Bible Class builds upon the sermon messages. After learning more about Paul’s offering for the poor Christians in Jerusalem—which undergirds 2 Corinthians 8 and 9—we will take a decidedly practical turn to look at what the Bible teaches about earning, saving, investing and giving money. The plans are as follows:

An Overview of 2 Corinthians 8–9

‘Til Debt Do Us Part!

You are invited you to join us in the fellowship hall for the next three Sundays, as Paul instructs both the Corinthians and us on **“Money Matters.”**



CHURCH-WIDE MEETING

A Special Voter's Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 25.

The only items on the agenda are the Election of a Pastoral delegate, layperson delegate and alternate to attend the Circuit Forum. The Circuit Forum will be held on Saturday, October 15 at 10:00 am. The meeting will be hosted via a Zoom video conference.

The second item on the agenda, is to possibly put forth a nomination for a Pastoral delegate or layperson delegate from our own congregation for the Synod Convention. (This will be presented and voted on at the Circuit Forum.)

The purpose of the Circuit Forum zoom meeting is to nominate and vote on a layperson delegate and alternate; a pastor delegate and alternate to serve as representatives at the 2023 Synod Convention to be held – July 29 - August 3. St. Matthew has never had someone attend the Synod Convention as a delegate. Would you be interested? If so, please, talk to Pastor Peters.