



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI
15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 22, 2019
**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

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.

Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God**

Prelude A time for silent reflection
Welcome and Announcements

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our helper,
**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.**

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 Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice with the angels at this good news.
Amen.

*Gathering Hymn "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" **ELW #864**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***KYRIE**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
Let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
Let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Office Hours: Wednesday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to all who brought items for the bake and rummage sale which was held yesterday.

The council has designated October 5th as St. Paul's "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will announce "God's Work" in next weeks bulletin.

The raffle will be held on October 6, with the first prize being the quilt, however, we would appreciate any new items you might donate to raffle off as well.

The 2019 Sugar Creek Bible Camp Quilt Auction results have been published. The quilt, donated by St. Paul's W-ELCA, sold for \$400.00. The entire quilt auction proceeds totaled \$15,520.00 with other items on the auction block selling for \$2,898.50. All in all, with the additional events taking place, the amount raised came to \$22,447.50.

Would you be interested in becoming a Hospice Touch Volunteer? Training sessions will be held from 5:00 PM—8:00 PM on Wednesdays beginning with October 9 and continue on October 16, 23, and 30. You must attend all sessions. To register, contact Kris Nichols at 608-374-0250 by October 8.

You may now contact Pastor Cathleen on a landline, #608-435-0097. This telephone itself is a "Caption Call". This means a written display of what you are saying is displayed for Pastor to read, and continue the conversation. Be patient, it takes a few seconds for your side of the conversation to be displayed. You may also leave a voice mail message.

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Cathleen, via text, 608-865-1074, or Dan Buchholz 608-435-6126 or 608-487-6525 (cell).

To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani (608-387-2311)

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*Canticle of Praise

"This is the Feast"

ELW p.149

*Prayer of the Day

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 our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.**

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

A reading from 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 113

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

²**Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**

³From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴**The LORD is high above all nations;
God's glory above the heavens.**

⁵Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,

⁶**but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸**enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING

The Pastoral Epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

A reading from 1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“We Are Called”

ELW #720

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

THOSE
SERV-
ING TO-
DAY

Ministers: All God's People, Pastor: Cathleen Morris, Organist: Nalani Bever, Greeters: Louise and Bob Buchholz, Reader: Bud Osteboe, Altar: Arlis and Larry Ballwahn, Communion Server: Kirstin Arndt, Ushers: Bob Buchholz, Brian Buchholz, Ed Ross, Justin Arndt

IN OUR PRAYERS

Katie Wallace, Shirley Meranti, Ed Bauer, Linda Bauer, Helen Summerfield, Lois Schultz, Linda Finnigan, Stuart Thayer, Becky Smith, Ian Hefner, Florence Krause, Judy Bever, Tammy Roscovious, Darlene and Paul Babbitt, Pam Eaton, Kari Lydon, Cliff Herman.

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Todd Nofsinger, Dylan Dougherty, Robert Cale

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22-29

Wed., Sept. 25

Confirmation

6:30 PM—8:00 PM

Sun., Sept. 29

Sunday School

9:00 AM

Worship

10:15 AM

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

ELW p.153

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come, take your place at the feast.

Distribution

Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 154

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**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.
Amen.**

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.151

GOSPEL READING

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest man who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

The gospel according to Luke 16:1-13

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then 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 ⁵

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."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*Hymn "Let Justice Flow like Streams"

ELW #717

Apostles' Creed

**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 INTERCESSION (Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**)

***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us show signs of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

*Offertory Hymn

"Create in Me"

ELW #186

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

*Offertory Prayer

**God our provider,
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 our Lord our God.

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

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....
we praise your name and join their unending hymn: