

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 25, 2022



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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THE SERVICE – SETTING ONE

THREAD: *What seems to help in life fails in death; what seems to fail in life helps in death.*

Hymn: Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening

CW 631



1 Speak, O Sav - ior, I am lis - t'ning, as a ser - vant
2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near you and to lis - ten
3 Lord, your words are wa - ters liv - ing where I quench my
4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; let your words in



to his lord. Let me show re - spect and hon - or
to your voice; let me ev - er love and fear you,
thirst - y needs. Lord, your words are bread life - giv - ing;
me take root. May your Spir - it e'er be near me



to your ho - ly, pre - cious Word, that each day, my whole life
let your Word still be my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,
on your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, your words will be my
that I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly sing your



through, I may serve and fol - low you. Let your Word e'er
Lord, flee in ter - ror at your Word; but to all who
light thro' death's cold and drear - y night; yes, they are my
praise, from my heart glad an - thems raise, till my high - est



be my plea - sure and my heart's most pre - cious trea - sure.
feel sin's bur - den you give peace and words of par - don.
sword pre - vail - ing and my cup of joy un - fail - ing.
praise is giv - en in the end - less joy of heav - en.

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just

and will forgive us our sins

and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory Be to God

CW 157



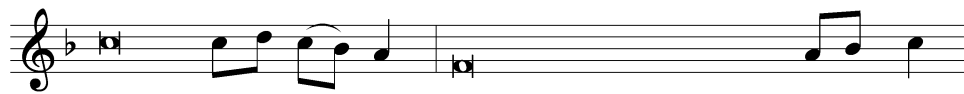
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



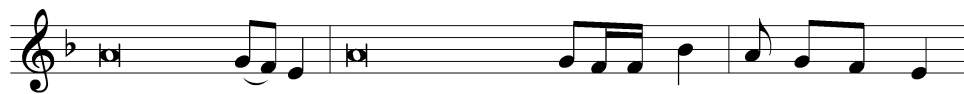
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,




God the Fa-ther Al-mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Amos 6:1-7

God's people were living in luxury. Every day was a celebration. Security was assured. Life was very comfortable. But this was a false comfort. In their spiritual depravity, they were not seeing impending disaster and exile. They needed to be trusting in God.

¹Woe to you who are complacent in Zion,
 and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
 you notable men of the foremost nation,
 to whom the people of Israel come!

²Go to Kalneh and look at it;
 go from there to great Hamath,
 and then go down to Gath in Philistia.

Are they better off than your two kingdoms?
 Is their land larger than yours?

³You put off the day of disaster
 and bring near a reign of terror.

⁴You lie on beds adorned with ivory
 and lounge on your couches.
 You dine on choice lambs
 and fattened calves.

⁵You strum away on your harps like David
 and improvise on musical instruments.

⁶You drink wine by the bowlful
 and use the finest lotions,
 but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.

⁷Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile;
your feasting and lounging will end.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: I Will Praise the Lord All My Life

Psalm 146A

Refrain

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the right - eous.

Tone

I will praise the LORD / all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long / as I live.
Do not put your trust in / princes,
in human beings, who / cannot save.
Blessed are those whose help is the God of / Jacob,
whose hope is in the / LORD their God. *Refrain*
He upholds the cause of / the oppressed
and gives food to the / hungry.
The LORD sets / pris'ners free,
the LORD gives sight / to the blind.
The LORD reigns for- / ever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations. / Praise the LORD.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

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Second Reading

Hebrews 13:1-6

These verses include a rapid-fire set of exhortations for life. Fundamentally, they sum up in contentment and trust. Trust that everything we need and desire will be delivered by God, in this life or the next.

¹Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. ²Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. ³Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

⁴Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. ⁵Keep 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.”

⁶So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can mere mortals do to me?”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 16:31

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets,
they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 16:19–31

Our gospel reading is the story of the rich man and Lazarus. Each man served a different master. One served money and comfort; one served God spiritually. In death, they were served by their masters. One was in Hades, served by a false god. One was at Abraham’s side, served by God. We are subject to the same reversal. So, know that Jesus has provided us all the help we need. Trust in him now.

¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²²“The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

²⁵“But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷“He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

²⁹“Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

³⁰“No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

³¹“He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day: Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

CW 817



1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart; I pray thee,
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas thy rich boun - ty gave my bod - y,
3 Lord, let at last thine an - gels come, to A - br'ham's



ne'er from me de - part, with ten - der mer - cy cheer me.
soul, and all I have in this poor life of la - bor.
bos - om bear me home that I may die un - fear - ing;



Earth has no plea - sure I would share; yea, heav'n it -
 Lord, grant that I in ev - 'ry place may glo - ri -
 and in its nar - row cham - ber keep my bod - y

self were void and bare if thou, Lord, wert not near me.
 fy thy lav - ish grace and help and serve my neigh - bor.
 safe in peace - ful sleep un - til thy re - ap - pear - ing.

And should my heart for sor - row break, my trust in thee can
 Let no false doc - trine me be - guile; let Sa - tan not my
 And then from death a - wak - en me that these mine eyes with

noth - ing shake. Thou art the por - tion I have sought; thy pre - cious
 soul de - file. Give strength and pa - tience un - to me to bear my
 joy may see, O Son of God, thy glo - rious face, my Sav - ior

blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 cross and fol - low thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -

Lord, my God and Lord, for - sake me not! I trust thy Word.
 Lord, my God and Lord, in death thy com - fort still af - ford.
 tend, my prayer at - tend, and I will praise thee with - out end.

Sermon

Luke 16:19–31

Angels Carried Him to Abraham's Side

1. Beware the alternative
 - a. What's wrong with focusing on earthly things for happiness?
 - b. How does faith regard God's Word? How does that show in our lives?
2. Find comfort in the promise
 - a. Why was Lazarus taken to the eternal comfort of heaven at Abraham's side?
 - b. What is our comfort when life seems so bad?

*Sermon by Rev. Gregg Bitter, used by permission
 Ministering Elder: Jim Dietz*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

... Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Offering – *The mail at church is being collected. Offerings may be mailed to:*

Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, 200 E. Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Hymn: Stars of the Morning

CW 498



1 Stars of the morn - ing, so glo - rious - ly bright,
2 These are your min - is - ters, these are your own,
3 Then, when the earth was first poised in mid - space,
4 Still let them aid us and still let them fight,



an - gels in heav - en, re - splend - ent in light,
God of great maj - es - ty, near - est your throne;
then, when the plan - ets first sped on their race,
Lord God of hosts, as they bat - tle for right,



these, where no dark - ness the glo - ry can dim,
these are your mes - sen - gers, these whom you send,
then, when were end - ed the six days' em - ploy,
till, where their an - thems they cease - less - ly pour,



praise the Thrice Ho - ly One, serv - ing but him.
help - ing your help - less ones, Help - er and Friend.
then all the sons of God shout - ed for joy.
we with the an - gels may bow and a - dore.

Let us pray:

God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn: Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

CW 632



1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, and through your
2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; your Word grants
3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the



Word to me draw near. Let me your Word e'er pure re -
heal - ing from my sin. Your Word has pow'r to guide and
Spir - it, Three in One, shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or



tain; let me your child and heir re - main.
bless; your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.
be now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

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Silent Prayer

Announcements

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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