

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

612 N. Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin

October 1, 2017

8:15 am

Grateful Living



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn: *Christ, Be Our Light

#715

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Pastor: We are gathered in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Silence for reflection

Forgiving God,

We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor.

We have claimed scarcity in time of abundance. We have looked away from those in need. We have turned in on ourselves and feared that we will not have enough. Forgive us, O God, and open our ears to your commands that we might receive the blessing of joining in your work in the world. Amen.

God promises to hear our prayers and to forgive our sins. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Trust God's promises and receive the gift of forgiveness and the gift of new life. Begin again to live with generosity open to new ways to love our neighbor as God loves us. **Amen.**

Greeting

***Kyrie** **page 165**

***This is the Feast** **page 169**

***Prayer of the Day**

Holy and righteous God, you hear the prayers of all who cry out to you in distress. Open our ears to those in need and transform our hearts, so that we who have been abundantly blessed may be a blessing to others, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading: Psalm 145.13-21 **Page 506 in the black pew Bible**

Reading: 1Thessalonians 5.13b-18 **Page 961 in the black pew Bible**

Sermon: "Grateful Living"

Hymn: *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* **#712**

Blessing of Prayer Shawls

Luther's Explanation of the 4th Petition of the Lord's Prayer

Give us today our daily bread.

What does this mean?

In fact, God gives daily bread without our prayer, even to all evil people, but we ask in this prayer that God cause us to recognize what our daily bread is and to receive it with thanksgiving.

What then does “daily bread” mean?

Everything included in the necessities and nourishment for our bodies, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, farm, fields, livestock, money, property, an upright spouse, upright children, upright members of the household, upright and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, decency, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

***World Hunger Litany**

Pastor: God of the universe, we bless you for bringing forth wonders beyond our imagining and for providing us who bear your image a suitable place in the midst of your vast creation. Bless us, we pray, with your continual care and grant us an appreciation for the sacredness of all that you have made. Holy and gracious God, **have mercy and hear us.**

From the Assembly: God of love, we bless you for the goodness of relationships with others, and for giving us companions and partners in this life. Help us, we pray, to value all people as our neighbors, that we might care for everyone in need, especially those who lack food and shelter. Holy and gracious God, **have mercy and hear us.**

From the Assembly: God of righteousness, we bless you that you care enough to be angry at injustice. Open our eyes, we pray, to see how our actions and lifestyles contribute to the exploitation and deprivation of others. Move us to repentance and give us vision for a more equitable and sustainable future. Holy and gracious God, **have mercy and hear us.**

From the Assembly: God of mercy, we bless you for coming among us as one of us in Jesus Christ to deliver us from sin, death, and evil. Forgive, we pray, our complicity with the powers that defy you, that rebel against your will, and that draw us away from you. Give us faith to trust your life-giving promises, and inspire us to proclaim your grace in all that we say and do. Holy and gracious God, **have mercy and hear us.**

From the Assembly: God of compassion, we bless you for remaining with us through your Holy Spirit, the Advocate. Empower us, we pray, to be persistent advocates on behalf of those who are poor, powerless, or marginalized.

Guide us to use our democratic power for the common good of all people, that none may go hungry.

Holy and gracious God, **have mercy and hear us.**

From the Assembly: God of hope, we bless you for the witness of all your faithful ones who have trusted your Word and embodied your love in selfless service to others. Give us confidence, we pray, that our labor on behalf of others is not in vain. Guard us from despair and fill us with your peace and joy. Holy and gracious God, **have mercy and hear us.**

Pastor: We trust your mercy, O God, and we long for the day when you will make all things new, offering these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

Offering *Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8*

Offertory: *We Come to the Hungry Feast

#479

***Offering Prayer**

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving: *Here is Bread

#483

Pastor: Here is bread, here is wine, **Congregation: Christ is with us, he is with us.**

P: Break the bread, taste the wine, **C: Christ is with us here.**

All: In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.

In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

P: Here is grace, here is peace. **Congregation: Christ is with us, he is with us.**

P: Know his grace, find his peace, **C: feast on Jesus here.**

**All: In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed. . . . do this in remembrance of me

**All: Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified.
In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.**

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Communion

During communion: #838, #496

***Prayer after Communion**

O God, you feed us with your very self, living bread for the life of the world. May we who share this blessed meal embody your compassion and faithfully show forth your love on behalf of all who hunger, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Benediction**

May the blessing of God be upon you. May the light of Christ illumine your way. And may the gifts of the Holy Spirit abound in your life to the glory of God and the good of all creation. **Amen.**

Hymn: *We Are Called

#720

***Dismissal:** Go in Peace! Live gratefully and gracefully. Remember the hungry!

Thanks be to God!

Attendance - September 24 - 8:15 -122 10:30 am - 94

For September 10th

General fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$5331.44

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$1124.83

For September 17th -

General fund giving, including Simply Giving is \$7309.62

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving is \$1109.17

October 1

8:15 am

Music – Alleluia Choir/Adell Morton

Reader – Jack Miller

Communion – Janice Janzen – **2 Opportunities to Serve**

Greeter – Jack and Joanne Benning

Coffee Fellowship – **Opportunity to Serve**

10:30 am

Music – Alleluia Choir/Adell Morton

Reader – Pete Perkins

Communion – Ann Kvale – Bonnie Amundson – Dawn Jacobson

Greeter – Gary and Betty Peterson

Counters – Pat Hesel – Alice Olson – Gary Peterson

Food Pantry – **October 4** – Al and Jan Jenkins

Altar Team for October - Linda Erickson – Kevin and Sarah Nelson

October 8

8:15 am

Music – Sunday School Kids/Ann Kvale

Reader – Barb Moorhead

Communion – Bill and Mary Herrman - Dave Stigen

Greeter – Karen Edwards and Debbie Bassett

Coffee Fellowship – Mary Circle

10:30 am

Music – Sunday School Kids/Ann Kvale

Reader – Meghan Perry

Communion – Michael Bonello - Roxanne Powell - Edie Habegger

Greeter – Larry and Julee Hopkins

Counters – Tootie Bernett - Rita Bernette - Roger Strom

Food Pantry – **October 11** - Anita Jensen and Julie Erickson

Altar Team for October - Linda Erickson - Kevin and Sarah Nelson

Altar Team for November - Kathy Haag and Diane Dammen

Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share

Grateful Living

Giving thanks is easy—nothing to it. It seems natural to say thanks to God: “Thank you, God, for fine days and the good, green earth, the abundance of the harvest, the plenty of your garden.”

But how often do I say: “Thanks for staying with me today. Thanks for being love to me in spite of myself. Thanks for caring for me, even when I am uncaring. Thank you for being my friend, though you know me well. Thank you for forgiving me when I do what I said I would not to do and failed in what I had promised. Thank you for opening the world for me, for lifting the gloom, for putting light in the future, for shutting the past away behind the steel door of memory-less forgiveness.”

Our stewardship theme for this year focuses on “Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share.” We recognize that God has showered us with gifts of grace that literally fill our lives. In response we live, joyfully sharing God’s gifts and giving thanks for all that God has given—especially the gift of forgiveness and life in Jesus Christ.

With a clear focus on God’s grace in our hearts, we can respond as Paul encourages: “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

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