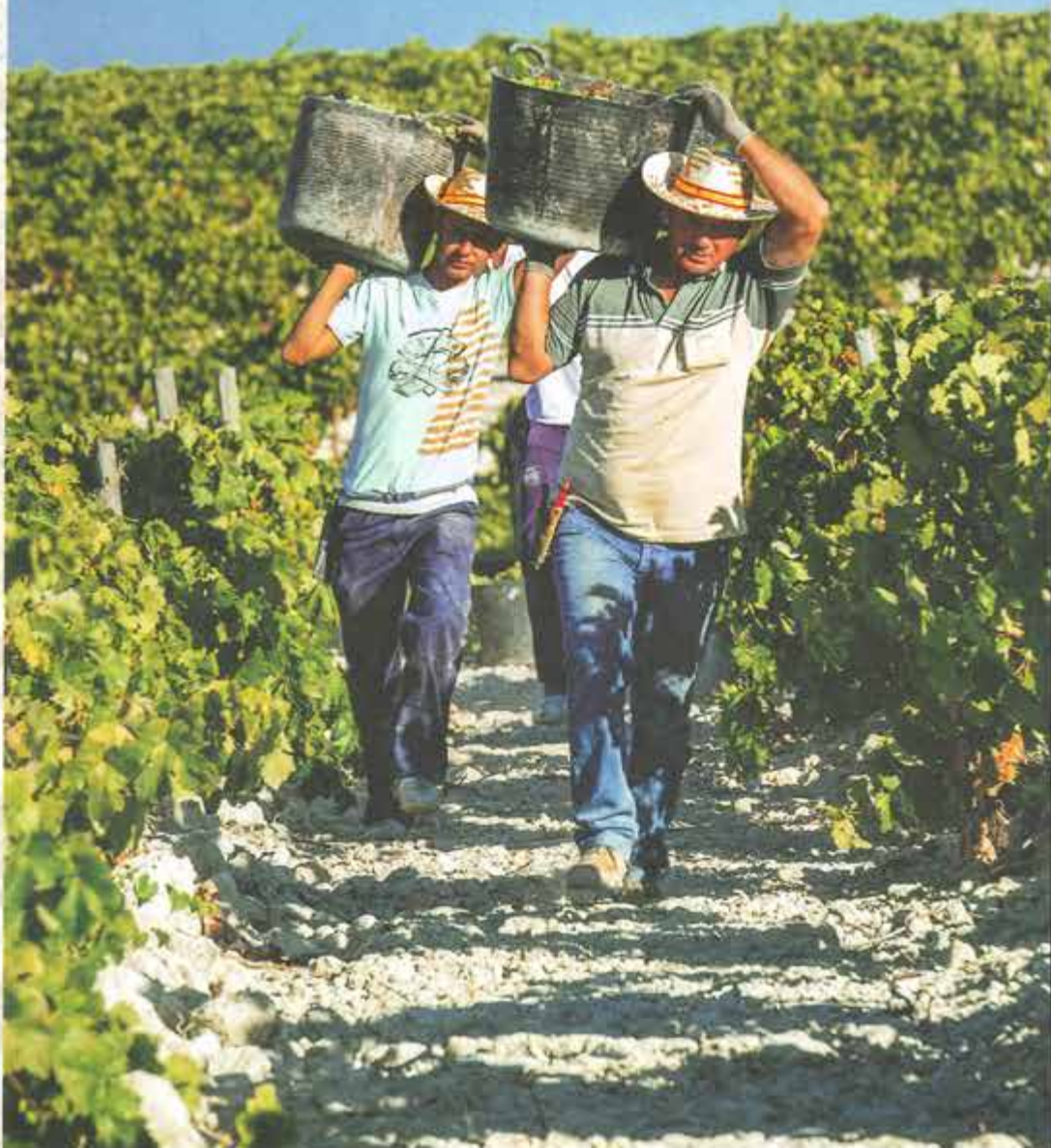

GO AND WORK

IN THE VINEYARD TODAY

MATTHEW 21:28



ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office: 717-637-7101

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 27, 2020

9:00 a.m.



WELCOME! ARE YOU NEW? We are a group of people gathered together to make a difference. We seek to make a difference in ourselves, in our neighborhoods, and in our world. We are thankful that you are here today. Check out our website at www.stmattlutheran.org, where you can find out more about us and get connected into our community. **If you would like a call from one of the pastors, give a pastor or a parking attendant your name and phone number and a pastor will contact you, or call the church office, 717-637-7101, and leave a message for Pastor Kathy or Pastor David.**

WE LOVE having children in worship. Jesus said "let the little children come to me ... for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." We will have children's sermons on occasion through the summer.



Please tear off and put in the offering basket as you leave:

Names of everyone attending Sunday, 09 27 20 at 9:00 a.m.:

Would you like to be added to our email list? Please list your name and email address:

Please list any prayer concerns you would like lifted up by the staff:

We hope you find these outdoor worship services meaningful. If you are concerned about your car battery, you can bring a battery operated radio and use that in your car. It will save your car battery! But also know, we have people on the premises with battery cables should the need arise.

If you leave your vehicle for any reason, please be considerate of others and wear a mask. Thank you!

+ Celebrating God's Love - Serving in Jesus' Name +

GATHERING MUSIC

Give Thanks

Smith

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the

Ho - ly One; give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus

Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give

thanks to the Ho - ly One; give thanks be - cause he's

giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son. And now let the

weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," be - cause of

what the Lord has done for us; and

now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the

poor say, "I am rich," be - cause of what the Lord has



SOLO

Help Us Accept Each Other
(Jonathan Mackrell, Soloist)

Hruby

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Faithful God,

All: have mercy on us.

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

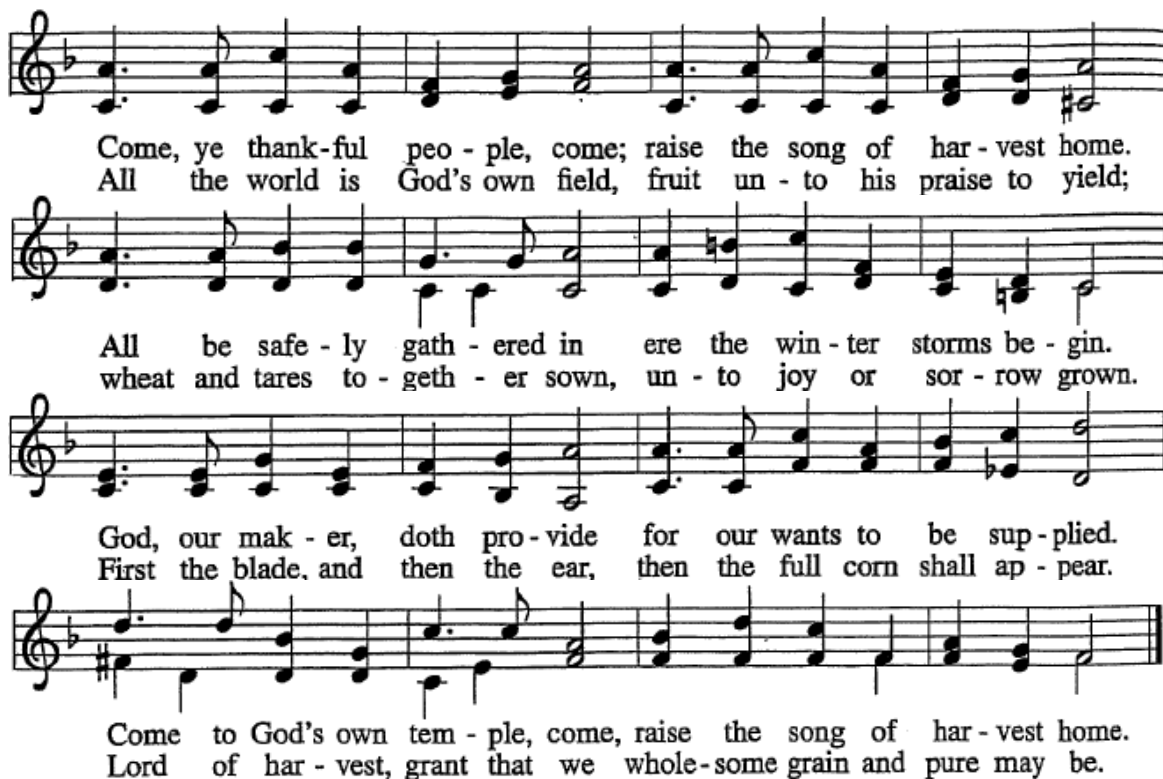
Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* – No. 693

(Next page)



Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.
Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Pastor: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32 *After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

Pastor: The gospel of our Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Who Do You Think You Are?

Pastor Kathy Vitalis Hoffman

MUSICAL OFFERING

Hold Fast to What is Good
(Jonathan Mackrell, Soloist)

Purifoy

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

Assisting Minister: Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS

Each petition concludes, "*Lord, in your mercy,*" and the congregation responds, "***hear our prayer.***"

PEACE

Assisting Minister: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

*(The congregation is invited to greet one another **in your own cars**
with the words "Peace be with you.")
You may also honk your horn to greet others!*

THE MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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

Pastor: Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink. **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all

who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN*For the Fruit of All Creation – No. 679*

For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Serve in Jesus' name.

All: Thanks be to God.

* * * * *

Please note: Music for this service is covered under CCLI # 1000682 –
Also #A-708989 *One License.net*

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Phone: 717-637-7101

General mailbox ext. 221

Email: info@stmattlutheran.org www.stmattlutheran.org

The Rev. Kathryn Vitalis Hoffman, Lead Pastor, ext. 231

The Rev. M. David Kiel, Interim Associate Pastor, ext. 229

The Rev. Faye C. Snyder, Cong. Visitation Pastor

Deacon Jan M. Davis, Minister of Christian Education, ext. 232

Scott G. Fredericks, Minister of Music, ext. 235

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who gave money for our Easter Garden/Garden of Thanks! We have raised over \$1800. After the costs of the garden, the monies will be sent to Hanover Area Council of Churches to be used in any of their many programs designed to help those from the Hanover area in need. The honorarium and memorial booklet is available.

Our warm thanks to all those assisting in our worship services this morning:

Musician Jonathan Mackrell, Soloist

Emergency Person Linda Wheeler

Parking Attendants Jeremy Bucher, Jan Davis, Roland Kunde,
Tim Peck, Barb Rupp, Tom Shultz, Linda Wheeler

Worship Assistants Joan Belt, Ardis Kunde, Gail Mummert

THE ALTAR FLOWERS have been given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paul Wheeler who would have celebrated his 84th birthday on September 29, by his wife Linda; and in loving memory of Dr. Molly Smith by Ken, Bradley, Victoria and Elizabeth; and in loving memory of Roy and Mable Bream, Joseph and Josephine Rill and Bernice Baumgardner by C. Derek, Lisa, Meredith and Ian Brown; and in loving memory of Nelda P. Kline by Randy and Deb Kline.

THE BULLETINS have been given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our grandmother Nelda P. Kline by David and Carrie.

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM on Saturday morning was Dawson Jack Mai, son of Brady and Brooke (Deamer) Mai, with sponsors Brandon and Kelsey Deamer. We welcome Dawson into the earthly body of Christ with membership here at St. Matthew.

OUR NEXT MESSENGER will cover October and the first two weeks of November. You should find it in your mailbox or email the week of October 12.

Attendance:	(09/19)	5:00 p.m. service.....	27
	(09/20)	9:00 a.m. service	142
		10:45 a.m.	65
		Total	234

HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (HACC) NEWS

PAL: Spaghetti Sauce, Zip top sandwich bags, Clam shell (hinged foam) containers, Plastic food prep gloves

HACC general (benefits all ministries): Lysol spray/ disinfecting spray

Meals-on-Wheels: prayer cards/ words of encouragement for our shut ins, large print word find or crossword activity books

Please place the HACC items in the box near the elevator or bring them to the Church Office. For Ruth's Harvest, place your donation in the shopping cart in the Gathering Place. Thank you for your support!

HACC also is in need of volunteers:

Provide A Lunch (PAL) – packing and serving

Shelter – AM and PM

Meals-On-Wheels (MOW) – runners and drivers

Front Desk – Tuesday and Friday reception help

Cleaning - Wednesday

Ruth's Harvest – times, volunteer needs, and needed items to be announced

Please contact the HACC office, 717-633-6353, if you can help.

**There are enlarged copies of the bulletins available for each service.
Please see an usher if you need any assistance.**

RECOMMENDED SCRIPTURE READINGS for the week of Sept. 27-Oct. 4:

Sunday: Matthew 21:23-32

Thursday: Colossians 2:16-23

Monday: Philippians 1:3-14

Friday: Philippians 2:14-18, 3:1-4a

Tuesday: Philippians 1:15-21

Saturday: John 7:40-52

Wednesday: Matthew 9:2-8

WE WERE NOTIFIED OF CHANGES from the Community Aid Thrift Store & Donation Center. Their collection bin service has not proved cost effective for their business. Many of their collection bins will be removed, including the one in our St. Matthew parking lot. We will maintain a partnership with them and encourage you to take clothing and small household items to the Community Aid Store drive-up donation center on Baltimore Street. Specify that you want your donation credited to St Matthew Lutheran Church in Hanover. The church will receive \$.06 per pound of the donations quarterly.



DAILY DEVOTIONS CHANGES: The ministerial staff of St. Matthew is offering a daily devotion Monday through Friday, via the phone line. The devotion will change at approximately 9 a.m. All you have to do is call the church office at 717-637-7101. If it is after hours (between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.) simply follow the prompts to listen (Press 3 for the daily devotion.) If you call during office hours, tell the secretary you want to hear the daily devotion and they will connect you. It's as simple as that!

A PRAYER CHAIN MEETING would be scheduled in October. Due to the Covid restrictions, they will not meet in person, but if you have any changes or updates for the prayer chain, please notify Gloria Koontz, 717-637-7434, by Sunday, September 27. Persons or situations added to the prayer chain are kept on the list for 3 months. At that time they are removed if there have been no calls asking to extend their stay on the list. Our pray-ers do like to hear about prayers answered so, please keep them updated as to the person/ situation. Thank you to all who assist in this ministry.



OUR DRIVE-IN WORSHIP is planned to continue through September and early October at 9:00 a.m. We will also have worship in the nave at 10:45 a.m. This will, of course, depend on any changes in state safety regulations. If it is raining, we will cancel the Drive-In Worship service. A determination will be made by 7:00 a.m. and cancellation will be posted on Facebook and on our website and there will be a message on the office phone.



A BOOK STUDY ON "The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible and the Journey to Belong" by Karen Gonzalez will take place via Zoom on Wednesdays, November 4, 11 and 18, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Gonzalez blends the story of her family's immigration from Guatemala with the Biblical stories of Ruth, Hagar and others. Copies of the book are now available in the church office for \$10. A copy is also available in the church office.



DISCIPLE TRAINING CAMP is now underway for 2 year olds through 6th graders. Kits for each age group are available in Fellowship Hall. Each kit contains the weekly activity sheets, craft materials, craft ideas, prayers and more. The weekly Bible story will be told by one of our storytellers and will be available on the St. Matthew Youtube channel. Please pick up your Kit today in Fellowship Hall or in the church office during the week.

YOUTH in the 7th through 12th grade are moving to their school year schedule of meeting on the first and third Sunday of each month. Watch your REMIND texts for details about up-coming events. Please e-mail youth@stmattlutheran.org to be added to the text/e-mail lists.

FACE MASKS from Guatemala are available for \$10.00 each. You may get one today Fellowship Hall or in the church office during the week. Checks may be made to: *St. Matthew Lutheran Church* with “Tree 4 Hope mask” on the memo line. Thank you for supporting the people of Guatemala through Tree 4 Hope!



in

Emmanuel

Matthew's Story of Jesus

Weekly Bible Study continuing on Wednesdays, at 10-11:00 a.m. in person in Fellowship Hall AND 7:00-8:00 p.m. by Zoom

It is not too late to join this down to earth, back to the basics Bible study. The approach that we will take as we read the Gospel of Matthew is the following:

The Gospel of Matthew is a training manual for disciples of Jesus who want to understand and be prepared for Christian life within the believing community and Christian mission outside the community.

With this approach, we can appreciate both how this Gospel functioned in Matthew's own community and also, in a similar fashion, how it can serve as a discipleship manual for us today as well. (Thank you to Dr. Mark Vitalis Hoffman, Professor of Biblical Studies at United Lutheran Seminary, for the Bible Study resources.)

September 30 *From Miracles to Mission—What is our **Mission?***

Matthew 8-10

October 7 *Whose Side Are You On?—What is our **Calling?***

Matthew 11-17

October 14 *New Community, Same Old World—What is our **Vision?***

Matthew 18-23

October 21 *Sent with a Promise—What is our **Commission?***

Matthew 24-28

Sign up by contacting Pastor Kathy at pastorkathy@stmattlutheran.org or by calling 717-637-7101 ext. 231.

Guidelines for Returning to Indoor Worship

Masks will be required. Temperatures will be taken upon entering. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be asked to return home.

Please remember that we cannot congregate in the hallways. Please move outside the building to have conversations with your neighbors.

We ask that everyone practice social distancing (at least 6 feet, excluding households) when in the church building.

For those who are feeling ill, have compromised immune systems, or are at high risk, please continue to utilize our drive-in worship or on-line worship opportunities for your safety and the safety of others.

All hymnals, papers, etc. have been removed from the pew racks, and the cushions have been removed from the pews we are using.

Everyone will enter through the elevator lobby doors and porte-co-chere doors. No one should park in the porte-co-chere. The area needs to be accessible for emergency vehicles to enter and exit.

Seating will be as directed by the Ushers with social distancing being practiced (one household unit per pew or 2 individuals.) Pews will be marked for seating, with two empty pews between the seated rows. **Please be considerate of the ushers as you are seated. We can only be indoors if everyone abides by the guidelines.**

Communion will be with the wafer and disposable communion cups in the pew. A Ziploc baggie will be supplied for disposal of the empty cups. A waste basket for the communion cup baggies will be placed at the exits.

There will be a basket at each entrance and exit for the offering.

The men's and women's bathrooms outside of Fellowship Hall will be available for use. Linda Kasic, our sexton, will be available to clean between uses.

Everyone will exit through the door they entered and as directed by the ushers. **The ushers will release everyone a row at a time.**

There will be no nursery care available.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

[not printed]

Psalms 25:1-9

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46.

Cover: People harvesting white wine grapes, Jerez de la Frontera, Spain. Photo copyright © iStock/Kiko Jimenez. Used by permission.

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Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-R