



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Luke 16:1-17:19

October 20, 2019

10:30 Holy Communion

Money, money, money. It enables us to do many things. It can give us a sense of power and a sense of security. It can also draw us away from God. In the beginning of our gospel reading for today we will find two powerful parables from Jesus teaching us to be aware of how money can lead us astray, but also how its power can be applied for God's purposes.

Welcome to worship today!

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

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come
(For music see Hymn 610 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. O Christ, the healer, we have come
to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored
when reached by love that never ends?**
- 2. From ev'ry ailment flesh endures
our bodies clamor to be freed;
yet in our hearts we would confess
that wholeness is our deepest need.**
- 3. In conflicts that destroy our health
we recognize the world's disease;
our common life declares our ills.
Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?**
- 4. Grant that we all, made one in faith,
in your community may find
the wholeness that, enriching us,
shall reach the whole of humankind.**

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000, Text copyright 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Apostles' Greeting

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.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

C: Amen

P: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: God our helper,

**C: we confess the many ways
we have failed to live as your disciples.
We have not finished what we began.
We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers.
We have been captivated by our possessions.
Lift our burdens, gracious God.
Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin.
Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

P: There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of Jesus the Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

C: Amen

Hymn of Praise He Is Exalted

(For music turn to Hymn 14 in the Songbook binder)

**1. He is exalted, the King is exalted on high,
I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted
And I will praise His name!**

Chorus

**He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign.
Heaven and earth
Rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!**

**2. He is exalted, the King is exalted on high,
I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted
And I will praise His name!**

Chorus 2 times

Text and music by Twila Paris. CCLI #17827. Copyright 1985 Straightway Music, administered by EMI Christian Music Publishing

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Isaiah 46:3-13

³Listen to me, O house of Jacob,
all the remnant of the house of Israel,
who have been borne by me from your birth,
carried from the womb;

⁴even to your old age I am he,
even when you turn gray I will carry you.
I have made, and I will bear;
I will carry and will save.

⁵To whom will you liken me and make me equal,
and compare me, as though we were alike?

⁶Those who lavish gold from the purse,
and weigh out silver in the scales—
they hire a goldsmith, who makes it into a god;
then they fall down and worship!

⁷They lift it to their shoulders, they carry it,
they set it in its place, and it stands there;
it cannot move from its place.

If one cries out to it, it does not answer
or save anyone from trouble.

⁸Remember this and consider,
recall it to mind, you transgressors,
⁹remember the former things of old;

for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is no one like me,

¹⁰declaring the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,
saying, “My purpose shall stand,
and I will fulfill my intention,”

¹¹calling a bird of prey from the east,
the man for my purpose from a far country.
I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;
I have planned, and I will do it.

¹²Listen to me, you stubborn of heart,
you who are far from deliverance:

¹³I bring near my deliverance, it is not far off,
and my salvation will not tarry;
I will put salvation in Zion,
for Israel my glory.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 53 (read responsively)

A: Fools tell themselves,
“There is no God.”

Their actions are corrupt,
none of them does good.

**C: The Lord looks down
to see if anyone is wise,
if anyone seeks God.**

A: But all are worthless,
all are depraved.
No one does good,
not even one.

**C: Are these evil-doers mad?
They eat up my people
like so much bread;
they never pray.**

A: They should cringe in fear
as never before,
since God will scatter their bones.
Your attackers may shame you,
but God rejects them.

**C: Let God send victory from Zion
and restore the people’s fortunes!
Then Jacob will sing,
and Israel rejoice.**

Gospel Acclamation (Hebrews 4:12)

C: Alleluia. The word of God is living and active, able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 16:1-17:19

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 16th and 17th 3th chapters.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as

manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.¹⁰ ‘Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.’¹¹ If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?¹³ No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.’¹⁴ The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they ridiculed him.¹⁵ So he said to them, ‘You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of others; but God knows your hearts; for what is prized by human beings is an abomination in the sight of God.’¹⁶ ‘The law and the prophets were in effect until John came; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is proclaimed, and everyone tries to enter it by force.’¹⁷ But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away, than for one stroke of a letter in the law to be dropped.¹⁸ ‘Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and whoever marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery.’¹⁹ ‘There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.’²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony.’²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’²⁷ He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

Jesus said to his disciples, “Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to anyone by whom they come!”² It would be better for you if a millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea than for you to cause one of these little ones to stumble.³ Be on your guard! If another disciple sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive.⁴ And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive.”⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.”⁷ “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table?’⁸ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink?’⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded?¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee.¹² As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance,¹³ they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!”¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean.¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?”¹⁸ Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?”¹⁹ Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day God of Grace and God of Glory
(For music see Hymn 705 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow’r;
crown your ancient church’s story;
bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

2. **Lo! The hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.**

3. **Cure your children's war-ing madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

4. **Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.**

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969. Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932

Apostles' Creed

A: Let us confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers of the Church

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: We share that peace with one another.

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

† MEAL †

Offering & Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord
For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: God our provider,

C: we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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 of Nazareth; 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 church of yesterday, today and tomorrow; and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. You will receive bread from the communion assistant. (If you need gluten free wafers please ask the assistant distributing bread.) You may receive wine from either the common cup or in an individual glass. If you would like to receive in a glass please pick one up from the tray as you approach the altar rail. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

790 *Day by Day (Red Hymnal)*

64 *Bread in a Basket (Songbook Binder)*

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray...

God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received; Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

C: Amen

Sending Hymn Washed in the Promise
(for music see Hymn 86 in the Songbook binder)

**1. Chaos rages, tears run dry,
painful laughter, a sea of selfish cries.
Gifting waters on your head,
words of welcome, you are born again.**

Refrain **You are washed in the promise,
the cross of forgiveness,
the mystery of grace.
You are held in the hope
and wrapped in the reach of the Savior's embrace.**

**2. The Spirit's pouring joy and light,
understanding, liberty and sight. *Refrain***

Text and music: Hans Peterson and Larry Olson; Copyright 1997 Dakota Road Music, used by permission.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Kim and Gary Boisseau
Acolyte	Abbie Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Helen Crown
Communion Assistants	Paul and Babette Huber
Nursery Care	Judy VanDeVelde
Counters	Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern
Coffee Hour	Wendy Sackett

Worship assistants for next Sunday, October 27

Greeters and Ushers	Tim and Liz Brown
Acolyte	Creed White
Altar Care	Helen Crown
Communion Assistants	Tim and Liz Brown
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan
Counters	Bruce Boncke and Art Fields
Coffee Hour	Pie Sunday

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