



## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Though God invites us to speak with Him in prayer, we have ignored His invitation. We may be tempted to choose complaining and worrying over conversing with God. We may be tempted to listen to ourselves and the world instead of to God's Word. We turn to God's infinite mercy and ask for His forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection.*

Pastor: Heavenly Father,  
**People: we confess that we have ignored You and the gift of prayer and conversation with You. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive our sins. Restore us as Your beloved people.**

Pastor: God hears your confession and invites you back into holy conversation with Him. Almighty God in His mercy showed His love for us in this, that He gave His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. We rejoice in the mercy of God's forgiveness. We will listen and speak to Him.**

## ☩ WORD ☩

### KYRIE

Hymnal 168

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Hymnal

802

### SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Amos 8:4–7*

(The Lord does not forget dishonesty toward the poor.)

<sup>4</sup> Hear this, you who trample on the needy  
and bring the poor of the land to an end,

<sup>5</sup> saying, “When will the new moon be over,  
that we may sell grain?

And the Sabbath,

that we may offer wheat for sale,  
that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great  
and deal deceitfully with false balances,

<sup>6</sup> that we may buy the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals  
and sell the chaff of the wheat?”

<sup>7</sup> The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
“Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE**

*1 Timothy 2:1–15*

(God desires all people to be saved.)

<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup> This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. <sup>8</sup> I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; <sup>9</sup> likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, <sup>10</sup> but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. <sup>11</sup> Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. <sup>12</sup> I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. <sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve; <sup>14</sup> and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. <sup>15</sup> Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL***Luke 16:1–15*

(The parable of the dishonest manager)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

16 <sup>1</sup> He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup> And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ <sup>3</sup> And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup> He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ <sup>7</sup> Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ <sup>8</sup> The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. <sup>10</sup> “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. <sup>11</sup> If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? <sup>13</sup> No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” The Law and the Kingdom of God <sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “Come, My soul, with Every Care”

779

Hymnal

**SERMON**

**CREED** *Apostles' Creed*

**People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,  
From thence He will come to judge the living and  
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Dear heavenly Father, You desire that all people are saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. Send out messengers and missionaries to every corner of the earth that people from every tribe, nation, and language would hear the saving mercy of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, send Your mercy to all who are struggling financially, the homeless, the poor, the unemployed, the underemployed, and those dealing with unexpected situations. Lead them through this challenging road and provide people and systems to help them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, walk with all those who are grieving in the shadow of death. Comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, You invite us into holy conversation with You through prayer, but we often neglect this invitation. Help us to speak to You more frequently and more fervently. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, You sent Your Son to be the mediator between God and humanity. Grant us peace and reconciliation in our homes, our congregation, our community, our country, and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering. Have mercy upon them and heal them according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, we commend all of these things to Your infinite mercies, which are new every morning. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer. Amen.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** “We Give Thee But Thine Own” Hymnal 781

**LORD’S PRAYER** (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

**People: 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.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

*Numbers*

6:24–26

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN** “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” Hymnal 770

**Pastoral Care:**

Please contact

Pastor Kenneth Frese (310) 398-3741, or  
Jo Tschopp at (626) 355-9433.

**BLESSED TO BE SERVING TODAY**

- Pastor: Reverend Gregory Otte
- Missionary: Janet Borchard, Lutheran Bible Translators
- Greeter: Norma Boehne
- Reader: Christine Geltz
- Musician: Christine Geltz
- Ushers: Craig Boehne, Donald Lammerts, & Dave Lassanske

**PRAYERS OF CARE & CONCERN FOR OUR FLC FAMILY**

Margaret Bradfute that her treatments will improve her health.  
Debbie Morrow – Praise God the cancer tumor has started to shrink.  
She continues to be followed by City of Hope.

**Friends in Deed:**

Warm weather is still here so don't forget to include some hot weather food items as well as food for cooler weather. Fall reminds me of dried fruits, raisins, prunes, dates, apricots etc. These are considered luxury items and probably wouldn't be included in the grocery list of economically challenged consumers.

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

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| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>9:45 a.m. | <b>TODAY – SEPTEMBER 22</b><br>Fellowship time<br>Bible Study and Sunday School |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>11:00 a.m.            | <b>SEPTEMBER 24</b><br>Bible Study – “Death ...Then What?”                      |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>10:00 a.m.          | <b>SEPTEMBER 25</b><br>SONshine House Chapel                                    |
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>9:00 a.m.            | <b>SEPTEMBER 28</b><br>Pray-ers (Please contact Jo Tschopp for location)        |

**Bible Study Series – Death...Then What?**

The title of this week's study is “Will We Ever Meet Again?” One of the discussion points will be suicide; another topic will be strong emotions at a death. God's Word will comfort us as we read selected Bible passages.

**Altar Flowers**

This week's Altar Flowers were given by Dave Lassanske in memory of his mother's birthday.



