

Mon Numbers 11:14-16,24-29 As pastor of the nation, captain of the army, and CEO of the entire expedition, Moses needed help; so God downloaded His Spirit onto seventy assistants and sent them out to the church campus. But wait a minute (!) – only 68 arrived, for two had stayed back and were preaching in their neighborhoods. What looked like a crisis (27-28) was not insubordination but a blessing, so Moses not only defended them, he prayed that God would inspire all His children to do likewise.

Tues Mark 9:38-50 What other churches/denominations do as religious work is between them and God, so we neither support nor interfere with them (38-41). Instead, we focus on our own privileged responsibility to the next generation (42) as we cope with our own sinful nature (43-48) and as we help our neighbors (49-50). *Salt is good*, but in olden times it was not refined, and impurities could ruin its effectiveness. Let's not sully our saltiness!

Wed James 4:7-12 Where or how does a person get started with God? Start with acknowledging His superiority and with knowing one's own inferiority (7-10). When you appreciate being squared with God (via Jesus Christ), then you get squared with your neighbor—especially your Christian siblings (11-12), avoiding slander as well as a judgmental mentality. God is well equipped to do His business with sinners, so we do not undercut Him (11-12).

Thurs Psalm 51:1-13 Did you sin? Yes. What are you going to do about it? Turn to God, confess specific sins (1-4), admit that you were born that way (5-6) and ask God to wash you clean from that defect, too (7-9). Bottom line: God performs a heart transplant operation on His children (10-11) and His Spirit keeps cleaning them in a rotten world (12-13). God is good at it.

Fri Mark 9:43-48 presents a scary view of going to hell—and Jesus is pointing out that we should do whatever is necessary to escape hell. Although our limbs may perform sinfully, sinfulness is embedded more deeply than that, for sinfulness seeks a home in our minds/hearts. So, first and foremost, what we need are renewed hearts, which will then activate our hands, feet, and eyes as servants of spiritual righteousness (and civic uprightness, too).

Sat James 4:11-12 Second thoughts on the judgmental syndrome: A person with an inferiority complex is driven to feel superior to others and thus sits in judgment over others. That's acting like God, who gets it right every time—whereas the sinful judge is working with a defective heart. Luther knew that God and His servant James are directing us to **defend our neighbor, speak well of him, and put the best construction on everything** that our neighbor may be saying or doing. God help us!

October 3, 2021

Missions Sunday

Organ: Teresa Bernthal
Usher: Mark Moorehead
Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne

PREACH THE GOSPEL



1449 34th St. NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
winterhavenlutheran.org

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor (414) 534-7279
Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145
Katie Naumann, Teacher (253) 230-4184



PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

Psalm 96:1-6, 10-13

¹ Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! ² Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. ³ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! ⁴ For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. ⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. ⁶ Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. ¹⁰ Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity." ¹¹ Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; ¹² let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy ¹³ before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

OPENING PRAYER

P Pastor

C Congregation

HYMN: TLH #496:1

"Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying"

C ♪ **Hark! the voice of Jesus crying, "Who will go and work today? Fields are white and harvests waiting, who will bear the sheaves away?" Loud and long the Master calleth, Rich reward He offers thee; Who will answer, gladly saying, "Here am I, send me, send me"?**

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

C Amen!

P What is the purpose of a mission festival? What is the mission of a church? What is *your* mission? The answer to those questions is the same: Christ's purpose for believers is to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation. There is no higher calling!

HYMN: TLH #496:2

"Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying"

C ♪ **If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul, You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say He died for all. If you cannot rouse the wicked With the Judgement's dread alarms, You can lead the little children To the Savior's waiting arms.**

hygiene items, toys, gospel pamphlets, and a personal Christmas card. This is just one example of showing and proclaiming the love of Jesus for the lost. Maybe our congregation can try it too!

CLC World Missions Prayer List

Afghanistan – While the CLC is not currently working in Afghanistan, there are many Christians there who are living in fear as they face the threat of physical persecution and the possibility of death under Taliban rule. Christians know that in the eyes of the Taliban they are infidels who deserve death. **Pray** for their protection and for strength to remain bold and courageous in Christ's love and promises in the face of persecution. **Ask the Lord** to grant them an extra measure of wisdom and discernment as they make decisions for themselves, their families, and their fellow Christians. <> **Bangladesh** – Pastor Monotosh asks that we continue to pray for a man who was recently converted to Christianity from Hinduism. This man has been assaulted, persecuted, and falsely accused of crimes by his family, and was arrested in an effort to force him to return to Hinduism. **Ask the Lord** to protect and defend His new disciple and to give him the necessary strength and courage to persevere under persecution. <> **Nepal** – Progress on the building project has been delayed again due to new Covid restrictions. **Thank** the Lord for His continued blessings on this project and ask Him to grant patience to Raju and his family and the students as they wait for completion. **Ask the Lord** to bless the teaching of His Word in this building that many more faithful preachers and teachers will be trained to proclaim the saving truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. <> **Missionary Evensen** – has returned safely to his home and work in Togo where he is busy assisting Pastor Kossi in the training of pastors at the Mt. Horeb Lutheran Bible Institute. **Thank** the Lord for his safe travel back to Togo and **Pray** for the Lord's continued blessings on His service to the Lord and His kingdom work in Togo. <> **Missionary Ohlmann** – will be visiting Tanzania and Zambia in October and November. The pandemic continues to make planning a challenge. **Ask the Lord** to bless the trip preparations and to clear any obstacles that may stand in the way of this work. <> **New and Ongoing Opportunities** – The Lord continues to provide opportunities to proclaim the truths of His saving Word in a variety of ways in different areas of the world in places such as South Sudan, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Russia, and Southeast Asia. **Thank the Lord** for the privilege of teaching His Word to others! **Pray** for these individuals as they seek to grow in their understanding of God's Word to be better equipped to spread the Gospel.

Love for the Lost

When was the last time you reached out to someone that was lost? Is there confusion as you read this as to what, “lost” means? Often the initial reaction to the word lost is someone who is an unbeliever. Yet the Lord tells His disciples that He came to reach the lost sheep of the house of Israel (Matthew 10:6). He came first for those that already knew of the Messiah and grew up in faith.

Consider that for a moment. When was the last time you looked at your congregation’s directory and prayed for or reached out to your brother or sister in Christ? There may be souls who haven’t come to the Lord’s house lately, or who are suffering through some trial, or might even have “everything together” but have become lazy in their faith. No doubt we ourselves have had the same trial, have been lost, and have been thankful for Jesus seeking us out. (Ezekiel 34:16)

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”*

Often the barrier in reaching out is ourselves. We are afraid of being unequipped to handle what might come, uncertain about what we might say or do, or even lack a desire to get started at all. 2 Corinthians 12:9 says, *“And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.’”*

The calling of our Lord is clear, and He has given us the opportunity to bring the gift of the Holy Spirit and the word to those who seem to have lost it. Galatians 6:10 says, *“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith!”* As the Devil tries to lead our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ away from Jesus our Good Shepherd, let us, as Christ did, go and seek them out to bring them back. To bring them back to the nourishing word of our Lord and the blessing of growing in Christ as a congregation. Let’s start as Jesus did, by looking at those we are closest to, those in our midst that need to be sought out. If we are uncomfortable, nervous, or lack the desire, then let’s pray about it! Pray the Lord gives us His Holy Spirit and the desire to serve Him. Discuss it with each other. Work together to show Jesus your love for Him and your “Love for the lost!”

An Example of Mission-Mindedness: Redemption Lutheran Church and School in Lynnwood, WA practiced showing “love for the lost” with a three-week Vacation Bible School series on Christmas. Each week focused on a different aspect of Christmas, such as: ornaments, the tree, and gift giving, and brought out the love of Christ in these symbols. VBS kids also assembled blessing bags for homeless kids in the community with

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

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

- P** Let us therefore confess and pray:
- C** **Dear Father in heaven, You are mighty in all You do and say. You have shown Your unfailing love to us even though we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We worship and adore You because You have sacrificed Your only beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, for the full payment and forgiveness of all our sins. As sinful human beings, we often fail to share Your Word and have often been poor examples as Your dear children. Forgive us, Lord, for these offenses, and give us the courage and strength to boldly confess and glorify Your name and Your truth to all. Let us walk before You as a light to this dark world. All this we confess and pray in the name of Your Son, our risen and eternal Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**
- P** Upon this confession of your sins, by the promise and authority of Christ our Savior, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN: TLH #496:4

“Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying”

- C** ♪ **Let none hear you idly saying, “There is nothing I can do,” While the souls of men are dying And the Master calls for you. Take the task He gives you gladly, Let His work your pleasure be; Answer quickly when He calleth, “Here am I, send me, send me!”**

INTROIT

Ps. 108:3-5; 105:1

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

- P** Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!
- C** **I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the peoples; I will sing praises to You among the nations.**
- P** For Your steadfast love is great above the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.
- C** **Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let Your glory be over all the earth!**
- P** Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, in Your kindness You cause the light of the Gospel to shine among us. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, help us to share the good news of Your salvation that all who hear it may rejoice in the gift of Your unending love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 62:1-7 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. ⁶ On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You who put the LORD in remembrance, take no rest, ⁷ and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth.

ILS Students Sing

“Listen, God is Calling”

GOSPEL READING – Luke 15:1-7 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

✠ **Announcements** ✠

Welcome! We pray that God’s Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We

✠ **Oct. 3:** Communion Sunday
✠ **Oct. 3:** Quarterly Voters’ Mtg
✠ **Oct. 10:** Orlando Service 8 am
✠ **Oct. 10:** Bible Class & SS 9:15a

ask our visitors to please sign our guest book in the hallway near the entrance. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you’ve found it with us. Ask our Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain what we believe and teach. Where and when? Your convenience.

Voters’ Meeting Today! Shortly after the service today, we’ll be having our quarterly voters’ meeting. This is one of those occasions for you to let your light shine in Christ Jesus! If you are a voter of Immanuel, please remain behind for a while in order to take part in the Kingdom Work here.

CLC Call News Pastor Tom Schuetze of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO, has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

Fall Mission Webinar The Committee of Domestic Fields (CDF), a subcommittee of the CLC Mission Board, is hosting a fall mission webinar on Saturday, November 13 at 3 pm Central Time. The webinar will stream live on Zoom and include speakers from five different CLC congregations. We invite both individuals and congregational groups to join, please register by emailing Pastor Mark Tiefel – marktiefel@hotmail.com. The webinar theme is “Mission Myths” and covers 10 topics across a variety of different evangelism scenarios. Find more details on the CDF website - <https://us.lutheranmissions.org/cdf/>

Shut-in/Encouragement List Patti Meno continues to receive regular dialysis and is awaiting a kidney transplant. Johanna Jaehnigen remains mostly housebound. Greg Tincher is recovering from his recent surgeries at home and receiving frequent therapy. Shirley Rosenberry is struggling with severe knee pain which has greatly limited her mobility. Paulette Galstad is suffering through bad back pain and suffered a recent fall. Craig and Kay Owings are both at home and are still recovering from their bouts with COVID. Liz Hartmann continues to recover from eye surgery, but is still having various health problems.

Last Week: WH – 45 Orlando – 12 **Total Offering = \$2,364.25**

General = \$1,414.25 | Tuition = \$850 | Monique Memorial = \$100

Cleaner (10/09): Rodebaugh | **Acolyte (10/10):** Hayden Morris

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, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

THE DISTRIBUTION

Approach at the usher's direction.

P Take and eat. This is the true body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink. This cup is the true blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

May this body and blood strengthen and preserve you in the true faith, unto life everlasting. Depart in peace. Amen.

Following the Distribution, the Nunc Dimittus will be sung to the tune of TLH #15.

G ♪ **“Lord, let Your servant now depart,
With peace and joy within my heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
According to Your Holy Word,
I’ve seen salvation from the Lord! Alleluia! (x4)**

**The Promised One has come for all,
For Gentiles and for Isra-el,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Light to lighten all the blind,
God’s glory for the heart and mind.” Alleluia! (x4)**

THE BENEDICTION:

The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

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!

HYMN: WS #769

“Lift High the Cross”

✠ 8 ✠

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Explanation to the 3rd Article

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles.

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified, and kept me in true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead and give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

HYMN: WS #770:1, 2, 5

“I Hear the Savior Calling”

SERMON – Ephesians 5:5-21 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not become partners with them; ⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰ and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³ But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” ¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

You Are Light, Be Bright! (Be Who You Are)

✠ 5 ✠

OFFERTORY

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

- 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.

HYMN: WS #773

"Rise, Shine, You People!"

- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS -

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:

OFFERING HYMN: TLH #441:1 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

- C** ♪ We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

MISSION PRAYER

The Order of Holy Communion



- P** In keeping with the words of the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 10:16, *"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?"*

As well as in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29, which cautions us that: *"Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."*

Let us then, humbly, examine our hearts:

Do you confess that you are a sinner before God and deserve His wrath and punishment? – Then declare it by saying, "I do confess."

C I do confess.

- P** Do you humbly seek the Lord's forgiveness, believing that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all of your sins? – Then declare it by saying: "I do believe."

C I do believe.

- P** Be assured, your Father in heaven, looks upon you with mercy for Jesus' sake. His Son was wounded for your transgressions and bruised for your iniquities. As the Word of God declares: *"For God made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."* (2 Cor. 5:21) The Lord comfort your hearts. In Jesus, you are forgiven!

Do you in humble faith recognize that the body and blood of our Lord Jesus are truly present together with the bread and the wine in this blessed sacrament? -- Then declare it by saying: "By faith I do recognize, and believe."

C By faith I do recognize and believe.

- P** Finally, as a forgiven child of God, do you intend, with the strength of God the Spirit, to amend your sinful life and to put away the sin that so easily entangles and leads you away from our Lord? – Then declare it by saying: "I do so intend, with the help of Christ."

C I do so intend, with the help of Christ.

- P** Receive then this sacrament with joy, comfort, and peace!

THE 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.

- P** In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

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!