

SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Parable: The Tenants



Christ Lutheran Church
North St. Paul & Hugo, Minnesota
October 18, 2020

FALL GROWTH GROUPS Our fall worship and Bible study series is called, “*Thankful Heart, Thoughtful Life.*” Jesus’ parables in the gospel readings in these weeks of October will serve to strengthen our faith in Jesus and living for Jesus. In November, we will follow the Church Year for the End Times. Growth Group study guides will be available on these Sundays for taking notes during the sermon and using the Bible studies throughout the week. A **thankful heart and thoughtful life** is...

- ✦ Driven by Generosity, Not Greed (Mt. 20:1-16) October 4
- ✦ Displayed in Works, Not Just Words (Mt. 21:28-32) October 11
- ✦ Produces Fruit in the Face of Fear (Mt. 21:33-43) October 18
- ✦ Extends a Gracious Invitation to All (Mt. 22:1-14) October 25 (Ministry Celebration/Retirement)

God grant us thankful hearts that translate into thoughtful living for Jesus!

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

Lord Jesus Christ Be Present Now
CW #230: 1,2



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in
 2 Un - seal our lips to sing your praise; Our souls to
 true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with
 you in wor - ship raise. Make strong our faith; in -
 grace di - vine, And let your truth with - in us shine.
 crease our light That we may know your name a - right

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 5:1-7

Isaiah sings a song about God's people or "vineyard" that God planted and tended with utmost care. To his great disappointment, God found only rotten fruit. In righteous anger he would turn his vineyard into a wasteland.

I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. ² He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. ³ "Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?" ⁵ Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it." ⁷ The vineyard of

the LORD Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Hebrews 2:12

Alleluia. I will proclaim your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus' parable, like Isaiah's song, deals with the vineyard theme.

Those who reject the Savior will themselves be rejected and the inheritance be given to others who will produce fruit.

³³ “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. ³⁵ “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

³⁸ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰ “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

⁴¹ “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ ⁴³ “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

For the Fruit of All Creation
CWS #611



1 For the fruit of his cre - a - tion, Thanks be to
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to



God. For his gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks
done. In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's
God. For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks



be to God. For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing,
will be done. In our world - wide task of car - ing
be to God. For the won - ders that as - tound us,



Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing, Fu - ture
For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing, In the
For the truths that still con - found us, Most of



needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
all that Love has found us, Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Matthew 21:33-43. Series: *A Thankful Heart, A Thoughtful Life...*

Produces Fruit in the Face of Fear

1. Respecting the Owner
2. Sharing the produce

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

OFFERING *The Offering will be received in back as you leave*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH Congregation: **Bold print**

God our Father, You have invited us to raise our prayers to You in the name of Jesus, Your beloved Son, and have promised to hear and answer us with all that is best for us. Give us confidence, that we may call upon You as the people of Your name, and teach us to be content with what Your wisdom and love supply. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our Father, You have given us not only bread for the body but the Word that endures forever. We come to our Lord's table, at His invitation, to receive the gift of His flesh and blood in this Holy Sacrament. Give us grace, that what we have received with our lips we may keep in holy lives. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our Father, Your Son has borne the weight of our sins and carried the weakness of our flesh in His body on the cross. Be with the sick, the suffering, the grieving and the dying in their hour of need. *[We especially remember before You _____ and those we name in our hearts. (Brief silence.)]* We ask that everyone who calls on You may find comfort in Your presence, healing according to Your will and be sustained through their afflictions. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend all things to Your mercy in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, trusting that You will hear us and answer us through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

The Sacrament

We are a "sacramental" church. We believe that in Baptism and the Lord's Supper God comes to us with forgiveness in very tangible means. Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus' body and blood are present in the sacrament and that receiving the sacrament together is a public statement of oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we ask our guests to speak with the pastor before communing. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of stating your agreement with our convictions before we have had an opportunity to explain them. We do look forward to any opportunity to discuss with you the Christian faith. Personal preparation for Holy Communion is on p. 12.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.



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

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

M: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out 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.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

Take and Eat
CWS #741

Congregation sings the refrain; the song leader sings the verses

Refrain

Take and eat, take and eat, this is my bod - y

giv-en up for you. Take and drink, take and drink,

this is my blood giv - en up for you. *Last time*

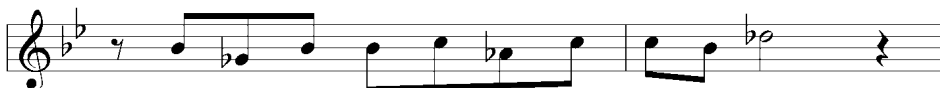
Verses



1 I am the Word that spoke and light was made;
2 I am the way that leads the ex - ile home;
3 I am the Lamb that takes a - way your sin;
4 I am the cor - ner - stone that God has laid,
5 I am the Light that came in - to the world;
6 I am the First and Last, the liv - ing One;



I am the seed that died to be re - born;
I am the truth that sets the cap - tive free;
I am the gate that guards you night and day.
A chos - en stone and pre - cious in his eyes.
I am the Light that dark - ness can - not hide;
I am the Lord who died that you might live;



I am the bread that comes from heav'n a - bove;
I am the life that rais - es up the dead;
You are my flock: you know the Shep - herd's voice;
You are God's dwell - ing place; on me you rest
I am the Morn - ing Star that nev - er sets.
I am the Bride - groom, this my wed - ding song.

To Refrain



I am the vine that fills your cup with joy.
I am your peace, true peace my gift to you.
You are my own: your ran - som is my blood.
Like liv - ing stones, a tem - ple for God's praise.
Lift up your face; in you my light will shine.
You are my bride; come to the mar - riage feast.

CLOSING PRAYER

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Almighty Father, Bless the Word
CW #323



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through your
2 We praise you for the means of grace As home - ward

grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious seed
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who wor -

take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit.
shipped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.

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Take and Eat
CWS #741

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PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Prayer

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.