

The Reverend Doctor Matthew C. Harrison President of the Synod

Wednesday of Pentecost XIII, A.D. 2022 September 7, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 4:10–11).

We pray for God's kingdom to come. And so it comes among us through the proclamation of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments. God provides for our eternal need of forgiveness, life and salvation through His Son's death and resurrection. And He provides faith for us through His Word and Sacraments. He calls people to proclaim that Word and administer the Sacraments. We thank God for each and every servant God provides in our congregations and schools as church workers.

October has typically been clergy appreciation month. We certainly praise and thank God for our pastors who serve us with Word and Sacrament each week and throughout our lives. God has also provided many others who serve His people, and we thank God for each of them. Our commissioned workers are a true blessing to the Synod and to each person with whom they share the Word.

I invite you to encourage the congregations and schools in your care to show their thanks for their church workers, for those who are set apart to serve. The Synod website has resources that can help congregations thank their church workers: <u>resources.lcms.org/general/ways-to-show-your-gratitude-and-support-for-church-workers</u>.

I thank God for you and for each and every church worker in our Synod. We join together to glorify and praise God for His goodness and grace poured out in our Savior Jesus Christ, and we thank God for those who serve this Gospel message faithfully. To Him belong all glory and dominion. Amen.

In Christ Jesus,

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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