

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Money Wise
October 5 & 6, 2024

AS WE GATHER

The wisdom of the world suggests that all we have, life and money and possessions belong to us and are ours to do with as we please. It also teaches that these things bring us fulfillment as we see them as our greatest treasures. Christ Jesus is our greatest treasure. The life He gives as well as our earthly possessions all have their source in Him. Of course, the greatest treasure is knowing Jesus' love, grace, and mercy that never fails and brings us an eternal inheritance. Desiring others to know our Lord, we seek to use wisely all that He has entrusted us.

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

WELCOME

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."
(Ephesians 2:8-9, ESV)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #869 "With the Lord Begin Your Task"

With the Lord begin your task; Jesus will direct it.
For His aid and counsel ask; Jesus will perfect it.
Every morn with Jesus rise, And when day is ended,
In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him commended.

Let each day begin with prayer, Praise, and adoration.
On the Lord cast every care; He is your salvation.
Morning, evening, and at night Jesus will be near you,
Save you from the tempter's might, With His presence cheer you.

With your Savior at your side, Foes need not alarm you;
In His promises confide, And no ill can harm you.
All your trust and hope repose In the mighty Master,
Who in wisdom truly knows How to stem disaster.

If your task be thus begun With the Savior's blessing,
Safely then your course will run, Toward the promise pressing.
Good will follow everywhere While you here must wander;
You at last the joy will share In the mansions yonder.

Thus, Lord Jesus, every task Be to You commended;
May Your will be done, I ask, Until life is ended.
Jesus, in Your name begun Be the day's endeavor;
Grant that it may well be done To Your praise forever.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

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Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. *Amen. Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. *Alleluia. Refrain*

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful Father, your patience and loving-kindness toward us have no end. Grant that by your Holy Spirit we may always think and do those things that are pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

10:30 BAPTISM SONG #740 "I Am Jesus Little Lamb"

I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me. Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.

3 continued

Day by day, at home, away. Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me:
When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.

Who so happy as I am, Even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended, By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast, There within His arms to rest.

10:30 BAPTISM of Dietrich LaVern Frazier

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☩ WORD ☩

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Ecclesiastes 5:8-17*

⁸If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them. ⁹But this is gain for a land in every way: a king committed to cultivated fields. ¹⁰He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. ¹¹When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? ¹²Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep. ¹³There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, ¹⁴and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. ¹⁵As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. ¹⁶This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? ¹⁷Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Hebrews 2:10-18* (Because He suffered when tempted, He is able to help us when tempted.) ¹⁰For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source.

4 continued

That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹²saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." ¹³And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me." ¹⁴Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

5:00 CHOIR ANTHEM *"For the Fruit of All Creation"*

10:30 JR BELL ANTHEM *"Glorioso"*

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 16:10-13*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S SONG & CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"Seek Ye First"

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia!

SERMON HYMN #783 "Take My Life and Let It Be"

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

SERMON

(Rise)

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

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(Rise)

LWML PLEDGE *Spoken By All*

In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen.

(Be seated)

BRINGING FORTH OF COMMITMENT CARDS

At the feast of first fruits, God's people of old would bring their firstfruit offerings to God in the temple, confess that their father was a wandering Aramean, and acknowledge that God was the source of all their blessings. Giving their first and best to God was an issue of faith and trust, that God would take care of the rest of their needs. In that same spirit, we bring our first fruit commitment cards, in faith and trust that our God provides us all that is needful for body and soul. Ushers, please come forward and beckon pew by pew.

(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Loving Father, your Son took the little children into His arms and blessed them. Help your saints to welcome little ones with joy, that nothing may hinder their entrance into the kingdom of God and the arms of Christ. We give you thanks for Dietrich LaVern Frazier as he is baptized into Christ this weekend.

People: Bless his parents, Bennett and Hannah, to raise him in the nurture and admonition of our Lord Jesus. Give us all joy at another child becoming a member of God's family.

Pastor: Lord of all things, you have entrusted to us many resources, including the gift of money. Bless us with hearts that seek to use our financial resources in ways pleasing to you.

People: Give us wisdom that we may be good stewards in supporting the furtherance of the gospel of our Lord and his eternal kingdom.

Pastor: Lord of the church, we give you thanks and praise for the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and all they do to support the ministry of the gospel around the world.

People: Raise up more women, young and old, to join them in the blessed work they do.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, you give us men to guide your Church on earth. We ask your blessing for Matthew, our Synod president; Eric, our district president; our circuit visitor; and all pastors and missionaries and servants who share the Word of life.

People: Bless them all to be faithful and guide, support and direct the lives of our Together in Mission partner, Chuck Ferry and family.

Pastor: Lord God, be near all couples struggling in their marriages. Guard them from hardness of heart and reconcile them to one another to live in Christ's forgiveness and love. We rejoice in the gift of marriage and join with Steve and LeAnne in celebrating their 25th anniversary.

People: Bless them with many more years of life together as husband and wife.

Pastor: Almighty God, grant your wisdom to Joseph, our president; to Tony, our governor, and all public servants.

People: Bless them to work in order to bring peace, justice, health and protection in this land and every place, that they may be strengthened and upheld in every good deed.

Pastor: Gracious God, you promise to abide with your people and uphold them in their suffering. Comfort all who are sick and sorrowing especially Jerry, Sheri, Charlotte, Carole, Wendy, June, Audrey, Janice, David, Helga, Ruth, Dick, Michael, Margie, Anna, Charlene, Danielle, Marlene, RoseMarie, Dorothy, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Janet, Vern, Cathy, Shirley and Sarah.

People: Strengthen their faith in the midst of their trials, and grant them health and healing according to your good and gracious will.

Pastor: Lord of life, you are the God of the living and not the dead. Therefore we give you thanks and praise that one year ago you called home your servant, Pastor Tom Hinz who, along with Eunice, now dwells with you in glory.

People: Bless their family as they rejoice in the life you gave Tom and Eunice and are thankful for the memories and all the blessings you have given them.

Pastor: Holy Lord, as we gather to receive the very body and blood of Jesus at his table, grant us your grace, that we may approach your table with repentant hearts and a steadfast faith.

People: As we leave the table, forgiven and free, fill us all with a firm resolution to amend our sinful lives by the strength of your Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Lord God, help us by your Spirit to fear you and walk in your ways in Christ, that we may eat the fruit of the labor of our hands and receive your blessing in all that we do; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling your will and gaining for you a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

SANCTUS

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Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

5:00 & 8:00 THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #789

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer
For all things living, Created good:
Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.

Bless, Lord, the labor We bring to serve You
That with our neighbor We may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, We would work with You,
Harvesting, milling For daily bread.

Father, providing Food for Your children,
By Your wise guiding Teach us to share
One with another, So that, rejoicing
With us, all others May know Your care.

HYMN #706

“Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”

Love in Christ is strong and living, Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving. May His will in us be done.

Love is patient and forbearing, Clothed in Christ’s humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring, Reaching out in charity.

Love in Christ abides forever, Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven, Shall endure until life’s end.

HYMN #535

“How Wide the Love of Christ”

How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race
But holds our one humanity Within its broad embrace.

How long the love of Christ! Its patience will not cease
Until this broken world is bound In everlasting peace.

How high the love of Christ! Beyond all thought it soars,
And yet upon our passing lives Unmeasured mercy pours.

How deep the love of Christ, Descending to a cross!
He bears within His wounded hands All human pain and loss.

All praise to You, O Christ, For love whose depth and height,
Whose length and breadth fill time and space With endless life and light!

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

People: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray. Father in heaven, we give you thanks and praise that you have rescued your children through your Son and restored your family through forgiveness. Give us grace to both ask forgiveness and to forgive as you have forgiven us, that our earthly families may be rescued from sin, restored to love and unity, and kept strong in Christ all the days of our lives; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #923 “Almighty Father, Bless the Word”

Almighty Father, bless the Word Which through your grace we now have heard.
Oh, may the precious seed take root, Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

We praise you for the means of grace As homeward now our steps we trace.
Grant, Lord, that we who worshipped here May all at last in heav’n appear.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav’nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Preacher	Pastor Nathan Meador
Liturgists	Pastor Harold Bender & Pastor Joshua Grotelueschen
Lectors	Russell Hurst, Katie Scepanski, Katie Librizzi
Organist	Deaconess Carole King