



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The 18th Sunday After Pentecost

October 9, 2022 10:30 Service of the Word

We continue our look at the Pastoral Epistles today. (They are: 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, and Titus.) They give basic advice for how a church should operate. But some of that advice we find offensive. Some of it we find to be downright wrong! We'll explore the reasoning behind the text and also what to do when the Bible's words just don't seem to fit at all.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
who is eager to forgive
and who loves us beyond our days.

C: Amen.

P: Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this
world as Jesus does.

(A moment of silence for reflection)

P: God of mercy and forgiveness,

C: we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

We have failed to do justice,

love kindness,

and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.**

Amen.

P: Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,

who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love

through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Gathering Hymn Change My Heart, O God

(For music turn to Hymn 801 in the Red Hymnal)

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

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

C: And also with you.

Gathering Dialog (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

A: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

A: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

A: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God, the source of all love and trust, guide us to be the church in this day and age. Give us a passion to spread your kingdom until every person has been reached. Use your Word to give us confidence in our actions, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Romans 5:12-17

B: ¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— ¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely

will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 119:33-40 (*read responsively*)

D: God, teach me your ways
and I will follow them closely.

**C: Help me understand your will,
that I may cherish your law.**

D: Guide me along your path,
a way of delight.

**C: Open my heart to your laws
and not to riches.**

D: Turn my eyes from the lure of evil,
let me live your truth.

**C: Keep your promise
to one who receives you.**

D: Spare me the shame I fear.
How good your commands!

**C: See, I want what is right,
let your justice give me life.**

Second Reading 1 Timothy 2:1-7

E: First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Interpretation and Reflection

Third Reading 1 Timothy 2:8-3:13

F: ⁸I desire, then, that in every place the men should pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or argument;

⁹also that the women should dress themselves modestly and decently in suitable clothing, not with their hair braided, or with gold, pearls, or expensive clothes, ¹⁰but with good works, as is proper for women who profess reverence for God. ¹¹Let a woman learn in silence with full submission. ¹²I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she is to keep silent. ¹³For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. ¹⁵Yet she will be saved through childbearing, provided they continue in faith and love and holiness, with modesty.

³The saying is sure: whoever aspires to the office of bishop desires a noble task. ²Now a bishop must be above reproach, married only once, temperate, sensible, respectable, hospitable, an apt teacher, ³not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and not a lover of money. ⁴He must manage his own household well, keeping his children submissive and respectful in every way— ⁵for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church? ⁶He must not be a recent convert, or he may be puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil.

⁸Deacons likewise must be serious, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not greedy for money; ⁹they must hold fast to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰And let them first be tested; then, if they prove themselves blameless, let them serve as deacons. ¹¹Women likewise must be serious, not slanderers, but temperate, faithful in all things. ¹²Let deacons be married only once, and let them manage their children and their households well; ¹³for those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve
(For music see Hymn 551 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.**
2. **We go to comfort those who mourn
and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream
and help the blind to see.**
3. **We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.**
4. **Then let us go to serve in peace,
the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.**

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939. Copyright 1993 Delores Duffner admin. OCP Publications. Music: attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

Response to the Word

E: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

E: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: 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.**

E: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. (Jude 20)

E: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Jude 21)

E: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!** (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Prayers of Intercession

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

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

*The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.***

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

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

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† **THANKSGIVING** †

Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your Word.**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.**

**When my heart is hard,
break the stone away.**

**When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day.**

**When my heart is lost,
lead me on your way.**

Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950. Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray:

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

† SENDING †

Blessing

P: God, who gives life to all things
and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.
And may the Holy Trinity, one God,
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
(For music see Hymn 886 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and king,
the triumphs of his grace!**
- 2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honor of your name.**
- 3. The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,**

**sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace.**

- 4. He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**
- 5. Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!**
- 6. To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: Carl G. Glaser, 1784-1928; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.



"Choosing a house is a big decision, Dear.
Maybe we should ask God
instead of consulting the lava lamp."

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Sue Kaufmann
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle
Counters	Bill and Katy Stimmel
Coffee Hour	

Worship assistants for next Sunday, October 16

Greeters and Ushers	Helen Crown
Acolyte	Owen Young
Altar Care	No communion
Communion Assistant	No communion
Counters	Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern
Coffee Hour	<i>Please sign up!</i>

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