

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 22:26–34

With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless; with the purified you deal purely, and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous. You save a humble people, but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down. For you are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness. For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him. “For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God? This God is my strong refuge and has made my way blameless. He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:6–13

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:1–13

“[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management 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 removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

✠ ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN CHURCH ✠

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✠ The Steward’s Shrewdness Sanctified ✠

“The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness” (Luke 16:1–9). The steward’s shrewdness is praiseworthy for two reasons. First, he knew the master would be merciful. He trusted that the master would honor the debts he forgave in the master’s name. In the same way, though we have squandered our heavenly Father’s possessions in selfishness and sin, Jesus is the Steward who has canceled our debt, knowing that His forgiveness will be honored by the Father because of the holy cross. Secondly, the steward was shrewd in using oil and wheat to provide for his earthly welfare. So also do these earthly elements aid us when pressed into heavenly use in the anointing of baptism and the wheat of the Lord’s Supper. Those who have the Sacraments will have an eternal home when their earthly home fails. These provide us aid in times of temptation (1 Cor. 10:6–13). For the Lord is our strength and a shield to all who trust in Him (2 Sam. 22:26–34).

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Aug 5 & Aug 9, Year of Our ✠ Lord 2020

COMMUNION ANNOUNCEMENT: Communion is offered today for those who: (1) repent of their sins, (2) believe in Jesus as their Savior, (3) believe that with the bread and the wine Christ gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, and (4) desire to amend their sinful ways with the help of the Holy Spirit. We also believe that Holy Communion is a fellowship meal with those of the same confession of faith: therefore, we ask that those **NOT** of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the American Association of Lutheran Churches, or Lutheran Church Canada **please speak with the Pastor before communing.**

Introit *(Sing to the Tune of C)*

**☩ Behold, God is my | helper;
the Lord is the upholder | of my life.**

**He will return the evil to my | enemies;
in your faithfulness put an | end to them.**

**O God, save me, | by your name,
and vindicate me | by your might.**

**O God, | hear my prayer;
give ear to the words | of my mouth.**

**For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men | seek my
life;
they do not set God be- | fore themselves.**

**For he has delivered me from every | trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my | enemies.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. | Amen.**

**Behold, God is my | helper;
the Lord is the upholder | of my life.**

**He will return the evil to my | enemies;
in your faithfulness put an | end to them.**

Prayers of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P For the Lord of the harvest to fill His vineyard of grace with faithful workers, that His Means of Grace would be available to sinners in need the world over, let us pray to the Lord:

☩ Lord, have mercy.

P For the strength to resist the temptations that assault God's children, especially the temptations to indulge in sexual immorality or to be overcome with the love of money, that they would repent where they have fallen prey to these temptations and, with God's help, strive to be chaste and content, let us pray to the Lord:

☩ Lord, have mercy.

P For a faithful prayer life among God's children, that they would call upon the Lord when in need, give Him thanks for the provisions He provides for body and soul, and praise Him in everything, let us pray to the Lord:

☩ Lord, have mercy.

P For good government among us, that we might live in freedom and peace without violence or oppression, let us pray to the Lord:

☩ Lord, have mercy.

P For those experiencing physical afflictions at this time, especially..., that they would be delivered from every trouble and strengthened in their faith, let us pray to the Lord:

☩ Lord, have mercy.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

☩ Amen.

Divine Service

Setting One



Preparation

Pastor's Welcome
Announcements
Hymn of Invocation #743
Invocation/Absolution p.151

Word

Introit *Bulletin*
Kyrie/This is the Feast p.152
Collect of the Day p.156
Old Testament *Reverse*
Epistle *Reverse*
Alleluia P. 156
Holy Gospel *Reverse*
Hymn of the Day #730
Sermon
Apostles' Creed p.159
Prayers *Bulletin*
Offering *(In back of the Sanctuary)*
Offertory #781 (v 1, 2)

Sacrament

Communion Announcement
Preface p.160
Distribution #622, #643, #624,
#637, #620
Thank the Lord p.164
Departing Hymn #761