



“One's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”

Luke 12:15b

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost – October 14, 2018

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*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost – October 14, 2018

The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

PRELUDE: *Prelude in D – J.S. Bach*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING IN GRATITUDE FAITH TALK

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the † holy Trinity,
the one who fashions us,
the one who heals us,
the one who reforms us again and again.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.
Source of all life,

**We confess that we have not allowed
your grace to set us free.**

We fear that we are not good enough.

**We hear your word of love freely given to us,
yet we expect others to earn it.**

**We turn the church inward,
rather than moving it outward.**

Forgive us. Stir us.

**Reform us to be a church powered by love,
willing to speak for what is right,**

**act for what is just,
and seek the healing of your whole creation.**

Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven,

† God's love is unconditional,
and we are raised up as God's people
who will always be made new,
in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN #693: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

***GREETING**

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.

***GLORY TO GOD**



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1) Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2) Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer.

☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.
 ☐ For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther, A - men.
 ☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth,
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Amos 5: 6-7, 10-15

A reading from Amos.

Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.

⁶Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!

¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.

¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.

¹⁵Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90



So teach us to num-ber our days that we may ap - ply our hearts to wis - dom.

¹²So teach us to num- | ber our days,
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

¹³**Return, O LORD; how long | will you tarry?
Be gracious | to your servants. R**

¹⁴Satisfy us by your lovingkindness | in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days | of our life.

¹⁵**Make us glad by the measure of the days that you af- | flicted us
and the years in which we suf- | fered adversity.**

¹⁶Show your ser- | vants your works
and your splendor | to their children.

¹⁷**May the graciousness of the LORD our God | be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands; pros- | per our handiwork. R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 4:12-16

A reading from Hebrews.

We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:13-21**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

What captures your attention more, possessions or God? When is "enough" enough? These are pertinent questions that Jesus raises for us in this parable from the gospel of Luke. This text is one of a number of Jesus' teachings concerning what it means to be disciples and people in mission.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'" ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SONG – Praise Him/Hallelu, Hallelu

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY #705: God of Grace and God of Glory**

CREED

**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 OF INTERCESSION

Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Almighty God, holy and righteous, cut our hearts open by your living word. Break down our pride and self-assurance, and transform us by your gentle mercy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless workers who clear fields to prepare for the barren season to come. Bring the harvest of your creation to completion, even as we look forward to the blossoming of new life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Exercise and establish your true justice in courtrooms, in prisons, and in neighborhoods. Guide those who manage great wealth to do so with generosity and compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pour out favor this day upon those who are afflicted and feel far removed from you, especially for Ruth Ann, Jean, Karen, Amy, Anne, Harry, Ruth, Pastor Storm, Frieda, Kim, Bill, Francis & Grace, David & Ellen, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our heart. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Build up relationships among people of different beliefs and backgrounds. Use the cooperation between this congregation and others in our community to reveal your goodness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gather us with all the saints whom you have made righteous in the death and resurrection of Christ. Through him give us all the gifts of your kingdom and life eternal. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY HYMN #479: We Come to the Hungry Feast**

Please stand for the final verse.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray,
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son,
whom you sent in this end of the ages
to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word,
inseparable from you.
Through him you created all things,
and in him you take delight.
He is your Word,
sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.
He there took on our nature and our lot
and was shown forth as your Son,
born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.
It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will
and won for you a holy people;
he stretched out his hands in suffering
in order to free from suffering those who trust you.
It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted,
in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one,
to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous,
to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection,
taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:
Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This is my blood poured out for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, then, his death and resurrection,
we lift this bread and cup before you,
giving you thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you:
Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church;
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him all glory and honor are yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church both now and forever.



Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
and make us one with you.

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*

The image shows the musical notation for the Communion Song 'Lamb of God'. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C'. The lyrics are: 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.' The music is a simple, melodic line with some rests and ties.

COMMUNION HYMN #583: *Take My Life, That I May Be

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.
Holy and compassionate God,
in bread and wine you give us gifts
that form us to be humble and courageous.
May your words come to life
in our serving and in our witness,
that we might speak a living voice
of healing and justice to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church;
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG #551: *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Sound the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Fugue in D* – J.S. Bach

8:00 am

Assisting Minister: Dave Knauff
Communion Assistant:
Acolyte:
Lector:
Usher: Clarence Strabel
Attendance Last Week: 43
Weekly Budgeted Expense: \$ 3,088.92
YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$ 123,556.92
YTD Actual Expense: \$ 134,999.30

10:30 am

Assisting Minister: Carol Zimmerman
Communion Assistant:
Acolyte:
Lector:
Usher: John Fritz
Attendance Last Year: 45
Last Week’s General Giving: \$ 5,024.60
Last Week’s Designated Giving: \$ 424.06
2018 YTD General Giving: \$ 114,111.47
2018 YTD Designated Giving: \$ 16,459.22
2018 YTD Receipts: \$ 130,570.69

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