

September 17, 2023
15th Sunday after Trinity



YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF



LUTHERAN CHURCH
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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #289 "The Law Commands and Makes Us Know"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪ **Amen.**

P Pastor

Confession of Our Sins

C **Congregation**

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C ♪ **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P O Almighty God, our Maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given us His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives the power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪ **Amen.**

The Introit

Ps. 92:1-5

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** How great are your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep!
- C** **It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**
- P** to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,
- C** **to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.**
- P** For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

The Gloria Patri

TLH #528:15

Latin for "Glory be to the Father."

- C** ♪ **My heart for joy is springing And can no more be sad,
'Tis full of mirth and singing, Sees naught but sunshine glad.
The Sun that cheers my spirit Is Jesus Christ, my King;
That which I shall inherit Makes me rejoice and sing.**

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

- P** O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** ♪ **Amen.**

Matthew 18:15-20

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone.

If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly, I say to you,

whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Ezekiel 33:7-11

"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. ¹⁰ "And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: 'Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?' ¹¹ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?"

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #324:1-4

"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

Romans 13:8-10

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

The Difference Between Legalism and Love

- I. Start with God's Love
- II. Test by God's Word
- III. Recover through God's Son

The Offertory

C *♩ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #375

"If Thy Beloved Son, O God"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

P The Lord be with you.

C *♩ And with thy spirit.*

P Lift up your hearts.

C *♩ We lift them up unto the Lord.*

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, Our God.

C *♩ It is meet and right so to do.*

P It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should, at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Order of Holy Communion



C ♪ *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest.*

The Words of Institution

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C ♪ **Amen.**

The Agnus Dei

Latin phrase meaning, "Lamb of God."

C ♪ ***O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God That takest away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world. Grant us Thy peace. Amen.***

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

✠ **The Distribution of the Lord's Supper** ✠

The Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

- G** *Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant Depart in peace according to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation; Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, A Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.*

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- G** *Amen, amen, a – men.*

Hymn: TLH #464

"Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

Looking Ahead: Sept. 21-24 – CLC ManUp! Retreat

Sept. 24 – Lay Service (Led by Art Pontow)
(No Bible Class)

Sept. 26-28 – SEPC Pastoral Conference (SC)

Sept. 27 – No Bible Class (Pastor Out of Town)

Oct. 15 – Confirmation Sunday

CLC Call News: Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Lutheran in West Columbia, SC **has returned the call** to be the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI. <> Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI **has sent a call** to Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Lutheran in the Atlanta, GA area. <> Professor Mark Kranz **will be retiring** as of the end of the current school year due to health issues.

Prayer Opportunities:

- Please pray for **Sara Wenner**. Sara underwent knee replacement surgery in KC on Tuesday evening. She is doing well. Thank the Lord for a successful surgery and ask for His blessing on her recovery!

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

September 18 - September 23, '23

Mon John 11:1-11 When the Lord Jesus receives the news that His friend Lazarus is sick, His delay in going to help may be confusing to some. But the Lord knows what He is doing and His timing is right for bringing blessing to many.

Tues 1 Kings 17:8-16 As Jesus seemed to delay His help to Lazarus (Mon Reading), so the promised drought (v1) lasted so long that the stream and ravens could no longer feed Elijah. But the LORD's own prophet was sustained in another miraculous way through the destitute widow of Zarephath.

Wed 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Some who think that they have the LORD's timing all figured out are not following God's own direction, namely to work while waiting for the imminent coming of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thur 1 Peter 1:13-16 The apostle Peter encourages Christians who are eagerly awaiting the return of Jesus to live lives that show forth the glory of Him who is without sin and who has redeemed us to the holy God.

Fri Psalm 77:7-14 The Psalmist has called upon God for help in his time of trouble, but when he doesn't see the LORD coming to help, he is in danger of thinking God's mercy has an end. Then he remembers God's wonderful works of old, and rejoices in the LORD.

Sat 1 John 2:3-11 As Jesus lived and died for us, so we who await His return want to live in love as He did. To this the apostle John would encourage us, as he reminds us that if anyone keeps God's word, the love of God is truly made complete in him (v5).