

*Kingdom people produce*  
**KINGDOM FRUIT**

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*"The kingdom of God will be ... given to a people  
producing its fruits" (Matthew 21:43).*



## 18<sup>TH</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

### LWML Sunday

October 4, 2020

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942, the LWML has affirmed each woman's identity as a child of God and her relationship with Jesus Christ. Lutheran Women in Mission are women of faith, empowered for active service in Jesus' name and bold support of missions through Mite Box offerings. As Christians, we have been given the kingdom of God to bear its fruit.

#### **Prelude**

#### **Hymn: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty**

Open now thy gates of beauty;  
Zion, let me enter there,  
Where my soul in joyful duty  
Waits for Him who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessed is this place,  
Filled with solace, light, and grace!

Here Thy praise is gladly chanted;  
Here Thy seed is duly sown.  
Let my soul, where it is planted,  
Bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
So that all I hear may be  
Fruitful unto life in me.

Gracious God, I come before Thee;  
Come Thou also unto me.  
Where we find Thee and adore Thee,  
There a heav'n on earth must be.  
To my heart, O enter Thou;  
Let it be Thy temple now!

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INVOCATION

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

**C: Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(adapted from LSB, Divine Service, Setting Two)*

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not fully lived as Your kingdom people. We have not brought forth the fruits of righteousness as we ought. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will, walk in Your ways, and bear kingdom fruit to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all of 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.

**C: Amen.**

## COLLECT

P: Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: And also with you!**

P: We greet one another in the peace of the Lord.

*You are welcome to greet each other as forgiven brothers and sisters in Jesus, in your homes and in our chat, or send a text to someone you know sharing the peace of Jesus is for them.*

## READINGS

A Reading from Isaiah 5:1-7

<sup>1</sup>I will sing for the one I love  
a song about his vineyard:  
My loved one had a vineyard  
on a fertile hillside.

<sup>2</sup> He dug it up and cleared it of stones  
and planted it with the choicest vines.  
He built a watchtower in it  
and cut out a winepress as well.  
Then he looked for a crop of good grapes,  
but it yielded only bad fruit.

<sup>3</sup> “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup> What more could have been done for my vineyard  
than I have done for it?

When I looked for good grapes,  
why did it yield only bad?

<sup>5</sup> Now I will tell you  
what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge,  
and it will be destroyed;

I will break down its wall,  
and it will be trampled.

<sup>6</sup> I will make it a wasteland,  
neither pruned nor cultivated,  
and briars and thorns will grow there.

I will command the clouds  
not to rain on it.”

<sup>7</sup> The vineyard of the LORD Almighty  
is the nation of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are the vines he delighted in.

And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed;  
for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

A Reading from Philippians 3:4b-14

<sup>4</sup> If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

<sup>7</sup> But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The Holy Gospel according St. Matthew, the 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>33</sup> "Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. <sup>34</sup> When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

<sup>35</sup> "The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. <sup>36</sup> Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. <sup>37</sup> Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said.

<sup>38</sup> "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' <sup>39</sup> So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

<sup>40</sup> "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"

<sup>41</sup> "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time."

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

"The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
the Lord has done this,  
and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

<sup>43</sup> "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. <sup>44</sup> Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed."

<sup>45</sup> When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them. <sup>46</sup> They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**Song: Way Maker**

You are here moving in our midst  
I worship You I worship You  
You are here working in this place  
I worship You I worship You

(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise  
Keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are  
(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise  
Keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are

You are here touching ev'ry heart  
I worship You I worship You  
You are here healing ev'ry heart  
I worship You I worship You

You are here turning lives around  
I worship You I worship You  
You are here mending ev'ry heart  
I worship You yeah I worship You Lord

(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise  
Keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are  
(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise  
Keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are

That is who You are  
That is who You are  
That is who You are  
That is who You are

That is who You are  
That is who You are  
That is who You are  
That is who You are

SERMON

LWML PLEDGE

**All: In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen.**

*(© 1955 LWML authored by Rev. Harry Fricke)*

(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise  
Keeper

Light in the darkness my God that is who You are  
(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise  
Keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are

Even when I don't see it You're working  
Even when I don't feel it You're working  
You never stop You never stop working  
You never stop You never stop working

Even when I don't see it You're working  
Even when I don't feel it You're working  
You never stop You never stop working  
You never stop You never stop working

(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise  
Keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are  
(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise  
Keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are

that is who You are  
that is who You are  
that is who You are  
that is who You are

that is who You are  
that is who You are  
that is who You are  
that is who You are

**Song: Build My Life**

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name  
Jesus the only one who could ever save  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You  
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who  
You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name  
Jesus the only one who could ever save  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You  
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who  
You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken

Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who  
You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*(Adapted from Evening Prayer, LSB)*

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world, and to support global missions through the gathering of mites and providing of mission grants, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all Your kingdom people that they may produce kingdom fruit to Your glory and for the expansion of Your kingdom on earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For...(additional bids for prayer may be added here)...let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your goodness and remembering with thankfulness Your mercies, which are new every morning; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Rejoicing in God, we 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 for ever and ever. Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

**Song:            Serve the Lord with Gladness**

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”

It is He alone  
Who redeemed us sinners,  
Guides us as His own  
To enjoy the blessings  
Of His love and grace,  
Will at last in glory  
Meet us face to face.  
Onward, then, for Jesus!  
Let this be our aim:

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”

Glorify His name.  
“Serve the Lord with gladness!”  
He gave us command  
To proclaim His Gospel  
Now in every land  
So that fellow sinners  
May, like us, be blest.

Leading them to Jesus,  
We can serve Him best.  
Onward, then, for Jesus!  
Let this be our aim:  
“Serve the Lord with gladness!”  
Glorify His name!

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”  
There’s no greater joy  
Than to serve the Master,  
Work in His employ.  
As we build His kingdom  
Angels, too, rejoice  
Over every sinner  
Brought to hear His voice.  
Onward, then, for Jesus!  
Let this be our aim:  
“Serve the Lord with gladness!”  
Glorify His name!

A: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Thompson

Children's Message: Megan Hoffman, DCE

Music: Gundermann Family, Bruce Anderson and Lois Thur

Lector: Terianne Bender

Production: Dan Savard

Music | Liturgy:

Hymns from *Lutheran Service Book*

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