



FOR SUCH A  
TIME AS THIS

- A study of Esther -



## **For Such a Time as This** **16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** **September 17 & 20, 2020**

### **Racial prejudices aren't new**

"Mommy, who is the bad guy?" This is a question one of our younger members asked his mom this week. Have you figured out who the bad guy is in Esther? Do you typically look for the hero and the villain in the stories we read? This week as we read the third chapter of Esther, we see what happens when two people harden their hearts and how disastrous outcomes can follow, yet God is still in control. As you prepare for worship this today, ask yourself—have you ever had a Haman and Mordecai interaction?

To receive 250-word devotions on Esther 3:1-15 this week, Monday – Friday,  
go to [st-andrew-online.org/devotions](http://st-andrew-online.org/devotions).

### **Dear guests**

- We're glad you're here and would love to hear from you. Please fill out our online Check In at our website. Go to [st-andrew-online.org](http://st-andrew-online.org) and click on "Check In."
- If this is your first time with us, please stop at the Welcome Center for a gift just for you.
- Needs or questions? Feel free to ask an usher, greeter, or the person next to you.
- Restrooms are down the education wing on the right.
- If you'd like a private nursing room, there is one with a changing table located outside the sanctuary. There are also changing tables in all restrooms. If you need assistance, feel free to ask an usher.
- Subscribe to *The Weekly*, our email newsletter by filling out the online Check In at [st-andrew-online.org](http://st-andrew-online.org) or pick up a hard copy at the Welcome Center.
- This folder follows the biblical purpose for Jesus' church: **worship** God, **nurture** the faith he gives, and **serve** others. It's simple. It's church. We're glad you're here to enjoy it with us.

# Worship



## Gathering

Gathering song

“Come and Rejoice”

Welcome

Prayer of confession

Assurance of forgiveness

Song

“Everlasting God”

Time to greet

## Word

Children’s devotion (*about age 3 through grade 4*)

Scripture

Matthew 5:11-16

Statement of faith

Psalm 27

Song

“Still, My Soul, Be Still”

Today’s Bible teaching (*see page 4*)

Prayers

## Thanksgiving

Offering

## Sending

Blessing

Song

“Everlasting God”

# Worship



## Esther 3: 1-15

*After these events, King Xerxes honored Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, elevating him and giving him a seat of honor higher than that of all the other nobles. <sup>2</sup> All the royal officials at the king's gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, for the king had commanded this concerning him. But Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor.*

*<sup>3</sup> Then the royal officials at the king's gate asked Mordecai, "Why do you disobey the king's command?" <sup>4</sup> Day after day they spoke to him but he refused to comply. Therefore they told Haman about it to see whether Mordecai's behavior would be tolerated, for he had told them he was a Jew.*

*<sup>5</sup> When Haman saw that Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor, he was enraged. <sup>6</sup> Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.*

*<sup>7</sup> In the twelfth year of King Xerxes, in the first month, the month of Nisan, they cast the pur (that is, the lot) in the presence of Haman to select a day and month. And the lot fell on the twelfth month, the month of Adar.*

*<sup>8</sup> Then Haman said to King Xerxes, "There is a certain people dispersed and scattered among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom whose customs are different from those of all other people and who do not obey the king's laws; it is not in the king's best interest to tolerate them. <sup>9</sup> If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued to destroy them, and I will put ten thousand talents of silver into the royal treasury for the men who carry out this business."*

*<sup>10</sup> So the king took his signet ring from his finger and gave it to Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of the Jews. <sup>11</sup> "Keep the money," the king said to Haman, "and do with the people as you please."*

*<sup>12</sup> Then on the thirteenth day of the first month the royal secretaries were summoned. They wrote out in the script of each province and in the language of each people all Haman's orders to the king's satraps, the governors of the various provinces and the nobles of the various peoples. These were written in the name of King Xerxes himself and sealed with his own ring. <sup>13</sup> Dispatches were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with the order to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews—young and old, women and little children—on a single day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods. <sup>14</sup> A copy of the text of the edict was to be issued as law in every province and made known to the people of every nationality so they would be ready for that day.*

*<sup>15</sup> Spurred on by the king's command, the couriers went out, and the edict was issued in the citadel of Susa. The king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Susa was bewildered.*

# Worship



## Racial prejudices aren't new

The \_\_\_\_\_ of a \_\_\_\_\_ brought about by respect \_\_\_\_\_ and respect \_\_\_\_\_.

Mordecai's \_\_\_\_\_ begin a dark \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Haman \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

We see the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ humans to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Living the love of Christ that overcomes \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ begins with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.



## Highlights

### The Fields Are Ripe

Last month the congregation voted to move forward with our Ministry Expansion, and that work is underway. Last weekend, videos were recorded that will be shared with the congregation throughout the month of October. In the next week or so, members should be receiving a letter in the mail with more information and an updated timeline for our Ministry Expansion efforts.

### Milestones

Eliana Renee Otto, daughter of Christi and John Otto, was born again of water and the Word on Sunday, September 13.

Daniel Dammann and Erica Scharf will be united in holy matrimony on Saturday, September 19.

### Celebrate Recovery

After a COVID break, CR is coming back to St. Andrew! CR exists to give Christ-centered support to those dealing with bad habits, hurts, and hang-ups. The return of CR comes with a change. We are moving to Monday nights at 6:30. It begins on October 5. Masks are required, and social distancing will be in place. Contact Celebrate Recovery leader Steve Soukop ([sspadre12@gmail.com](mailto:sspadre12@gmail.com)) or Staff Minister for Nurture Mark Kjenstad ([mark.kjenstad@st-andrew-online.org](mailto:mark.kjenstad@st-andrew-online.org)) with your questions.

## Worship

### Worship Check-in

Please let us know that you were with us for worship. You can do so on our website at [st-andrew-online.org](http://st-andrew-online.org).

## Nurture

### Plugged into Jesus: “The Fall and a Promise” Creation: Genesis 3

We are self-centered and blame others for our sins. We deserve God’s punishment. God sent Jesus to crush sin, death, and the devil, and through Christ, our Rescuer, God forgives our sins and gives us eternal life. Go here ([vimeo.com/showcase/7535232](https://vimeo.com/showcase/7535232)) for this week’s video teaching.

Are your kids still in need of Plugged into Jesus kits? We have plenty! Find them on the table in the atrium at St Andrew. If you want to bless other kids and their families with the gift of Jesus

through a Plugged In kit, please help yourself to extra kits and kindly fill out the form provided at the pick-up station or use this online link ([standrew.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/138/responses/new](http://standrew.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/138/responses/new)). We are praying for blessings as you reach out to others with God's love in our Rescuer, Jesus. Questions? Contact [jdew324@gmail.com](mailto:jdew324@gmail.com).

### **Plugged into Jesus: Middle School**

New to Plugged In! Kids in grades 7 – 8 now meet by Zoom on Sunday evenings for Bible study with leader Nikki Hill. A book specific for this age level is available on the table in the atrium. For further details and/or questions, contact [nicolepierrehill@gmail.com](mailto:nicolepierrehill@gmail.com).

### **Musikgarten**

Separate kits for this interactive parent/child program are now available alongside Plugged into Jesus kits. Recommended for infants – age 3, kits include rhythm instruments and other tools for caregiver and child music response. A new video, hosted by a certified Musikgarten instructor Karen Hong, will be posted each week. Click here ([vimeo.com/458210688](https://vimeo.com/458210688)) for this week's link.

### **Growth Groups**

Fall Growth Groups have begun, and they are already bringing wonderful blessings from our Lord. There are over 100 St. Andrew members in our fall Growth Groups! Contact Mark Kjenstad ([mark.kjenstad@st-andrew-online.org](mailto:mark.kjenstad@st-andrew-online.org)) to learn what Growth Groups are still open. Spring Growth Groups will begin in January 2021.

### **The Good Life in 2020**

While it may be easy to complain about life in 2020, through Christ, God's people still have the good life. In September, our Wednesday Home Devotions look at issues filling society with trouble and anxiety and how we follow and lean on Christ to live in hope. This week's devotion looks at the political division leading up to the presidential election. This message from God's Word can be found on our Online Worship page ([st-andrew-online.org/onlineworship/](http://st-andrew-online.org/onlineworship/)). You can also find the video posted to the St. Andrew Facebook page. Please share with your friends.

### **PETT**

A Saturday morning party is coming for PETT students **in Grade 6**. Well, maybe not a party, but we'll get together for some food, fun, and learning. Grade 6 parents, bring your child to St. Andrew (with a mask) on September 26 at 9:30 AM. They will be ready for pick-up at 11:00 AM.

## **FUEL**

"I can only imagine . . ." Do you know that song? On Sunday at FUEL, we'll learn what the Bible teaches about heaven. FUEL is every Sunday at 7:00 PM on Zoom and is for all St. Andrew high school students. Here is the link (<https://st-andrew-online.org/onlineworship/>).

## Service and Outreach

### **Mid-week mission reset**

It is easy on Sunday to think and pray about specific ways to be on mission throughout the week. Yet if you are like me, by noon on Monday most of those plans are out the door as the urgent and necessary upset the plan. How about doing a mid-week mission reset? Take a walk through your neighborhood and see what neighbors' names you know. As you pass by houses you don't know, ask God to open the door for you to meet those who live there. Spend time on the walk listening to a podcast, or listen to the songs that are planned for worship this weekend (see Worship article above), and use your walk as a time to pray, reflect, and spend time with God.

### **Thank you**

Thank you for your patience and participation last week with Goldwing Productions and Manzeck Photography as we work on updating our website and marketing materials. They both mentioned what a joy it was to be onsite capturing worship and Growth Groups.

## Westside Christian School

### **Grades 3 – 8 return to school**

In the past week, you've probably read about the important order that the Wisconsin Supreme Court issued against Public Health Madison & Dane County's Emergency Order #9. Not only has the Court accepted all three petitions for original action, it has also granted a temporary injunction against order #9, which shut down in-person instruction for all 3rd through 8th grade students in public and private schools throughout Dane County.

*What does all of this mean?* It means that students in grades 3 through 8 are allowed to return to in-person instruction for at least the next 60 days while the Supreme Court hears the case and issues a final ruling. On Monday, September 14, we welcomed some of our 3rd through 8th grade students back for in-person instruction. We will continue to follow the health and safety protocols outlined in our Covid-19 Risk Mitigation and Reopening Plan (e.g., masks, social distancing, etc.) and have continued the option for virtual learning for students in all grades (4K – 8) if a family would be more comfortable waiting to send their child back at this time. Please keep our faculty and staff in your prayers as they all work diligently to try to provide the best possible educational options for the children that we serve.

# Positions Available

## Janitorial opening

We are looking to fill one janitorial position, 8 – 12 hours a week. For more information, contact Stephanie Grow ([wcslunch@westside-christian.org](mailto:wcslunch@westside-christian.org)).

Weekend janitor—will include Friday nights, Saturdays, and Sunday evenings, 8 – 12 hours per weekend worked (\$14.30/hr)

## Financial specialist

St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church and Westside Christian School are recruiting to fill a vacancy for a part-time (approximately 20 hours/week) financial accounting specialist to manage financial accounting, data coding, and data entry, and to provide financial reports. This position requires accuracy and attention to detail. The individual will work from home, with all required technology and tools being provided by the church. The position reports directly to the church treasurer. Preferred qualifications include but are not limited to:

- Direct, hands-on experience in accounting/finance procedures
- Comfort and familiarity with QuickBooks or similar financial accounting software
- Demonstrated accuracy in data entry with attention to detail
- Entering or interpretation of financial information on external systems
- Ability to interact and communicate effectively with staff and members

Interested in learning more about this position? Please contact Financial Administrator Curt Kephart ([financial.administrator@st-andrew-online.org](mailto:financial.administrator@st-andrew-online.org)) or call 608-831-8540.

# Serving Today



**Lead musician:** Kris Lund

**Vocalists:** Melissa Dyer, Trudi Jo Halverson

**Guitar:** Chad Schaal, Clayton Grow

**Drums:** Scott Fanello

**Song slides:** Victoria Volberg

**Video:** Dan Wasmer

## **A/V Booth**

Thurs: Dan Fischer

8:00 AM: Carter Roekle, Chad Schaal

10:30 AM: Micki Ross, Andrew Onsager

## **Greeters**

Thurs: Will, Debbie, Jacob Kinney

8:00 AM: Lukas and Amy Beier

10:30 AM: Liz Garner, Susan Wright

## **Cleaning/Sanitizing**

After 8:00 AM service: Trudi Jo Halvorson

## **Ushers**

Thurs: Greg Bleck

8:00 AM: Jeff Grim

10:30 AM: Nathan Garner

## **Growth Group Leaders**

Jane Dew, Nancy Ninman, Justin Beck, Jared

Dammann, Brian Fritz, Matt Heckmann,

Brad Hougaard, Harry Radloff, Steve Soukup,

Bill Walther, Dennis Unterholzner, Pastor Kelly,

Pastor Hunter, Mark Kjenstad

## **Plugged into Jesus helpers**

Jane Dew, Chris Hougaard, Melissa Janz,

Shelly Schmoller, Malia Faessler (video teaching),

Paul Onsager (video teaching), Brad Hougaard

And many more...Thank you! If you would like to serve in one of these roles or in a different way, contact Pastor for Service and Outreach Kelly Huet ([kelly.huet@st-andrew-online.org](mailto:kelly.huet@st-andrew-online.org)).

# This Week



<b>Sunday, September 20</b>	
8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship
9:30 AM	Growth Groups (in person & virtual)
7:00 PM	FUEL online for high school students
<b>Monday, September 21</b>	
10:45 AM	Staff meeting
8:00 PM	Virtual Growth Group
<b>Tuesday, September 22</b>	
7:00 AM	Virtual Growth Group
7:15 AM	Virtual Growth Group
9:30 AM	Virtual Women's Growth Group
6:30 PM	Virtual Sun Prairie Growth Group
6:30 PM	Ministry Leadership Committee
7:00 PM	Virtual Women's Growth Group
7:00 PM	Virtual First Group
8:00 PM	Board of Directors
<b>Thursday, September 24</b>	
7:00 PM	Worship
<b>Friday, September 25</b>	
<i>No school at Westside Christian</i>	
<b>Saturday, September 26</b>	
9:00 AM	Virtual Marriage Growth Group
9:30 AM	PETT Grade 6 only
<b>Sunday, September 27</b>	
8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship
9:30 AM	Growth Groups (in person & virtual)
7:00 PM	FUEL online for high school students

## Preparation for the Lord's Supper

St. Andrew views the Lord's Supper as a powerful disbursement of Jesus' grace. We receive it with joy and treat it with respect. Communing together signifies a oneness in faith, life, and worship. So we ask you to judge us; discover what we believe and determine if you wish to be one with us. Talk to our pastors about preparing to receive this in the future.

Paul instructed, "Let a person examine himself and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup" 1 Co 11:28. Questions like these help us examine ourselves:

- Am I sorry for my sin?
- Do I trust that Jesus has lived and died to save me from my sin?
- Do I believe that Jesus' body and blood are truly present to assure me of forgiveness?
- Do I intend, with God's help, to live a more God-pleasing life?

Prayers to use before and after receiving the Lord's Supper are found on page 11 in the front of the hymnal beneath your chair.

### ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

st-andrew-online.org | westside-christian.org

608.831.8540

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Mark Kjenstad, Minister for **Nurture** • mark.kjenstad@st-andrew-online.org

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Got questions? Email [info@st-andrew-online.org](mailto:info@st-andrew-online.org)

*St. Andrew is a mission church  
and a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod*



**Joining Jesus on His Mission takes preparation on our part.**

Ponder this question this week in your devotions and conversations:

**What has God been teaching you in HIS WORD?**