

MORNING PRAISE

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Parable: The Two Sons



Christ Lutheran Church
North St. Paul & Hugo, Minnesota
October 11, 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

Father, We Praise You
CW #581

Indoor services: Please rise for the hymn



1 Fa - ther, we praise you, now the night is o - ver.
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man - sions;
3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it,



Ac - tive and watch - ful, stand - ing now be -
Ban - ish our weak - ness, health and whole - ness
Trin - i - ty bless - ed, send us your sal -



fore you, Sing - ing, we of - fer prayer and
send - ing. Bring us to heav - en, where your
va - tion; Yours is the glo - ry, gleam - ing



med - i - ta - tion; Thus we a - dore you.
saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.
and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

INVOCATION

Responses are spoken.

M: O Lord, open my lips.

C: And my mouth shall declare your praise.

M: Hasten to save me O God.

C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

M: The Spirit of the Lord fills the world:

C: Let us worship him!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please 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.

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

*God judges fairly. No one will be condemned for another's disobedience.
God's deepest desire is that every person repents and be saved.*

The word of the LORD came to me: ² “What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: “The parents eat sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge?” ³ “As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. ⁴ For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die. “Yet you say, ‘The way of the LORD is not just.’ Hear, you Israelites: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? ²⁶ If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. ²⁷ But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. ²⁸ Because they consider all the offenses they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. ²⁹ Yet the Israelites say, ‘The way of the LORD is not just.’ Are my ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust? ³⁰ “Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be

your downfall. ³¹ Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? ³² For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 2:1-11

Jesus is the ultimate example of humility, a humility that rescued us from our sins and gives us a pure example of how we can serve one another.

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. on account of me.

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:28-32

The sons in this parable are “double minded,” changing their minds from their original responses. Repentance is that which changes disobedience into faith and obedience.

What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ ²⁹ “I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ “Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

M: Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name;

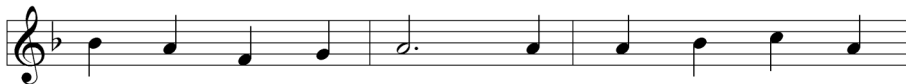
C: Make known among the nations what he has done.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults
CW #398



1 Lord, we con - fess our nu - m'rous faults, How
2 But oh, my soul, for - ev - er praise, For -
3 'Tis not by works of right - eous - ness Which
4 'Tis from the mer - cy of our God That
5 'Tis through the pur - chase of his death Who



great our guilt has been, How vain and fool - ish
ev - er love, his name Who turns your feet from
our own hands have done, But we are saved by
all our hopes be - gin; 'Tis by the wa - ter
hung u - pon the tree The Spir - it is sent



all our thoughts, How deep - ly stained with sin.
dan - g'rous ways Of fol - ly, sin, and shame.
God's free grace A - bound - ing through his Son.
and the blood Our souls are washed from sin.
down to breathe On such dry bones as we.

6 Raised from the dead, we live anew;
And, justified by grace,
We shall appear in glory, too,
And see our Father's face.

THE MESSAGE Series: A Thankful Heart, A Thoughtful Life

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: O Lord, our God, Source of all life, we come before you in worship and praise.

C: For the breath of life, which sustains us each hour, we give you thanks.

M: For the joys and pleasures that come to us through your creation, we give you thanks.

C: But especially for the promise of eternal life through your Son Jesus Christ, we give thanks to you forever.

M: We confess that we have not always respected the gift of life that comes from your almighty hand.

C: We confess that we have not been sufficiently concerned about improving the quality of life for others.

M: We confess that we have failed in our duty and privilege of bringing to others the knowledge of eternal life through Christ.

C: For these and countless other transgressions against your laws of life, forgive us, O Lord.

M: Help us, O Lord, to increase the usefulness of our lives in your service and in service to others.

C: Help us to answer the needs of others less fortunate than we, that they too may more fully enjoy life.

M: *(special prayers / intercessions may be added here)*

M: Help us to use wisely the time of earthly life allotted to us.

C: Keep us steadfast in the faith so that we can face the end of our life on earth with courage, not fear.

M: Help us believe in your promise of eternal life through your Son Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

May the Mind of Christ My Savior
CW #467

The song leader will sing stanzas 1,3 & 5; the congregation will sing stanzas 2,4 & 6



1 May the mind of Christ my Sav - ior Live in
2 May the Word of God dwell rich - ly In my
3 May the peace of God my Fa - ther Rule my
4 May the love of Je - sus fill me As the
5 May I run the race be - fore me, Strong and



me from day to day, By his love and
heart from hour to hour, So that all may
life in ev - 'ry - thing, That I may be
wa - ters fill the sea, Him ex - alt - ing,
brave to face the foe, Look - ing on - ly



pow'r in - spir - ing All I do or say.
see I tri - umph On - ly through his pow'r.
calm to com - fort Sick and sor - row - ing.
self a - bas - ing— This is vic - to - ry!
un - to Je - sus As I on - ward go.

6 May his spirit live within me
As I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel,
Seeing only him.

PRAYER FOR GRACE *(Morning service)*

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

(Evening service)

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: Let us praise the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

BLESSING

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

C: **Amen.**

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