



## September 28, 2025 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

### AS WE GATHER

In our Gospel reading this morning, Jesus tells the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31). The point of the parable is at the very end, when Abraham tells the rich man that if his brothers do not listen to Moses and the Prophets (the Old Testament), then they will not listen if someone rises from the dead. This illustrates the sufficiency of the Word of God, which calls people to repentance and to faith. The Word of God is sufficient for us, too. In the first place, God's Word "bespeaks us righteous" (LSB 578, stanza 2). We are made righteous – that is, restored to a right relationship with God (and one another) – because God through His Word *said* we are righteous, and His Word is able to do what it sets out to do. In the second place, we – now made righteous – are free to "spread the reign of God the Lord, spoken, written, mighty Word" (LSB 830, stanza 1). We take this same, sufficient Word, and speak it to those in our home, church, and community, trusting that His Word is sufficient for them, too.

### WELCOME

**HYMN**            *LSB 578, "Thy Strong Word," stanzas 1-3*

### OPENING VERSICLES

**Pastor:**        In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:**        **Amen.**

**Pastor:**        This is the day which the Lord has made;

**People:**        **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Pastor:**        From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**People:**        **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**Pastor:**        Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

**People:**        **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

**Pastor:**        Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

**People:**        **Teach me Your paths.**

**Pastor:**        Sanctify us in Your truth.

**People:**        **Your Word is truth.**

**Pastor:**        From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**People:**        **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:**        I will go to the altar of God,

**People:**        **to God my exceeding joy.**

**Pastor:**        Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People:**        **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. We take a moment of silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**People:** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

**People:** Amen.

Pastor: Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**People:** Yes.

Pastor: Let it be done for you as you believe. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

**HYMN** LSB 578, "Thy Strong Word," stanzas 4-6

### **SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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 6:1-7

<sup>1</sup> "Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria, the notable men of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel comes! <sup>2</sup> Pass over to Calneh, and see, and from there go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines. Are you better than these kingdoms? Or is their territory greater than your territory, <sup>3</sup> O you who put far away the day of disaster and bring near the seat of violence? <sup>4</sup> "Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and stretch themselves out on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the midst of the stall, <sup>5</sup> who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David invent for themselves instruments of music, <sup>6</sup> who drink wine in bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! <sup>7</sup> Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile, and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**CHOIR** "Here I am, Lord"

### **EPISTLE READING** 1 Timothy 6:6-19

<sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain, <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. <sup>9</sup> But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people

into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. <sup>11</sup> But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, <sup>14</sup> to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. <sup>17</sup> As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. <sup>18</sup> They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL** *Luke 16:19-31*

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

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

<sup>19</sup> “There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup> And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup> who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup> The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried, <sup>23</sup> and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. <sup>24</sup> And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ <sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ <sup>27</sup> And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ <sup>29</sup> But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ <sup>30</sup> And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ <sup>31</sup> He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’ ”

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## RESPONSORY

**Pastor:** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**People:** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**Pastor:** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**People:** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**HYMN** *LSB 655, “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”*

**SERMON** *“God’s Word is Sufficient”*

## APOSTLE’S CREED

**All:** **I believe in 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.

## OFFERING

### OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE *(Music in hymnal: LSB 261)*

**All:** *Refrain: The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.*

With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:  
“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that His name is exalted.” *Refrain*

Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

## PRAYER

**Pastor:** Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, and confident that You will hear and answer us, O Lord.

**People:** Amen.

## THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Pastor:** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**All:** 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.

## BLESSING

**Pastor:** Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

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

**People:** Amen.

**HYMN** *LSB 830, “Spread the Reign of God the Lord”*

## CLOSING

**Pastor:** Go in peace and serve your neighbor.

**People:** Thanks be to God!

Taken from LSB 260-267, Service of Prayer and Preaching, and LSB 290-291, Corporate Confession and Absolution.

**Family for the Week: Emily Ernest & Homebound Families  
First Lutheran, Neosho - Rev. Steve Gilmore**

**Prayers of Peace and Comfort:**

**Prayers for the family of Shane Cantrell – (Edith Chambers' nephew)**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving**

**Prayers for Health and Healing:**

**Baby Veda – (Cathy Munden's great-granddaughter for surgery)**

### **Complete Prayer List:**

#### **Temporary**

Carol Bresnick – (friend of Cathy Munden – health and healing)  
Pat Bricco – (friend of Grace – health and healing)  
Treaa Bussey – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)  
Joyce Campbell – (friend of Wanda Thompson – health and healing)  
Mary Ann Campbell – (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)  
Jason Ernest – (Emily Ernest's father – health and healing from surgery)  
Bonny Gray – (Sister of Cunthia Swoyer [Wolf] – health and healing)  
Pastor Hagen – (health and healing)  
Zana Haley and baby Veda – (Cathy Munden's granddaughter)

Ervin Jung – (cousin of Kathy Holle – health and healing)  
Mitzie Lorenz – (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)  
Jeeper Meyer – (health and healing from cancer)  
Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)  
Joe Pennington – (brother-in-law of Bill Michel – health and healing)  
Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)  
Tim Tucek – (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)  
Dayton Wheeler – (grandson of Wanda Thompson – surgery)  
Jacquelyn Zimmer – (friend of Edee Chambers – health and healing)

#### **Long Term**

Doug Bernard – (Cathy Munden's cousin – health and healing)  
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health & healing, cancer)  
Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)  
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken-hip)  
Dorthea Dennis – (health and healing)  
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health & healing)  
Glenda Enlow – (health and healing)  
Lois Gaddy – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing)  
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)

Betty Gordon – (health and healing)  
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health & healing from cancer)  
Robbie Krueger – (friend of Kathy Holle)  
Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)  
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's sister-in-law – health & healing)  
Margaret Seburn – (cousin of Joanne Michel – health and healing)  
Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)  
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)  
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

### **THIS WEEK**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Braille – 9:00 am and 1:00 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>October 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Bible Study - 5:30 pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>October 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Aurora Car Show - 9:00 am – 3:00 pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>October 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with Communion Circuit Forum - 4:00 pm in Carthage, Mo.</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>October 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO Braille LWML - 1:30 pm</b>

---

**Birthdays:** Amy Garoutte - Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>  
**Anniversaries:** Paul & Barbara Martin - Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>

---

September	
28-Charlie & Edee Chambers	28-Harold Lampe
October	
05-Charlie & Edee Chambers	05-Harold Lampe
12-Cheryl Lile & Gladys Bauer	12- Charlie Chambers
19-Cathy Munden & Teri Ediger	19-Bill Michel
26-Bill & Joanne Michel	26-David Lampe

---



**Synod Convention:** The convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod will be held in Phoenix, AZ, from July 18-23, 2026. We need to nominate a lay person to be put into the running to be a lay delegate to the convention. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please see Pastor Heitshusen.

**Circuit forum:** Happening TODAY at 4pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Carthage, MO. All are welcome to join for the worship service. Refreshments to follow, as well as election of delegates to Synod convention.

**LWML will meet October 6, 2025,** at 1:30 in Trinity Chapel. Our program will be in two parts. Part One will include a report on the youth trip to New Orleans. Part Two will be a reflection on the life of Martin Luther. Please join us.

**Authentic German Meal - presented by Trinity Lutheran Church in Freistatt – Saturday, October 18,** with pre-purchased tickets only. The meal and take-out service is from the Fellowship Hall. Adults \$18 and Kids \$9. Call 417-235-5931 to purchase by October 6. Tickets will be very limited on the day of the event.

**Confirmation:** Confirmation will begin on October 9, 2025, at 5:30pm. We will meet here at Grace. Parents are welcome to attend.

**Confirmation Volunteers:** Studies show that children are more likely to stay in the faith if they are have 5 adults (that are not their parents) who invest in them and their lives. Pastor Heitshusen is seeking to facilitate this sort of intergenerational connection. To do so, he is seeking volunteers to come and sit in on confirmation class. You would not need to come every week; he will put together a schedule to accommodate everyone's schedule. If you are interested, please speak to Pastor Heitshusen.

**We are Collecting for “Dawggie Bags” food collection.** The collection box is in the Narthex. If you have questions, please ask Pam Bowling.