

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 4, 2009 † 10:00 a.m. Worship



*All Are Welcome Here!*

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church proclaims that the Gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We rejoice in the manner in which diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged the life and ministry we share in Christ. We know that the world is often an unloving place and that the experience of alienation is all too common. Because Christ reconciles us, we welcome people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, and socioeconomic backgrounds. We strive to be an evermore welcoming community. Following the example of Christ, we extend a most heartfelt welcome to all.

**Please power off all cell phones**

to avoid interference with our sound system!

**GA**

**Gustavus Adolphus  
Lutheran Church**

1509 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
**Minneapolis, MN 55418**  
612-789-7256  
[www.gachurchmpls.org](http://www.gachurchmpls.org)

*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

To our guests....

Welcome to

**Gustavus Adolphus!**

GA is a diverse community of faith. We celebrate that diversity in our worship, using a variety of traditional, contemporary, and multicultural styles.

Nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers during worship. Ushers can direct you to the nursery.

Children's bulletins and activity bags are also available from ushers. We value children in worship!

Please fill out the Blue Insert in the bulletin and drop it in the offering plate.

Join us for refreshments after worship downstairs in Fellowship Hall...out the door, turn left, and down the stairs.

Please join us again.

✝ Please stand as you are able.

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

A

P

### *Welcome to worship!*

Guests, we are blessed with your presence and encourage you to fill out the blue insert in your bulletin, and place it in the offering plate.

✝ GATHERING SONG

ELW HYMN 526

*God Is Here!*

✝ GREETING

ELW page 147

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

☑ **And also with you.**

✝ PRAYER OF THE DAY

## WORD

MUSICAL OFFERING

*Kate Bennett, Violin*

S

M

### *Worship Notes:*

Numbers marked with the word "page..." in small case are found in the front portion of ELW (the red hardcover hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship) at the bottom left and right corners of the page.

Numbers marked with the word "HYMN..." in caps are found in the back portion of ELW in the upper left and right corners of the page.

*The liturgical portions of today's worship are from Setting One of our worship book. Everyone is encouraged to participate fully in congregational singing. Page numbers are provided for each liturgical piece.*

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:18–24

<sup>18</sup>Then the Lord GOD said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the Lord GOD formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the Lord GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the Lord GOD had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman,  
for out of Man this one was taken."

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 1:1–4; 2:5–12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made

purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

<sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor,

<sup>8</sup>subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, <sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**+** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW page 102

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verse (sung by a Cantor)...

If we love one another, God lives in us  
and God's love is perfected in us.

**+** GOSPEL

Mark 10:2-16

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." <sup>5</sup>But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. <sup>6</sup>But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup>For this reason a man shall leave his

### Introduction to the Day

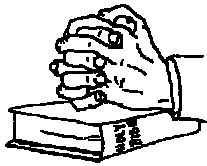
*Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?*

### Altar Flowers

*The Altar flowers are given by*

- *The Leba family in memory of mother, Marion Leba;*
- *Anita Whiteford in memory of son, Brian.*





### Continuing Prayer Concerns:

Elizabeth Adams; Sundra Arvidson;  
 Lucille Austad; Dorothy Benson;  
 Richard Benson; Jane Bjorge;  
 Nick Blackowiak; Gail Bradford;  
 June Bulau, Jerry Burns;  
 Ron Dorumsgaard; Jan Dunphy;  
 Kara Fraser; Helen Gulsvig;  
 Jeanette Hakala; Beth Huble;  
 Kim Huseonica; Dawn Jackson;  
 Gladys Johnson; Ruth Johnson;  
 Kallie Koolmo; Carolyn Lundeen;  
 John Madden; Brad Morris;  
 Thomas Palkowski; Kathy Pederson;  
 Gladys Rorwick; Jim Rorwick;  
 Dennis Rostad, Cory Saba;  
 Norma Saba; Arlene Wallace;  
 Roy & Beverly Warme;  
 Marion White; Vera Woll; Donna;  
 and members who are homebound or  
 in nursing homes.

Those in the military including  
 Tommy Berry, Wesley Fujan  
 (Karolyn Ross' son), Ricky Jantz,  
 Samantha Klopping, and  
 Austine Weise.

We extend Christian sympathy to Ed  
 & Jan Femrite on the death of Ed's  
 sister, Mary.

NOTE: People remain on the  
 prayer list until they or a family  
 member notify Pastor Stefan or  
 Tracey Gennrich. Many  
 members have chronic and  
 on-going needs. Can we pray too  
 often for our members?

### Additional Prayer Requests:

In addition to the church prayers, you  
 may request a personal prayer. Please  
 fill out a pink slip from the pew and  
 place it in the offering plate. This  
 request is confidential and will be  
 prayed for by the Faith & Prayer  
 group. You do not need to give us  
 your name.

father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup>and the two shall become one  
 flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>Therefore what God has  
 joined together, let no one separate."

<sup>10</sup>Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.  
<sup>11</sup>He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits  
 adultery against her; <sup>12</sup>and if she divorces her husband and marries another,  
 she commits adultery."

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might  
 touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw  
 this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me;  
 do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God  
 belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God  
 as a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid  
 his hands on them, and blessed them.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

William Huseonica

✝ HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW HYMN 641

*All Are Welcome*

✝ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**A** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the  
 church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Petitions follow. Each petition ends...

**A** Lord, in your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,  
 trusting in your mercy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

✝ PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Stefan Rickman

MEAL

OFFERING (*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church,  
 including the care of those in need.*)

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Senior Choir; Kate Bennett, Violin*  
*The Lord, My God, Be Praised* J.S. Bach

✦ OFFERTORY ELW HYMN 184  
*Let the Vineyards be Fruitful, Lord*

✦ GREAT THANKSGIVING  
Preface (chanted) ELW page 107  
“Holy, holy, holy Lord...” (Sanctus) ELW page 108

✦ THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

✦ THE LORD’S PRAYER ELW page 112

☐ **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 AND DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION SONGS  
*Lamb of God* ELW page 112  
*Blest Be the Tie That Binds* ELW HYMN 656

✦ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☐ Loving God, in this meal you sustain the weary and heal the broken. May the gift of your word made flesh, the body and blood of Christ, inspire our tongues to praise you and proclaim to the entire world the Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
☐ Amen.

## SENDING

✦ BLESSING

☐ The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.  
☐ Amen.

✦ SENDING SONG ELW HYMN 840  
*Now Thank We All Our God*



*Please join us for  
The Lord’s Supper*

*All are invited to join us in the Lord’s Supper. We believe that Christ is present in the bread and wine and that we receive God’s grace and forgiveness through this meal. Those adults and children not communing with us are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please receive a wafer and dip it into the larger chalice containing wine or into the smaller chalice containing grape juice.*

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## Our Mission

We, a spiritual  
home of believers in  
Jesus Christ will  
Worship faithfully,  
Welcome our neighbors  
and  
Work in the world.

## COMMUNITY TIME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ✚ DISMISSAL

- Ⓐ Go in peace. Be the church!
- Ⓑ **Thanks be to God!**

### POSTLUDE

*Now Thank We All Our God*

Paul Manz

## Serving

Ministers ----- The Baptized people of GA Church  
Presiding Minister ----- Pastor Stefan Rickman  
Assisting Minister ----- Markus Rickman  
Preacher ----- William Huseonica  
Minister of Worship and Music ----- Phil Holzman  
Lector ----- Julie O'Donnell  
Acolytes -----  
Greeters ----- Tom and Annette Parker  
Nursery Attendants ----- Kim Huseonica/Mandy Larson  
Coffee Servers ----- Merry Mates  
Bus Driver ----- Jon Stoewer  
Ushers ----- Ray Rakoski, Ed Huble, Larry Knoebel, Dan Leba,  
Paul Leba, Daryl Mattson

## WORSHIP & MUSIC AT GA

### CHOIR PRACTICES on WEDNESDAY

Our four choirs will all be meeting this week on Wednesday night. It's certainly not too late to join one of our groups for the new year. Please consider yourself invited!

- GA Choristers for children grades 1-5 at 5:45 p.m.
- Gustavus Bells at 6:30 p.m.
- Contemporary Choir at 6:30 p.m.
- Senior Choir at 7:30 p.m.

#### Some MYTHS about choir membership

(fourth in a series)...

You won't know anybody. **Quite possible, but...  
*we'll take care of that.* Singing in the choir is a  
wonderful way to get to know other people in our  
faith community.**

There is more information and detail about our choirs on the Worship and Music page of our website.

## JOSEPH REHEARSALS

### Three rehearsals this week!

The cast will have practice today, Tuesday and Thursday this week. Tuesday will be "blocking" rehearsal with director Justin Navratil; today and Thursday will be music rehearsals with music director Phil Holzman.



**TICKETS** for GA's production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat* are now on sale! Production dates are Nov. 6 and 7 (evening performances) and Nov. 8 (matinee). The cost is \$5.00 per ticket.

Tickets are available every Sunday morning during fellowship time. Cast members also have tickets to sell or you may contact the church office.

***Faith Formation at GA-Church is an invitation to grow in relationship with God. Listen! God is calling!***

**Contact Director of Faith Formation**

Diane Ott-Hager 612-789-7256, ext. 12 ... or ... dianeh@gachurchmpls.org, for information about the Faith Formation offerings you see listed here or to offer perspective and/or suggestions about additional Faith Formation opportunities.

**TODAY at 9:15 a.m. — Prayer**  
(Downstairs in the FAITH ROOM)

The prayer time in the Faith Room provides a chance to pray with others, to pray for specific concerns submitted to GA-Church (on the pink pew slips), and to spend some intentional time listening to God with few distractions.

**TODAY at 11:30 a.m. — Sunday School**  
(Upstairs and Downstairs in the Education Wing)

This day marks the first Sunday that students (Infants/Toddlers, 3-4-year-olds, Kindergarteners, and students in Grades 1-5), Middle and High School students, and adults will meet in age-specific classrooms to learn and share the Good News.

**Cradle Roll Conversations**  
(Downstairs Lounge Area outside of the Kitchen)  
Informal/comfortable conversations for families with children younger than age three years.

**Pre-School and Kindergarten Sunday School**  
(Downstairs in the Education Wing Classrooms)

**Grades 1-5 Sunday School**  
(Upstairs in the CHAPEL for Devotions)  
Classes meet Upstairs— Education Wing Classrooms)

**Middle School, High School, Adult Offerings**  
(Various Locations throughout the building)

- +**Music Ministry** – Phil Holzman, Minister of Worship and Music, regularly rehearses with instrumentalists and vocalists on Sundays
- +**Media and Ministry** – Scripture and faith topics are discussed through various media
- +**Sunday Study** - Informal/comfortable conversation regarding the WORSHIP (i.e., Scripture, liturgy, hymns, songs, sermon, and so forth)
- +**Sunday School Assistant** – Support this ministry by serving as an aide
- +**Fellowship/Kitchen Assistant** – Support this ministry by serving as an aide

**WEDNESDAY, September 30th at 11:00 a.m.**  
***PAUL: A Novel*** by Walter Wangerin, Jr. is the touchstone for our Wednesday morning conversations. On the 30th the group will continue a multi-session discussion of Part Three of ***PAUL: A Novel*** (pp. 185-315). There is still one ***PAUL*** book available — and you are welcome to join the group. For details about this Wednesday group or the Wangerin book, speak with Director of Faith Formation, Diane Ott-Hager.

**WEDNESDAY, September 30th at 6:30 p.m.**  
***GENESIS: A Living Conversation***  
**Joan Mitchell**, the group's teacher-facilitator, invites you to join the conversation. The group has begun the Jacob-cycle by unpacking ***The Blessed Deception*** and ***God Wrestling***. The group will continue the Rebecca, Isaac, Jacob and Esau discussion on the 30th.

Here's a reflection from one of the GENESIS participants: *Joan is amazing! She has the Hebrew Bible and commentaries at her fingertips, as she teaches us. When she reads, she reads from the Hebrew. When she teaches, she reveals word plays, literary patterns, and all sorts of nuggets that make the faith stories in GENESIS come alive. There's so much to learn from these scripture-stories; and I learn from the others in class. I've grown in my faith and in appreciation of GENESIS, learning from Joan and the others. This class is a blessing to me!*

**The Cost of Discipleship by Dietrich Bonhoeffer**  
**The October Book Selection for Discussion**  
*"When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die." With these words, in **The Cost of Discipleship**, Dietrich Bonhoeffer gave powerful voice to the millions of Christians who believe personal sacrifice is an essential component of faith. Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor and theologian, was an exemplar of sacrificial faith: he opposed the Nazis from the first and was eventually imprisoned in Buchenwald and hung by the Gestapo in 1945. **The Cost of Discipleship**, first published in German in 1937, was Bonhoeffer's answer to the questions, "What did Jesus mean to say to us? What is his will for us today?" Bonhoeffer's answers are rooted in Lutheran grace and derived from Christian scripture (almost a third of the book consists of an extended meditation on the Sermon on the Mount). -- from a portion of a review written by Michael Joseph Gross for Amazon.com*

Discussion times for Bonhoeffer's work will be designed around the schedules of those who commit to reading and discussing this Christian classic. If you wish to examine and/or order ***The Cost of Discipleship***, a perusal copy is in the Narthex. For more information about book discussions, check the October Gazette or contact Director of Faith Formation, Diane Ott-Hager.

## THIS WEEK AT GA

### SUNDAY, October 4—*Pentecost 18*

9:15 a.m. Prayer Group  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
Fellowship follows Worship  
11:30 a.m. Faith Formation  
2:00 p.m. “*Joseph*” rehearsal  
2:00 p.m. Confirmation Students return from retreat

### MONDAY, October 5

7:00 p.m. Finance Committee  
7:00 p.m. H.R. Committee

### TUESDAY, October 6

9:15 a.m. Music Ensemble  
1:00 p.m. WELCA Meeting  
6:30 p.m. “*Joseph*” rehearsal

### WEDNESDAY, October 7

10:30 a.m. Music Ensemble  
5:45 p.m. GA Choristers rehearsal (Gr. 1-5)  
6:30 p.m. Contemporary Choir rehearsal  
6:30 p.m. Gustavus Bells rehearsal  
6:30 p.m. GENESIS  
7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal

### THURSDAY, October 8

6:30 p.m. “*Joseph*” rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. NA (Narcotics Anonymous)

### FRIDAY, October 9

7:00 p.m. AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)

### SATURDAY, October 10

8:30 a.m. Men’s Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Crafty Women  
9:30 a.m. Altar Guild  
1:00 p.m. Homebound Visits

### SUNDAY, October 11—*Pentecost 19*

9:15 a.m. Prayer Group  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
Fellowship follows Worship  
11:30 a.m. Faith Formation

## CONTACT US

### GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

1509 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE + Minneapolis, MN 55418  
612-789-7256 + [www.gachurchmpls.org](http://www.gachurchmpls.org)

#### Reverend Stefan Rickman, Pastor

Everyday but Friday\*  
(Ext. 13) [pastorstefan@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:pastorstefan@gachurchmpls.org)

#### Reverend Jim Meyer, Visitation Pastor

Two Saturday afternoons per month\*  
[steeplechaser.meyer@gmail.com](mailto:steeplechaser.meyer@gmail.com)

#### Phil Holzman (Associate in Ministry),

Minister of Worship & Music  
Sunday, Wed. & Thurs. afternoons/evenings\*  
(Ext. 17) [philh@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:philh@gachurchmpls.org)

#### Diane Ott-Hager, Director of Faith Formation

A few mornings away each week.\*  
(Ext. 12) [dianeh@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:dianeh@gachurchmpls.org)

#### Tracey Gennrich, Parish Coordinator

Sunday through Thursday\*  
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#### Larry Knoebel, Finance Manager

Varies\*  
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#### Joe Timmers, Custodian

Monday through Friday\*  
(Ext. 15) [joet@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:joet@gachurchmpls.org)

#### Julie Bonde, Administrative Assistant

Tuesdays & Thursdays\*  
(Ext.18) [julieb@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:julieb@gachurchmpls.org)

\*While these are usual working times, schedules are flexible depending on ministry needs. Staff might even be here outside of posted hours. It's always wise to call before coming in. Staff regularly checks their voicemail and email.