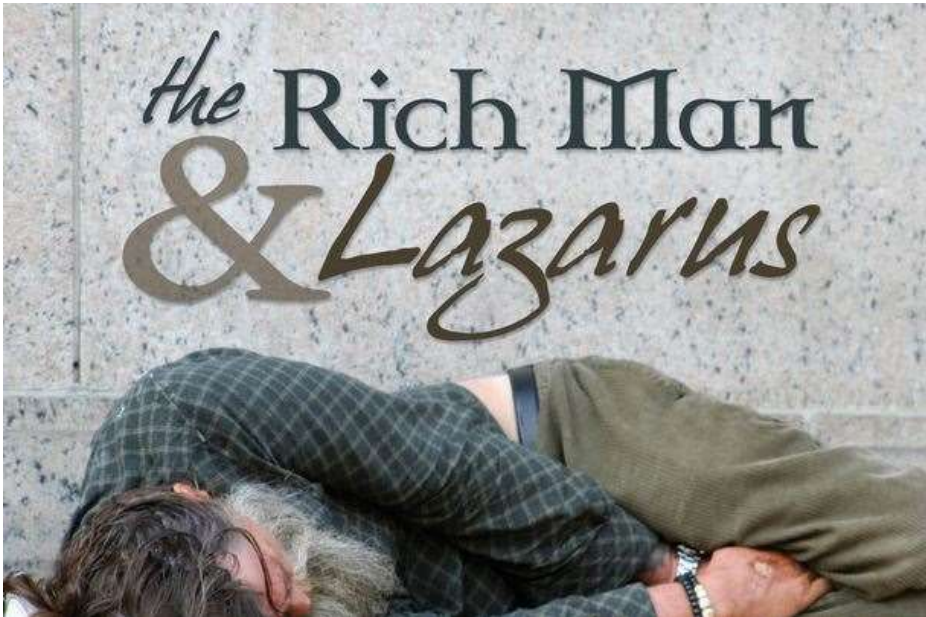


*16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 25, 2022*



FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor Bob Stark

We Welcome You To Worship With Us

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GATHERING: *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

GATHERING PRAYER: God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS:

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. **C. Amen.**

P. Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

God of mercy and forgiveness,

C. we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

P. Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven ☩ and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN:

Gather Us In

#532

GREETING:

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P. Let us pray.

C. O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD: *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

FIRST READING Amos 6:1a; 4 –7

A reading from Amos

- ¹aAlas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
- ⁴Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;
- ⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;
- ⁶who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
- ⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

The word of the Lord

C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 146

- ¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
- ²**I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**
- ³Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.
- ⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**
- ⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- ⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises**

forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

⁸The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

⁹The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6–19

A reading from 1 Timothy

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In 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, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

The word of the Lord

C. Thanks be to God.

(Please rise if you are able for the reading of the Gospel)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:19–31

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE:

God's Justice?

(Please rise if you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Christ, Be Our Light

#715

APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

P. God of grace.

C. hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

P. The peace of Christ be with you always.

C. And also with you.

MEAL *God feeds us with the presence of Christ.*

OFFERING:

We Are an Offering

#692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,

*we lift our lives up to you we are an offering
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands,
Lord use our lives, they are yours we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to
you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.*

OFFERING PRAYER:

P. Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

C. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

P. Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

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*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

P. Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

LAMB OF GOD: Pg. 146

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION:

TABLE BLESSING: *(Please rise if you are able)*

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C. Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

P. God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C. Amen.

SENDING: *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

BLESSING:

P. God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Canticle of the Turning*

#723

DISMISSAL:

P. Go in peace, with Christ beside you. **C. Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: