

# *Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham*

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**September 18, 2022- THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**10:30 AM – Communion Service/ ELW Setting 10**

**also on - [www.facebook.com/durhamlutheran](https://www.facebook.com/durhamlutheran)**

**Prelude -**

**Welcome - Announcements**

**Introduction to Worship**

*As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*(Stand if you are able)*

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Silence for reflection)*

God of mercy and forgiveness,

**C: we confess that sin has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

P: Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven + and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## Opening Hymn - ELW #669 - " Rise Up O Saints of God"

### Apostolic Greeting - ELW page 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie . . . . . ELW Page 203

### Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray . . . God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

C: **Amen.**

(Please be Seated)

### First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

*Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.*

L: A reading from the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Amos.

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

L: The Word of the Lord.      C: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

### Psalm 113

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from the time forth for-evermore.**

<sup>3</sup>From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

<sup>4</sup>**The LORD is high above all nations, God's glory above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

<sup>6</sup>**but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

<sup>8</sup>**enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children.

Hallelujah!

## **Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7**

*The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.*

L: A reading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy,

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: THANKS BE TO GOD**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand) ELW page 205**

### **The Holy Gospel - Luke 16:1-13**

*Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.*

P: The Gospel according to Luke, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

P: Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his

master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

(Be seated after the gospel)

## **Children's Message**

## **Sermon**

## **Hymn of the Day – ELW #793 - "Be Thou My Vision"**

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers and Intercessions:**

P: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

*A brief silence.*

God our Savior, you keep your church in faith and truth. Accompany those preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Enlighten preachers, teachers, seminarians, and all those who share your good news with the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Ruler of the nations, you direct those in authority. Give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders and safeguard the dignity of each person. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Breathe justice into economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustainer and giver of life, you bless this congregation with abundance. Instruct us in the proper and faithful use of wealth and resources, that we share generously. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of glory, you gather your saints around your throne. Keep us thankful for the witness of those who have gone before us (*especially*), and bring us with them to the heavenly feast that has no end. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **Sharing of the Peace**

### **Offertory Music -**

### **Offertory Song - ELW 884**

### **Offertory Prayer (said by Pastor)**

P: Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **The Great Thanksgiving (page 206)**

P: The Lord be with you.      **C: AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

P: Lift up your hearts.      **C: WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.**

### **Preface for Pentecost (spoken by Pastor)**

**"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord" (spoken) ELW pg. 207**

### **Eucharistic Prayer (said by Pastor)**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Invitation to Communion**

P: Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

### **Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow ushers)**

**"Lamb of God" (spoken) ELW pg. 208**

### **Communion Table Blessing**

P: God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion (said by Pastor)**

P: God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Blessing**

P: God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Song: ELW#717 - "Let Justice Flow Like Streams"**

## Dismissal:

P: Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Postlude:

### Helping in Worship

Preacher	- Rev. James Heckman
Organist/Choir Director	- Carolyn Williams
Acolyte	- Sammy Mueller
Altar Guild	- Nancy Moskella and Val McGinn
Lector	- Karen Beerer
Greeters	- Lois Altemose
Communion Usher	- TBD
Council Counting Team	- Mark Harwick and Cathy Mueller
Technology	- Ken Anderson
Office Secretary	- Jessica Mette
Custodian	- Dianna Streletz

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- TODAY, Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>- 15th Sunday after Pentecost
- **Following the service** – Dedication of Playground & Congregational Picnic
- Wednesdays – 1-3pm @ Hlavary/Seip residence: Bible Study –John’s Gospel
- Pastor’s Office Hours: Wednesdays & Fridays – 10 to 1 pm.
- Upperbucks Conference Fall Festival: Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> @ St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church, Perkasio. All are invited.
- Next Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>- 16th Sunday after Pentecost
- On **Sunday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>** after church, Becky Prasner will share some of her experiences serving in the Foreign Service with her husband. We will provide breakfast refreshments prior to her presentation.
- Mary Ellen Jonczyk passed away Sunday Sept 4, 2022 after a battle with breast cancer for the third time. There will be a celebration of her life Saturday Sept 24 beginning at 10:00am. Her obituary is posted on the website for Naugle funeral home, Quakertown, PA.

- SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS- SEPTEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup> – Don Seipt (93); SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> – Katie Aquino and Mary Ellen Jonczyk (Should I still post Mary Ellen's Birthday?); SEPTEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>- Mike Rhine; SEPTEMBER 27<sup>th</sup> - Jack Pyne; SEPTEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> - Maggie Fischer
- SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES- SEPTEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>- Nancy & Frank Moskella (48) ; SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> - Rachel & Joel Roney (11); SEPTEMBER 26<sup>th</sup> - Tanya & Ben Naska (23)
- SEPTEMBER BAPTISMS- SEPTEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>- Michael Altemus; SEPTEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>- Makenzie Naska; SEPTEMBER 27<sup>th</sup> - Nancy Moskella
- Our Outreach envelopes for September have been designated for Lutheran World Relief.
- There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for Food Basket donations. You can either buy the supplies for the basket or Helen Dungan can shop for you.

**Please lift up in prayer the following ...**

**For Healing of those in our Congregation:** Michael Altemus; Joanne & David Antoni; Frank Erceg; Betty and George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Barbara Naska; Bethany Naska; and Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

**For Healing of Friends and Family:** Wanda Altemose; Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Michael Barats; Anthony Beck; Jason Bigley; Aiden Benoure; Kelly Bordelon; Emma Brown; Ollie Butler; Deb Carmichael; Bill Corrigan; Stephanie Courtney; Jacob Currie; Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Chris Fear; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Lois James & family; Virginia Johnson; Mary Ellen Jonczyk; Lauren Keebler; Martine King; Jane Litzenberger; Chelsea Marley; Lenny Marin; Jim McAnally; Becky; Naska; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Debra Patten; Lisa Pezzino; Jennifer Phelps; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Lani Schlegel; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Jesse Stimell; Donna Storm; Jeffrey Tapler; Russ Trauger; Nancy Vetter; Linda Wilson, and Henry Wong.

**For those who are Homebound:** Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; Silas Rodenbach; and Hal Taylor.