

Announcements and Readings for Sunday, September 27, 2020

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of Love,

**Giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**The First Reading**

**Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

18 The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel:

“‘The parents eat sour grapes,  
and the children’s teeth are set on edge’?”

<sup>3</sup>“As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. <sup>4</sup>For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die.

<sup>25</sup>“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear, you Israelites: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? <sup>26</sup>If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. <sup>27</sup>But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they consider all the offenses they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the Israelites say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Are my ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?

<sup>30</sup>“Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. <sup>31</sup>Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

The Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 25:1-9 will be read responsively**

<sup>1</sup>In you, LORD my God,  
I put my trust.

<sup>2</sup>**I trust in you;  
do not let me be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>No one who hopes in you  
will ever be put to shame,

but shame will come on those  
who are treacherous without cause.

**<sup>4</sup>Show me your ways, LORD,  
teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are God my Savior,  
and my hope is in you all day long.

**<sup>6</sup>Remember, LORD, your great mercy and love,  
for they are from of old.**

<sup>7</sup>Do not remember the sins of my youth  
and my rebellious ways;  
according to your love remember me,  
for you, LORD, are good.

**<sup>8</sup>Good and upright is the LORD;  
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.**

<sup>9</sup>He guides the humble in what is right  
and teaches them his way.

## **The Second Reading**

## **Philippians 2:1-13**

<sup>2</sup> Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

The Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

**The Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 21:23-32**

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

<sup>23</sup>Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

<sup>24</sup>Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. <sup>25</sup>John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

<sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’

<sup>29</sup>“‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

<sup>30</sup>“Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

<sup>31</sup>“Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

“The first,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not

believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord – **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

ASSISTING MINISTER and LECTOR: Bev Brosenitsch

GREETER: Eileen Saunders

BELL RINGER: Tim Brosenitsch

CHILDREN: Available on the back pew are coloring books and crayons.

### **CALENDAR**

MONDAY 9:00-12:00 Depot Day Drop Off

WEDNESDAY 6:30 Bible Study at St. Paul

THURSDAY 1:00 Bible Study at Zion Lutheran

SATURDAY 9:00-12:00 Depot Day Drop Off

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Are Given to the Glory of God by Linda Flora in loving memory of her husband Dale Flora.

### **FLOWERS ON THE PIANO**

Are Given to the Glory of God by Jen McMurray in loving memory of her Boopa, John H. Lankenau. He would have been 100 on September 28.

### **WORSHIP NOTES**

As we worship together once again, we want everyone to feel safe and comfortable during worship. Therefore, with that in mind the following steps will be taken:

**We will sit every third pew to keep a safe distance from each other.**

**The offering plates will not be passed around, instead you will leave your offering in the plate as you leave worship along with the attendance form.**

**Hymns are also included in your bulletin as an insert. Hymns and liturgy will be sung by a cantor at this time. We will not have a Gathering Hymn. If you wish to sing along you may do so, but we request that you keep your mask on during any singing.**

**Communion will also be done together in the pews from the prepackaged wafer and juice you picked up on your way into the sanctuary. A waste receptacle will be on the table in the narthex for you to dispose of your communion as you leave worship.**

**Open the clear cellophane for the wafer first and then open the purple tab for the juice.**

**Included in your bulletin is an attendance form, please fill out and leave in the offering plate. This is to help us keep track of our members each Sunday.**

### **FOOD CUPBOARD – SEPTEMBER NEEDS**

Taco Dinner Kits

### **BIBLE STUDY**

Join us for Bible Study this Wednesday, 6:30 PM at St. Paul or Thursday afternoon, 1:00 PM at Zion Lutheran. We will be studying the following readings: Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 80:7-15, Philippians 3:4b-14, and Matthew 21:33-46.

### **OKTOBERFEST DINNER – OCTOBER 22 – 4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM**

Sign up sheet will be passed around this week for donations of needed food items and help on the day of the dinner. This dinner will be free to the community and will be take out only. Monetary donations will also be greatly appreciated to help with the cost of the meat and paper supplies.

### **SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

We need 3 voting members to represent St. Paul for the 2020 Synod Assembly. The Assembly will take place on Saturday, November 14 via ZOOM meetings. Please see Pastor Tim if you are interested or have any questions.

### **CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES**

*“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord”* (Romans 8:38-39). Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California and Lutheran Social Services of Northern California, along with the three California synods to assess the situation and determine the best ways to respond.

**If you would like to give a donation to Lutheran Disaster, please make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran and leave your donation in the white pew envelope. Mark on the memo line or on the envelope California Wildfires.**

### **BOILER REPAIR**

The church boiler is now repaired and as stated in your October newsletter to help with the cost any donation will be greatly appreciated. Just mark the white pew envelope or your check as “boiler repair” and leave in the offering plate.

### **DEPOT DAY TRUCK**

The truck will be here Tuesday morning, October 6. If you are able to help with the loading of the truck, please see Phyllis Metz.

### **CHRIST IN OUR HOME**

Devotionals for October, November and December are now available in the narthex and on the table downstairs by the office.

### **VISITORS**

We welcome all visitors and invite you to make our church your church.

