



Sunday, August 9, 2026
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 145:17-20

The Lord is righteous in all his ways
and faithful in all he does.
The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.
He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;
he hears their cry and saves them.
The Lord watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.

Prelude

Prelude in F minor BWV 534
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

*Call to Worship – Revelation 19:5,6b-7

Hahat Melchior

Leader: Praise our God, all you his servants,
you who fear him, both great and small!

People: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

Leader: Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

**People: For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready.**

*Hymn of Praise – #488 “The God of Abraham Praise”

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Leader: Gracious God, in love you chose us as your own.

**People: Yet, so often we think, speak, and act as if it were *our* greatness
rather than *your* goodness that drew you to us.**

Leader: Forgive us for our pride and conceit. Forgive us for our self-centeredness
and our self-righteousness.

**People: Forgive us for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. In his
name we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon – Romans 5:6-8

Leader: You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.

People: But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

God's Gracious Will for Our Lives – Colossians 3:12-14

Leader: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

People: And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

***Gloria Patri #579 "Glory Be to the Father"**

RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Message

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Old Testament Reading – Exodus 3:1-12 (pp. 59-60)

Hahat Melchior

New Testament Reading – Matthew 9:9-13 (pp. 973-974)

Sermon – "Called to Be a Disciple: Matthew"

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn of Response – #370 "Just As I Am, Without One Plea"**

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Suresh Theodore, Elder for
Outreach & Missions

Offertory

Adagio in D Major
Joseph Lederer (1733-1796)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

***Doxology #592** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayers of the People

Suresh Theodore

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison in English or the language of your choice*)

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. Amen.

GOING WITH GOD'S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming of Visitors

Suresh Theodore

Announcements

***Hymn of Dedication** – “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus” (*see insert*)

***Sending and Pastoral Benediction**

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Postlude

Fugue from Sonata op. 65 no. 2 in C minor
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Please remain seated during the postlude. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.

****Please stand if you are able.***

Today's bulletin cover features the Italian artist Caravaggio's "The Call of St. Matthew" (1599-1600). Anthony R. Lusvardi, S.J. writes this about the work: "The Call of St. Matthew" depicts the moment when Jesus walks into Matthew's customs post where the tax collector sits among cronies, coins spread over the table in front of him. Light shines in from a window just over the Lord's head and hits Matthew straight on as Jesus raises his hand and points an unrelenting finger, as if to say, "You." The tax collector's own finger rises to his chest and his eyes widen, as if to respond, "Who? Me?" Or perhaps he is trying to distract the Lord's gaze by pointing to the ne'er-do-well next to him, whose eyes are still fixed on the coins. In either case, the painting captures all the passion and confusion of the call to conversion—the unrelenting gaze of God, the instinctual avoidance and doubt of the sinner who is called. Does Matthew think himself unworthy? Shy away from relinquishing the wealth he knows? Hesitate when truth itself dissolves the shadows of ambiguity he has woven around himself? Probably, all of the above."