

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Christian Worship Supplement - Series B

First Lesson: 2 Kings 5:14-27

¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

¹⁵ Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant."

¹⁶ The prophet answered, "As surely as the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing." And even though Naaman urged him, he refused.

¹⁷ "If you will not," said Naaman, "please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the LORD. ¹⁸ But may the LORD forgive your servant for this one thing: When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I bow there also — when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant for this."

¹⁹ "Go in peace," Elisha said.

After Naaman had traveled some distance, ²⁰ Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, "My master was too easy on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him."

²¹ So Gehazi hurried after Naaman. When Naaman saw him running toward him, he got down from the chariot to meet him. "Is everything all right?" he asked.

²² "Everything is all right," Gehazi answered. "My master sent me to say, 'Two young men from the company of the prophets have just come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them a talent of silver and two sets of clothing.'"

²³ "By all means, take two talents," said Naaman. He urged Gehazi to accept them, and then tied up the two talents of silver in two bags, with two sets of clothing. He gave them to two of his servants, and they carried them ahead of Gehazi. ²⁴ When Gehazi came to the hill, he took the things from the servants and put them away in the house. He sent the men away and they left. ²⁵ Then he went in and stood before his master Elisha.

"Where have you been, Gehazi?" Elisha asked.

"Your servant didn't go anywhere," Gehazi answered.

²⁶ But Elisha said to him, "Was not my spirit with you when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take money, or to accept clothes, olive groves, vineyards, flocks, herds, or menservants and maidservants? ²⁷ Naaman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever." Then Gehazi went from Elisha's presence and he was leprous, as white as snow.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 13:1-6

¹ Keep on loving each other as brothers. ² Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

⁴ Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." ⁶ So we say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can man do to me?"

Gospel: Mark 10:17-27

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good — except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.'"

²⁰ "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy."

²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

²² At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

²³ Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!"

²⁴ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

²⁶ The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?"

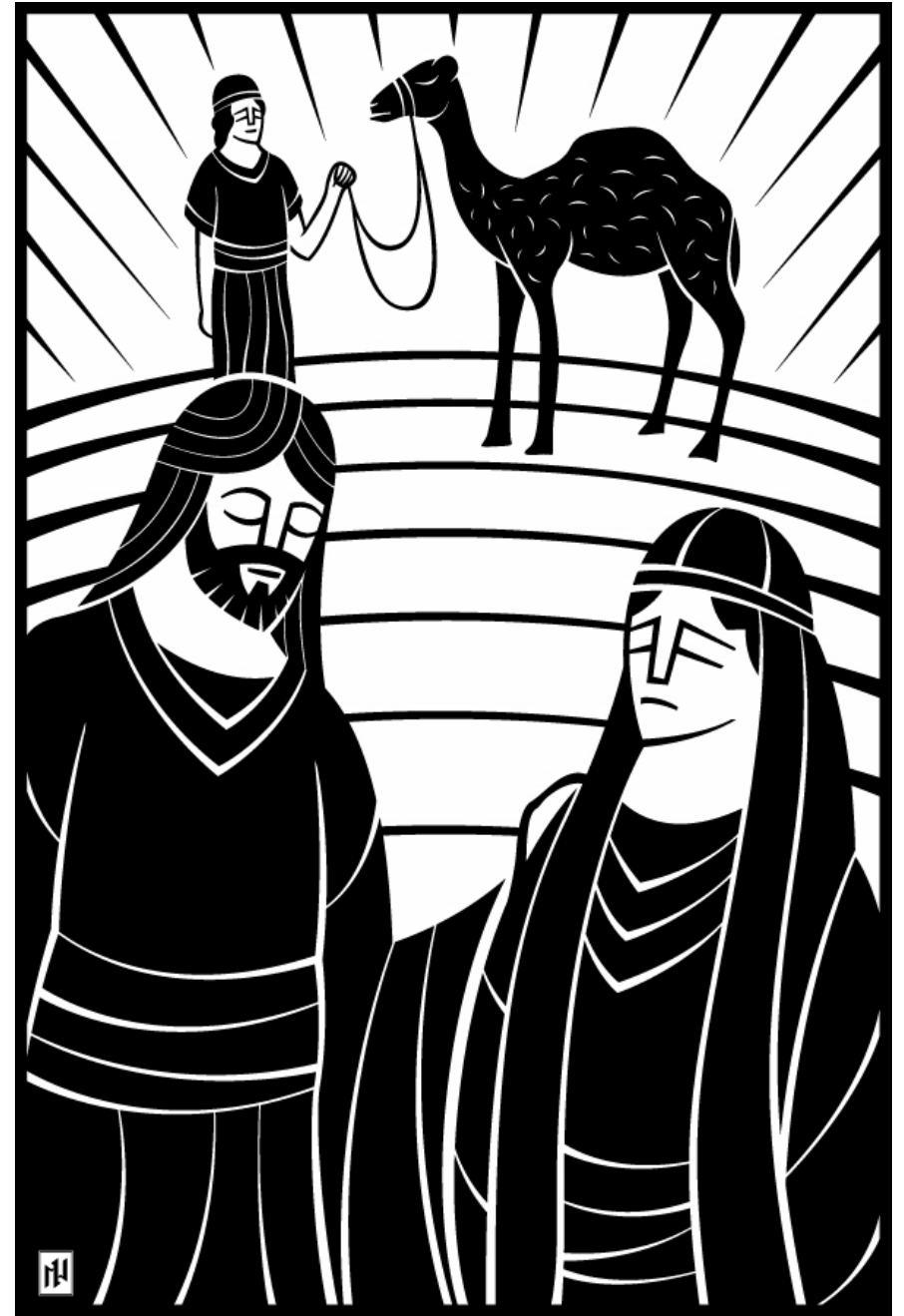
²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

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Welcome
to
Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Christ's Love,
Our Calling.

To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to our first time guests we extend it most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with the risen living Redeemer, membership in His Church, and citizenship in His eternal kingdom. Our message is as old as the Word of God to man and as new as the new life it brings: *Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to give eternal life to people everywhere.*

Dear Visitors:

- **The bookmark** in this service folder will guide you through our service.
- If you **need assistance** in worship, ask an usher. We offer worship partners.
- Before you leave today, **please sign our guest book**. It is located in the Narthex.

Personal sound enhancement receivers are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.

Today's Service is being broadcast at www.peacewithgod.com. Click on the blue box labeled "Live Online Services." It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

✘ ✘ ✘ **Before participating in Communion** ✘ ✘ ✘



We welcome all people to our services, those who are fully united with us in Christ's teachings as well as those who do not yet share our confession of the Faith. However, it is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to all Christians to receive Communion with us. Our Lord teaches (1 Cor. 10:17 and elsewhere) that Communion is an action of the celebrating community that declares their oneness in the Faith, life, and worship. Communing with Christians not in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS] or our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS], would imply a oneness that does not truly exist, but for which we pray. Our pastor will gladly talk with you about establishing communion fellowship here at Peace.

Suggestions for Pre-service meditation

Meditate on the readings (on the back of the bulletin cover) keeping in mind *Today's Theme* and the comments on the lessons written below. Then do the same with the words of the *Psalm of the Day* and the words of the *hymns*. Both are listed on the worship *bookmark*.

The Theme of Today's Service

Quality of life is found only in the Source of all good things - not the things!

Prayer of the Day

Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; though Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord speaks to us in his word:

The First Lesson: 2 Kings 5:14-27

You know the story of the LORD curing Naaman's leprosy. But do you know this part of the story? The LORD vividly proclaims that those who love money and what it buys will never find contentment in him.

The Psalm: Psalm 90

Without the LORD's mercy, our lives would be cut short. By his mercy we live a new life.

The Second Lesson: Hebrews 13:1-6

Contentment is never found in having all you want! It's found in seeing that with the Lord, "I have far more than I need." Let contentment with Jesus set you free from the longs that lead to discontent.

The Verse of the Day: Isaiah 25:9b

Alleluia. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation. Alleluia.

The Gospel: Mark 10:17-27

This man sensed that while he had everything the world could offer, something was missing - wholeness and peace with the Father. As long as a wealthy lifestyle was his god, God couldn't be, both now and forever.

The Sermon: Mark 10:17-27

Contentment is found where Jesus is Lord.