

**The Divine Service**  
**The Last Sunday of the Church Year**  
**November 22, 2020**



**AS WE GATHER**

*Good stewardship, or "management," of God's gifts to us includes His gift of money, or "unrighteous wealth" (Luke 16:11). We often think, speak, and act as though money and wealth were "ours," to do with as we please, no strings attached, no guidelines placed upon us. We even claim that what we do with "our" money is only between "me and God." We certainly do not want to hear the pastor preach that dreaded "money sermon," and we do not want the church telling us to "give more." However, as with all things in heaven and earth, money actually belongs to God. God Himself preaches the "money sermon"! He gives us this means of exchange, this instrument of commerce and economic transaction, in order that we may show forth His glory and serve our neighbor. Since money belongs to Him, God actually has a lot to say about it in His Word. Managing God's gift of money means that "unrighteous wealth" is not our sovereign lord, but rather our servant. Money is His gift to us to support ourselves, serve our neighbor, and promote the work of the Church in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

**Call to Worship / Check In**

**Words of Welcome / Theme of the Day**

**Invocation**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

**Confession and Absolution**

**Pastor:** Indeed, our heavenly Father has called us to be His people. He has led us to green pastures and still waters. Yet, there have been times when we have treated our fellow sheep with disdain, when we have wandered away from our Shepherd. But our Good Shepherd does not abandon us, and we confess our sins before Him and one another.

*Silence for reflection*

**Pastor:** Heavenly Father,

**People:** **we confess that we have wandered away from You. We confess that we have acted shamefully toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might follow You to the green pastures and still waters of everlasting life.**

Pastor: Our heavenly Father has heard Your confession and sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our Good Shepherd. Jesus searches for each one of His sheep. He brings back those who have strayed. He binds up the injured. He even lays down His life for the sheep. By Christ's death and resurrection, God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen. We are sought by our Shepherd. We are forgiven in Christ.**

**Processional Hymn "Come, Thou Almighty King"**

*LSB 905 verses 1 & 4*



1 Come, Thou al - might - y King, Help us Thy  
 Δ 4 To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal



name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all -  
 prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov-'reign



glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
 maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see,



Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

**Greeting**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious heavenly Father, every good and perfect gift comes from You, and You provide us with everything we need for the support and needs of the body. Grant us repentance for misusing Your gift of money in self-serving and wasteful ways and grant us gratitude for the income You provide for our needs. Lead us to manage Your gift of money to Your glory and to be cheerful givers in serving our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**



## The Old Testament

*Malachi 3:1-10*

Reader: **3** "I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty. **2** But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. **3** He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, **4** and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years. **5** "So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me," says the LORD Almighty. **6** "I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. **7** Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?' **8** "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings. **9** You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. **10** Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

## Epistle

*2 Corinthians 9:6-15*

Reader: The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7** Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **8** And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. **9** As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." **10** He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. **11** You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. **12** For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. **13** By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and



the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others,<sup>14</sup> while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you.<sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 16:1-14*

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

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

He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions.<sup>2</sup> And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'<sup>3</sup> And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.<sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.'<sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'<sup>6</sup> He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'<sup>7</sup> Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'<sup>8</sup> The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light.<sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.<sup>10</sup> "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.<sup>11</sup> If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?<sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?<sup>13</sup> No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Hymn of the Day

### "I am Jesus' Little Lamb"

LSB 740



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at  
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He  
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

## Sermon

### "Money, Money, Money"

Pastor Scott Henze

## Apostles' Creed

**People:** 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.

## Prayer of the Church

*Petitions end, "Lord in your mercy" Congregation responds, "Hear Our Prayer"*

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## Gathering of Gifts

### "How Beautiful"

Adult Choir



## Offertory Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People: **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.**

## Announcements

## Benediction

## Recessional Verse "Lift High the Cross" LSB 837 verses 1,2,5,6

*Refrain*



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris-tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,

2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,

5 Let ev - 'ry race and ev - 'ry lan - guage tell

6 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.

The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.

Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.

Praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

*Refrain*

## **Dismissal**

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

**People: Disciples making disciples.**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES**

### **Thanksgiving Eve Service**

Gather together to give thanks. Wednesday evening, November 25 at 7:30 PM.  
All offerings will go to LifeNet4Families Food Pantry.

### **Drive Thru Live Nativity**

Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6

Come see the Christmas story come to life! Camels, sheep, donkey and more!  
Volunteers are needed for this outreach event. Call the church office at 954-384-9096 for more information.

### **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

Rev. Scott Henze

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School for children and Youth at 9:45 AM—Via Zoom

Adult Bible Study in person or livestreamed at 10:00 AM