

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

612 Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin
September 11, 2016 8:15 am and 10:30- am
Lectionary 24C



Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Story to Tell, Gifts to Share

***Opening Song**

Prayer of Blessing at the Start of Sunday School

Pastor: A reading from Deuteronomy:

⁴*Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone.*

⁵*You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.*

⁶*Keep these words, that I am commanding you today, in your heart.*

⁷*Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.*

⁸*Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead,*

⁹*and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*

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* Symbol indicates a time when the congregation stands

Let us pray, Lord, we are gathered here today to remember that you are our God, you alone. We are gathered here today to hear your Word, to hear of your Son, Jesus; the Christ. We are here today, gathered in your love. We ask you to bless these teachers and helpers as they begin a new year of Sunday School. We thank you for their gifts and time and the love they have for you and for all your children. We ask you to bless all the children, today and always. Help them learn about you and the love you show the world in your Son, Jesus the Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

***Song:** *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* #857

Gospel: Luke 15.1-10

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Sermon

***Song:** *Amazing Grace/Alleluia*

Blessing of the Back-Packs

Pastor: In thanksgiving for students and teachers, helpers and administrators, coaches and staff, we come before you, almighty God, and seek your blessing. Be present with these people as they begin this new school year. Grant that teachers and other school personnel may be a means of grace and learning to these students this year.

Congregation: May this year be full of promise for students and teachers alike: a promise of new beginnings for some and fresh starts for others; a promise of friendships with classmates and colleagues that refresh the spirit and honor God; a promise to grow in knowledge and wisdom all the days of their lives; a promise of safety for each classroom and mutual respect for each student and teacher.

Pastor: Now bless these backpacks, briefcases and the symbols of the cross they bear. As they are used and go with these people every day, keep us mindful that you also go with us, wherever we go. We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Prayers: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

--while we sing this song, you are invited to write a prayer on the slip of paper provided. We will collect them, and then use the slips to form a 'prayer chain.' At the end of worship we will take the 'prayer chain' and lay it at the foot of the cross and baptismal font, and offer a prayer.

***Sharing of the Peace**

Offering *"If I have despised the claim of my male or female slaves when they filed a complaint against me, what then could I do when God arises? And when He calls me to account, what will I answer Him?" Job 31:13-14*

Offering Song: *Take My Life* #583

***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.

***Great Thanksgiving**

****You Are Holy* #525**

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

***Prayer after Communion**

We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***Offering of our 'prayer chain'**

Blessing

***Sending Song**

Sending: Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Ok! We will!**

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| Needed to meet budgeted mission - \$6875.00 | Weekly Giving for September 4 - \$ 4578.75 |
| Simply Giving 9/4 - 9/10 - \$3889.50 | Total Weekly Giving – \$8468.25 |
| Attendance for Sunday, September 4 - 119 | |