

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Old Testament Reading: *Genesis 4:1–15*

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it." Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the Lord said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." Then the Lord said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

Epistle: *Ephesians 2:1–10*

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience —among whom we all

once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Holy Gospel: *Luke 18:9–14*

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

✠ ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ✠

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✠ The Lord Lifts Up the Lowly ✠

“And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard” (Gen. 4:1–15). For unlike Abel, Cain’s offering did not proceed from a heart that revered and trusted in the Lord. Thus, the lowly tax collector who prayed, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” was the one who went down to his house justified before God, not the respectable, outwardly righteous Pharisee who trusted in himself and his own good living (Luke 18:9–14). “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Eph. 2:1–10). The one who penitently despairs of his own righteousness and relies completely on the atoning mercy of God in Christ is the one who is declared righteous. For Christ died for our sins and rose again the third day (1 Cor. 15:1–10). Therefore, “everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

August 19 & August 23, 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*)

**☩ God is in his holy habi- | tation;
[He] settles the solitary | in a home.**

**The God of Israel—he | is the one
who gives power and strength to his | people.**

**God shall arise, his enemies shall be | scattered;
and those who hate him shall flee be- | fore him!**

**But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult be- | fore God;
they shall be jubilant | with joy!**

**O God, when you went out before your | people,
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the | needy.**

**Blessèd be the Lord, who daily | bears us up;
God is our sal- | vation.**

(Sing Gloria Patri p.186)

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 Be merciful to us, heavenly Father, for daily and much do we sin and transgress Your holy will. For the sake of the perfect life and sacrificial death of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, forgive our sins. Fill us with Your Spirit, that we would remain humble, never forgetting that we have been saved by grace, through faith, which was not our doing but Your gracious gift. Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ Hear our prayer.

P Be merciful to our neighbors, especially those who have sinned against us and done us harm. Give us patience and strength, that we would deal with them gently and humbly, and that we would be ready to forgive as we have been forgiven. Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ Hear our prayer.

P Be merciful to all those in need, especially children who lack food, clothing and shelter, and provide for their needs. Look in mercy also upon all orphans who are in need of parents to care for them. Provide them with loving fathers and mothers. Until such provision is realized, bless those who care for them, that they would do so in love, which is filled with mercy and compassion. Lord, in Your mercy

☩ Hear our prayer.

P Be merciful to the sick and the sorrowing, especially..., that they would receive not only temporal relief, but that, in all times and places and under all circumstances, they would know the forgiveness of their sins and the hope of eternal life won for them in Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ Hear our prayer.

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 Three



Preparation

Pastor's Welcome

Announcements

Hymn of Invocation #744

Invocation/Absolution p.184

Word

Introit *Bulletin*

Kyrie/Gloria in Excelsis p.186

Collect of the Day

Old Testament *Reverse*

Epistle *Reverse*

Alleluia P. 190

Holy Gospel *Reverse*

Nicene Creed p.191

Hymn of the Day #559

Sermon

Offertory p. 192

Offering (*In back of the Sanctuary*)

Prayers *Bulletin*

Sacrament

Communion Announcement

Preface p.194

Distribution #633, #623,
#621, #634

Nunc Dimittis p.199

Benediction

Departing Hymn #686