

SERVICE OF THE WORD

THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Seek Heavenly Treasure



Christ Lutheran Church
North St. Paul & Hugo, Minnesota
August 09, 2020

ABOUT THE SERVICE...

The Christian seeks spiritual wealth. This Sunday's readings are centered around the very ancient Prayer of the Day. For nearly 1600 years God's people on this day have prayed that God might give them true spiritual wealth. "Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised." What a magnificent prayer for the materialist world in which we live! Our lessons today show people who have come into great wealth, but yet this earthly wealth only serves to illustrate where true treasure lies. Today we see that true, spiritual wealth can only be found in God and his eternal blessings for us in Christ.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

Jesus, Jesus Only Jesus
CW #348:1-3



1 Je - sus, Je - sus, on - ly Je - sus Can my heart - felt
2 One there is for whom I'm liv - ing, Whom I love most
3 What to me may seem a trea - sure But dis - pleas - ing



long - ing still. Lo, I pledge my - self to Je - sus,
ten - der - ly; Un - to Je - sus I am giv - ing
is to thee— Oh, re - move such harm - ful plea - sure;



What he wills a - lone to will, For my heart, which
What in love he gave to me. Je - sus' blood hides
Give in - stead what prof - its me. Let my heart by



he hath filled, Ev - er cries, "Lord, as thou wilt."
all my guilt— Lord, oh, lead me as thou wilt.
thee be stilled; Make me thine, Lord, as thou wilt.

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: O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants, who come to you in Jesus' name. Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; 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

I Kings 3:5-12

Struck by his solemn responsibility to rule God's people, King Solomon asks the LORD for a heart that would lead God's people God's way.

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." ⁶ Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. ⁷ "Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. ⁸ Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. ⁹ So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For

who is able to govern this great people of yours?" ¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. ¹¹ So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, ¹² I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

THE EPISTLE

I Timothy 6:17-21

God commands us not to put our trust in earthly wealth because he wants us to place our hope in Him as a firm foundation.

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. ²⁰ Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, ²¹ which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

John 6:68

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus' parables describe the immeasurable value of the kingdom of heaven. The trusting heart joyfully sacrifices everything that would interfere with possessing it.

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. ⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. ⁴⁷"Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked. "Yes," they replied. ⁵²He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasure

CWS #755



1 Your king-dom, O God, is my glo - ri - ous trea - sure, My
2 Your king-dom, O God, is a - live with the pow - er Your
3 Your king-dom, O God, is a field for the grow - ing Of



pearl of in - com - p'ra - ble worth. Its
Word and your Spir - it be - stow. Like
seeds that your mer - cy has sown, But



val - ue ex - ceeds ev - 'ry stand - ard of mea - sure, Sur -
yeast, they af - fect the whole mea - sure of flour, En -
still in our midst is the en - e - my sow - ing The



pass - ing the wealth of the earth. Lord,
a - bling your king - dom to grow. Em -
weeds that im - per - il your own. Sus -



give me your grace and the pow'r of the Spir - it To
pow - er me, Lord, as I live your com - mis - sion, Though
tain me, O Lord, till your day of re - turn - ing And



val - ue this trea - sure a - right That,
hum - ble my ser - vice may be, And
har - vest me home - ward at last, To



nev - er al - lured by the world, I in - her - it Your
bring ev - 'ry plant - ing to per - fect fru - i - tion, A
shine in the home - land that qui - ets all yearn - ing, Where



king - dom of glo - ry and light.
mus - tard seed grown to a tree.
sor - row and dan - ger are past.

THE MESSAGE

God Gives Wisdom for the Journey

I. Instructions for Packing

II. Directions for the Destination

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.

OFFERING *Gifts will be received as you leave.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O Lord, our God, we do not presume to know Your ways or inform Your judgment. We ask You to grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we may apprehend Your ways and know Your Son, Jesus Christ, by faith. Give us wisdom, that we may trust in Your Word amid the stormy seas of this mortal life and be safely delivered from all danger onto the eternal shores of heaven. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we have no righteousness of our own but only the righteousness of Christ into which we were clothed in Baptism. Grant us grace, that we may be faithful in every circumstance and bold in the confession of His saving name. Guard those who preach Your Word to us so that,

hearing, we may believe and, believing, we may have everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, our King, You are the Lord of all peoples, nations and tribes. Grant wisdom and truth to all who rule this land, that they may serve faithfully to promote all that is good and right and to prevent and punish evil. Wherever our courts or laws are unjust and contrary to Your will, reform them for Your mercy's sake. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *(new version)*

**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.**

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 SONG

Oh, How I Love Jesus

1. There is a name— I love to hear; I
 2. It tells me of— a Sav - ior's love, Who
 3. It tells of one— whose lov - ing heart Can

love to sing— its worth.— It sounds like mu - sic
 died to set— me free;— It tells me of— his
 feel my deep - est woe.— Who in each sor - row

in my ear, The sweet - est name on earth.—
 pre - cious blood, The sin - ner's per - fect plea.—
 bears a part That none— can bear be - low.—

Oh, how I love Je - sus. Oh, how I love

Je - sus.— Oh, how I love Je - sus— Be -

cause— he first loved me!—