



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

It's one or the other...

A tool you work with



or a god you worship

18th Sunday After Pentecost

September 18, 2016

10:30 Holy Communion

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recall that we are bought with a price. “Christ Jesus, himself human, ... gave himself a ransom for all.” Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing – we are nothing. By God’s gracious favor we have everything we need.

-from Sundays and Seasons 2016

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 On Eagle's Wings
(For music turn to Hymn 787 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"**

Refrain

**"And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of my hand."**

2. **Snares of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge
with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain***
3. **You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by the day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. *Refrain***
4. **For to the angels God's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain***

Text and Music by Michael Jonas, b. 1951; copyright 1979 OCP Publication

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

A: Blessed by the Holy Trinity, one God:
the only Sovereign, who dwells in light;
Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners;

the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.

C: Amen.

A: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(A moment of silence for reflection)

A: God of overflowing grace,

C: we come to you with repentant hearts.

Forgive us for shallow thankfulness.

Forgive us for passing by the ones in need.

Forgive us for setting our hopes on fleeting treasures.

Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness.

**Bring us home from the wilderness of sin,
and strengthen us to serve you in all that we do and say;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

A: There is joy in heaven over every sinner who repents. By the grace of God in Christ Jesus, we gave himself up for us all, our sins are forgiven and we are made free. Rejoice with the angels and with one another! We are home in God's mercy, now and forever.

C: Amen

Hymn of Praise Kyrie Eleison

"Kyrie Eleison" is Latin for "Lord have mercy."

(For music turn to Hymn 19 in the Songbook binder)

Refrain

Kyrie Eleison on our world and on our way.

Kyrie Eleison ev'ry day

- 1. For peace in the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all.
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! *Refrain***
- 2. That we may live out your impassioned response to the
hungry and the poor.
That we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! *Refrain***
- 3. For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,
for friends and family.
For life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! *Refrain***
- 4. For your spirit to guide, that you center our lives**

in the water and the Word
That you nourish our souls with your body and blood
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! Refrain

Text and music: Larry Olson, copyright 1989, Dakota Road Music, CCLI #1765776

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and keep our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

First Reading Amos 8:4-7

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 113 (*Read responsively*)

L: Hallelujah!

Servants of God, praise,
praise the name of the Lord.

**C: Bless the Lord's name
now and always.**

L: Praise the Lord's name
here and in every place,
from east to west.

**C: The Lord towers above nations,
God's glory shines over the heavens.**

L: Who compares to our God?
Who is enthroned so high?

C: The Lord bends down

to see heaven and earth,

L: to raise the weak from the dust
and life the poor from the mire,

**C: to seat them with princes
in the company of their leaders.**

L: The childless, no longer alone,
rejoice now in many children.

C: Hallelujah!

Second Reading 1 Timothy 2:1-7

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.

Gospel Acclamation (Philippians 1:27)

C: Alleluia. Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ; strive side by side for the faith of the gospel. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 16:1-13

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 16th chapter.

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.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my

master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then 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.'
⁸And 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. ⁹And 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. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No 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.'

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Messiah

(for music, please turn to Hymn 61 in the Songbook)

- 1. Someone's shouting from the desert.
Someone's shouting from the sea.
Someone's shouting from the mountain.
Someone's shouting from the valley.**

Chorus

**Messiah, come and be our King.
Messiah, come and be our King..**

- 2. Someone's shouting from the city.
I am young, I am cold.
Someone's shouting from the country.
I am lonely, I am old.**

Chorus

- 3. Someone's shouting I am broken.
Someone's shouting make me whole.**

**Someone's shouting come and change me.
Someone's shouting save my soul.** *Chorus*

Dakota Road Music, used by permission

Apostles' Creed

A: We 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

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

C: And also with you.

A: We share that peace with one another.

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

† MEAL †

Offering

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: Merciful God,

**C: as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together
to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from
the ends of the earth into your kingdom for yours is the glory
through Jesus Christ, now and forever. 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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Take hold of the life that really is life. Come, take your place at the table.

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. 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)

838 *Beautiful Savior (Red Hymnal)*

638 *Blessed Assurance (Red Hymnal)*

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. We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† SENDING †

Blessing

P: God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Do Justice

(For music turn to Hymn 59 [second half of medley] in the Songbook binder)

**1. Racing around, chasing idols,
unfulfilled, empty vessels.
World on the edge, out of control,
will we survive, God only knows.**

Refrain: **Do, justice, love, mercy,
Walk humbly, with our God, with our God.**

2. **People broken, falling pieces,
dignity lost, loving ceases.
Hopeless eyes, lonely faces,
Yearning hearts, hurting places.**

3. **Deadly hunger, desp'rate crying,
Wounded living, children dying.
Nails in the flesh, piercing fear,
Why can't we see Christ hanging here?**

Text and music: Andy Park, Copyright 1995 Dakota Road Music, CCLI# 1810119

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's work. Our hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Mike and Bettina Kalish
Lector
Acolyte Kelsey Sackett
Altar Care Sally Mansfield
Communion Assistants Don and Sally Mansfield
Nursery Care Kristi Bullwinkle
Counters Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, September 25

Greeters and Ushers Sue Kaufmann and Helen Crown
Lector Kelly Wilmot
Acolyte Ally Buch
Nursery Care Beth Perdan
Counters Ethan and Lynne Minkel
Coffee Hour *Please sign up.*

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