



St. Luke Ev. Lutheran Church

Rev. Ronald C. Szep, pastor

Sunday, August 9 2020

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All of today's hymns are found in the pew hymnal
"Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal" (CW). © 1993 NPH

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We Thank God with Our Offerings: No plates will be passed; please place your offering in the basket by the sanctuary doors. This offering is taken to support our congregation's work of spreading the message of Jesus Christ, within the congregation, at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran School, and by supporting mission work.

MORNING DEVOTION

The Christian seeks spiritual wealth. This week's readings are centered around the very ancient Prayer of the Day. For nearly 1600 years God's people on this day have prayed that God might give them true spiritual wealth.

"Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised."

What a magnificent prayer for the materialist world in which we live! Our lessons today show people who have come into great wealth, but yet this earthly wealth only serves to illustrate where true treasure lies. Today we see that true, spiritual wealth can only be found in God and his eternal blessings for us in Christ.

Greeting by the minister

OPENING DIALOGUE:

Minister: God, our Father, each day is a gift of your grace.

Congregation: Your mercies are new every morning.

M: Guide our steps by the light of your Word.

C: Shield us from harm and keep us from evil.

M: Better than life is your love.

C: Put joy in our hearts and praise on our lips.

THE PRAYER FOR GRACE:

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

the child is presented for baptism

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when he said: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." All of us are born into this world with a deep need for baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise before God in righteousness and purity forever.

M: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

M: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought this child to be baptized. Jesus told us: "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

M: Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart to mark you as a redeemed child of God.

While applying water to the child, the minister says:

Devin James Olson, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Almighty God-Father, Son, and Spirit-has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Please Stand

EXHORTATION

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Devin may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray:

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life.

Look with special favor on this child and grant him a rich measure of your Spirit that he may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

C: Amen.

the family is dismissed

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 13:44-52 (NIV 2011)

Jesus' parables teach us to seek spiritual wealth. Both of the men in the parables found great treasure. For one it was a complete surprise, as unexpected as it was valuable. For the other it came from an expert search by a discerning man. Before they found these new treasures, both men no doubt valued what they previously owned. But once they saw this new treasure, see how little they valued all else they had! The spiritual wealth of Christ and his Gospel puts everything else into perspective; in fact it marginalizes all else. The importance of this truth comes to light in the parable of the net. All people, rich and poor, will be caught up. Only those who found true spiritual wealth are spared the furnace. Jesus concludes with an encouragement: you have found true wealth in Christ; you have been given a storeroom full of treasures new and old. Bring them out with joy and delight.

⁴⁴ *"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.*

⁴⁵ *"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.*

⁴⁶ *When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.*

⁴⁷ *"Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish.*

⁴⁸ *When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away.*

⁴⁹ *This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous*

⁵⁰ *and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

⁵¹ *"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.*

"Yes," they replied.

⁵² *He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."*

Please Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW Hymn 418
"My God Will Never Leave Me"

TRUST

418

My God Will Never Leave Me



1 My God will nev - er leave me, And I will
 2 When hu - man thought and ac - tion Shall un - a -
 3 God shall be my re - li - ance In sor - row's
 4 Oh, praise him for he nev - er For - gets our
 5 And when the world will per - ish With all its



not leave him; A light my God will give me In
 vail - ing prove, God grants me his pro - tec - tion And
 dark - est night; Its dread I bid de - fi - ance When
 dai - ly need; Oh, blest the hour when - ev - er To
 pride and pow'r, All that the world may cher - ish Will



path - ways dark and grim. He reach - es out his hand,
 shows his pow'r and love. He helps in ev - 'ry need,
 he is at my right. I un - to him com - mend
 him our thoughts can speed, For all the time we spend
 van - ish in that hour. But though in death they make



His might - y pow - er shar - ing, My bur - dens
 From sin and shame re - deems me, From chains and
 My bod - y, soul, and spir - it— They are his
 With - out him is but wast - ed, Till we his
 The deep - est grave our cov - er, When there our



ev - er bear - ing Wher - ev - er I may stand.
bonds re - claims me; From death I, too, am freed.
own by mer - it— All's well, then, at the end.
joy have tast - ed, The joy that has no end.
sleep is o - ver, Our God will us a - wake.

Text: Ludwig Helmbold, 1532–98, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1, 4-5, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 2-3, alt.

Tune: VON GOTT WILL ICH NICHT LASSEN (76 76 67 76) *Recueil de plusieurs chansons*, Lyons, 1557, alt.

SERMON: *based on Romans 8:28-30 (NIV2011)*
“God Makes Our Salvation Certain”

²⁸ *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

²⁹ *For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.*

³⁰ *And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.*

Please Stand

PRAYERS:

Luther's Morning Prayer *(in unison)*

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Special prayers and intercessions: optional, read by the minister

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent Prayer

M: O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants, who come to you in Jesus' name. Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING:

M: May the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself. May the power of the Lord Jesus make us strong to do his will. May the peace of the Lord Jesus fill our lives.

C: Amen.

Please Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN: CW Hymn 469
“Take My Life and Let It Be”

COMMITMENT

469

Take My Life and Let It Be



1 Take my life and let it be Con - se -
2 Take my hands and let them move At the
3 Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways,
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; Not a
5 Take my will and make it thine; It shall



cra - ted, Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments
im - pulse of thy love. Take my feet and
on - ly for my King. Take my lips and
mite would I with - hold. Take my in - tel -
be no long - er mine. Take my heart— it



and my days; Let them flow in cease - less praise.
let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
is thine own; It shall be thy roy - al throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79.

Tune: PATMOS (77 77) William H. Havergal, 1793–1870.