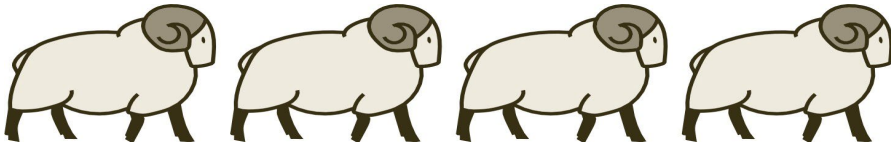


17th Sunday of Pentecost
September 15, 2024

THE NEED FOR



FOLLOWERSHIP

Do we need better leadership
or do we need better followership?

A worship series

St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

17th Sunday of Pentecost

September 15, 2024

“St. Philip’s Evangelical Lutheran Church & School”

www.stphilipmilwaukee.com

Pastor: Raymond Kimbrough

Principal: Jason Schapekahn

**Welcome, Friend!
You Have Come To The Right Place!
Jesus Loves YOU!**

WELCOME

Guests and visitors, we invite you to worship with us again in the future.
For more information regarding St. Philip’s Lutheran Church,
please contact Pastor Kimbrough at 414-263-1373 or 414-254-6093.
For information on our K4 – 8th grade Christian day school please contact
our Principal, Jason Schapekahn at 414-263-7614 or 414-659-4688.

Worship Theme

THE NEED FOR FOLLOWERSHIP

FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST ARE ARMED FOR BATTLE

What is the worst war in human history? One might point to World War II, which has the highest death toll of at least 90 million people. Or consider the Three Kingdoms War, which not only resulted in over 40 million deaths but also lasted for most of the third century. There is no end to the sad list of nominations: the Thirty Years War, the Taiping Rebellion, the American Civil War, World War I.

None of those is the correct answer. The worst war in human history began when the first shot was fired in Eden. It has been raging since. It is a war against “spiritual forces of evil” (Ephesians 6:12). This is not a war over land or resources. It is a war for souls. The reality is that there are demonic forces that want to do more than kill you; they want to claim you for all eternity. The good news: Christ has already called you his own and equipped you for this war.

Followers of Christ are armed for the battle.

870 O Church, Arise

CW 870



1 O Church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; hear the
 2 Our call to war— to love the cap - tive soul, but to
 3 Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
 4 So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give—



call of Christ our cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
 rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the
 Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -
 grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en.
 wound - ed whole we will fight with faith and val - or.
 neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en!
 win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.



With shield of faith and belt of truth we'll stand a -
 When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the
 And as the stone is rolled a - way, and Christ e -
 As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; an ar - my bold whose bat - tle
 out - come is se - cure, and Christ will have the prize for
 merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues
 tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger



cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
which he died— an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.
till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see him.
for the day when with Christ we stand in glo - ry.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace 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.



Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on



earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir-it in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

Tune: © 2002 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 741883

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

1 Kings 18:21–39

²¹Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.”

But the people said nothing.

²²Then Elijah said to them, “I am the only one of the LORD’s prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. ²³Get two bulls for us. Let Baal’s prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. ²⁴Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire—he is God.”

Then all the people said, “What you say is good.”

²⁵Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire.” ²⁶So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. “Baal, answer us!” they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

²⁷At noon Elijah began to taunt them. “Shout louder!” he said. “Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.” ²⁸So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. ²⁹Midday

passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

³⁰Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come here to me.” They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which had been torn down. ³¹Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, “Your name shall be Israel.” ³²With the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. ³³He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, “Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood.”

³⁴“Do it again,” he said, and they did it again.

“Do it a third time,” he ordered, and they did it the third time. ³⁵The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

³⁶At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: “LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷Answer me, LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

³⁸Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

³⁹When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, “The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46A - The LORD Almighty Is with Us

Reader: God is our refuge and strength,

Congregation: an ever-present help in trouble.

Reader: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give

Congregation: and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

Reader: though its waters roar and foam

Congregation: and the mountains quake with their surging.

Reader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

Congregation: the holy place where the Most High dwells.

Reader: God is within her, she will not fall;

Congregation: God will help her at break of day.

Reader: “Be still, and know that I am God;

Congregation: I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

Reader & Congregation:

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 6:10–20

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 31:1

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;

deliver me in your righteousness.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 9:14–27

¹⁴When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. ¹⁵As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him. ¹⁶“What are you arguing with them about?” he asked. ¹⁷A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. ¹⁸Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.” ¹⁹“You unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.” ²⁰So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has he been like this?” “From childhood,” he answered. ²²“It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.” ²³“If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.” ²⁴Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” ²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” ²⁶The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

869 Onward, Christian Soldiers

CW 869

Please rise for the final stanza.



1 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,
2 Like a might - y ar - my moves the Church of God;
3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, king - doms rise and wane,
4 On - ward, then, ye faith - ful, join our hap - py throng,



with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.
broth - ers, we are tread - ing where the saints have trod.
but the Church of Je - sus con - stant will re - main.
blend with ours your voic - es in the tri - umph song:



Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, leads a - gainst the foe;
We are not di - vid - ed, all one bod - y we,
Gates of hell can nev - er 'gainst that Church pre - vail;
Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or un - to Christ the King;



for - ward in - to bat - tle see his ban - ners go!
one in hope and doc - trine, one in char - i - ty.
we have Christ's own prom - ise, and that can - not fail.
this through count - less a - ges saints and an - gels sing.

Refrain



On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,



with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, abr., alt.

Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text – Ephesians 6:10-20 (*Second Reading*)

Sermon Theme – “Where Do You Find Strength?”

1. In God’s power: Be strong against the devil, his works and ways. Vss. 10-12

A. Our adversary in warfare

2. In God’s protection: Be strong in the Lord with the full armor of God. Vss. 13-20

A. Our armor in warfare Vss. 13-17

1. The Belt of Truth

2. Breastplate of Righteousness

3. The Boots of Peace

4. The Shield of Faith

5. The Helmet of Salvation

6. The Sword of the Spirit

B. Our activity in warfare Vss. 18-20

1. Prayer

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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.**

Offering

Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.

Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:

<https://members.myoffering.com/#/landing>.

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.
Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.
Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.
Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.
Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.
Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.
Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

We also offer a special prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for Allison Chamberlain and Jason Eaton who were joined in marriage on Saturday, September 14. Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

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

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

617 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

CW 617

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in treble clef. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen." The music consists of quarter and half notes, with a final double bar line at the end of the third staff.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;
praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

www.stphilipmilwaukee.com

3012 N. Holton St.

Milwaukee, WI 53212

414 263-7614

splsoffice@stphilipmilwaukee.com

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

www.wels.net

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

Liturgy

Jack Vogel

Piano

Claire Vogel

In Our Prayers

Joyce Vernon

Kitty Henderson

Natasha McCants

Melvin Reed

Nyla Washington (former student)

Allison & Jason Eaton (Marriage)

Next Week: September 22, 2024

Lay Reader: Thomas McNeal

Piano: Grace Hennen

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

Tuesday, September 17

Volleyball at Mt. Calvary, Waukesha 4:30PM

Wednesday, September 18

Chapel 8:15AM

Cross Country Meet at Lake Park, Milwaukee

Sunday, September 22

Bible Class 9:30AM

Worship with communion 10:30AM



WLHS 6th-8th Grade Open House — Wisconsin Lutheran High School's Open House is on Sunday, October 6. Doors open at 12:45 p.m. with a program at 1:00 p.m. Families and students in grades 6-8 are invited to meet teachers, tour the school, and learn more about tuition assistance, scholarships, and the Choice Program. See what a difference academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment can make in your child's life! Interested families should register to attend at wlhs.org/openhouse.

St. Philip's Lutheran Church & School

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

3012 N Holton Street

Milwaukee, WI 53212

Church: 414-263-1373

Cell Phone: 414-254-6093

TO FRIENDS AND VISITORS

This is the house of God. In His Name we welcome each and every person. May His Word bring you closer to your Savior, assuring you of the forgiveness of all your sins through Jesus' death and resurrection.

If you are without a church home or have recently moved to the area, our pastor will be happy to call on you or answer your questions about church membership. If you are burdened with sorrow or trouble, we invite you to call on the pastor at any time.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

St. Philip's congregation supports and maintains a Christian Day School for the thorough training of the whole child. We want each child to know, not only how to deal with this life, but to know their Savior and prepare for eternal life. The school is called St. Philip's Lutheran School and is located at 3012 N. Holton Street.

School Office Phone: 414-263-7614

Church Office Phone: 414-263-1373

Church Service – 10:30AM

Bible Class – 9:30AM