



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The 16th Sunday After Pentecost

September 25, 2022

10:30 Service of the Word

The parable that we will read in today's gospel may sound familiar. But wait! Keep your ears open. We are used to hearing this from Matthew's gospel, and this comes from Luke. We'll discover there are parallels between the two, and in Luke some things mean the exact opposite of what they did in Matthew!

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 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

(For music see Hymn 659 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

2. **We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other**

walk the mile and bear the load.

**3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen the journey through.**

**5. Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953. Music: Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928. Text and music copyright 1977 Scripture in Son, admin. Integrity Music

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, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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 1 Samuel 8:4-20

B: ⁴Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, ⁵and said to him, “You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.” ⁶But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to govern us.” Samuel prayed to the Lord, ⁷and the Lord said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. ⁸Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. ⁹Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.”¹⁰So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹He said, “These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; ¹²and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. ¹³He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. ¹⁴He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. ¹⁵He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. ¹⁶He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. ¹⁷He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. ¹⁸And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord will not answer you in that day.”¹⁹But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, “No! but we are determined to have a king over us, ²⁰so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.”

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 62:6-12 (*read responsively*)

D: Wait, my soul, silent for God,

for God alone, my hope,

**C: alone my rock, my safety,
my refuge: I stand secure.**

D: God is my glory and safety,

my stronghold, my haven.

**C: People, give your hearts to God,
trust always! God is our haven.**

D: Mortals are but a breath,
nothing more than a mirage;
set them on the scales,
they prove lighter than mist.

**C: Avoid extortion and fraud,
the hopes they breed are nothing;
and if you should grow rich,
place no trust in wealth.**

D: Time and again God said,
“Strength and love are mine to give.”

**C: The Lord repays us all
in light of what we do.**

Gospel Acclamation (Psalm 62:9)

**C: Alleluia. Give your heart to God, trust always! God is our haven.
Alleluia**

Gospel Reading Luke 19:11-27

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 19th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

¹¹As they were listening to this, [Jesus] went on to tell a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. ¹²So he said, “A nobleman went to a distant country to get royal power for himself and then return. ¹³He summoned ten of his slaves, and gave them ten pounds, and said to them, ‘Do business with these until I come back.’ ¹⁴But the citizens of his country hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We do not want this man to rule over us.’ ¹⁵When he returned, having received royal power, he ordered these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to be summoned so that he might find out what they had gained by trading. ¹⁶The first came forward and said, ‘Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds.’ ¹⁷He said to him, ‘Well done, good slave! Because you have been trustworthy in a very small thing, take charge of ten cities.’ ¹⁸Then the second came, saying, ‘Lord, your pound has made five pounds.’ ¹⁹He said to him, ‘And you, rule over five cities.’ ²⁰Then the other came, saying, ‘Lord, here is your pound. I wrapped it up in a piece of cloth, ²¹for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; you take

what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.’²² He said to him, ‘I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave! You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow?’²³ Why then did you not put my money into the bank? Then when I returned, I could have collected it with interest.’²⁴ He said to the bystanders, ‘Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds.’²⁵ (And they said to him, ‘Lord, he has ten pounds!’)²⁶ ‘I tell you, to all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.’²⁷ But as for these enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and slaughter them in my presence.’”

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day If You But Trust in God to Guide You
(For music see Hymn 769 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. If you but trust in God to guide you
with gentle hand through all your ways,
you'll find that God is there beside you
when crosses come, in trying days.
Trust then in God's unchanging love;
build on the rock that will not move.**
- 2. What gain is there in anxious weeping,
in helpless anger and distress?
If you are in your Savior's keeping,
in sorrow will he love you less?
For Christ who took for you a cross
will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.**
- 3. The Lord our restless hearts is holding,
in peace and quietness content.
We rest in God's good will unfolding,
what wisdom from on high has sent.
God, who had chosen us by grace,
knows very well the fears we face.**

**4. Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving,
offer your service faithfully.
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,
you'll find God's promise true to be.
This is our confidence indeed:
God never fails in time of need.**

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite. Music: Georg Neumark, Text copyright 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

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.

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 My Life Flows On in Endless Song
(for music please turn to Hymn 763 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.**

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

2. Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

3. What though my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. *Refrain*

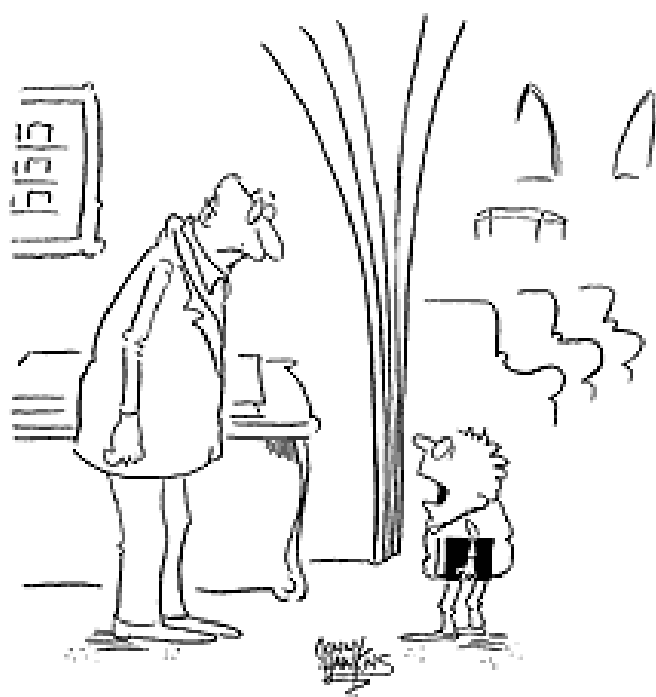
4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

Text and Music: Robert Lowry

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**



"I slept in church because I'm striving
to be more like God, and on the
seventh day He rested."

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte Owen Young
Counters Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern
Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, October 2

Greeters and Ushers John and Linda Thompson
Acolyte Creed White
Altar Care Mary Zuege
Communion Assistant Mary Zuege
Counters Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Coffee Hour *Please sign up!*

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