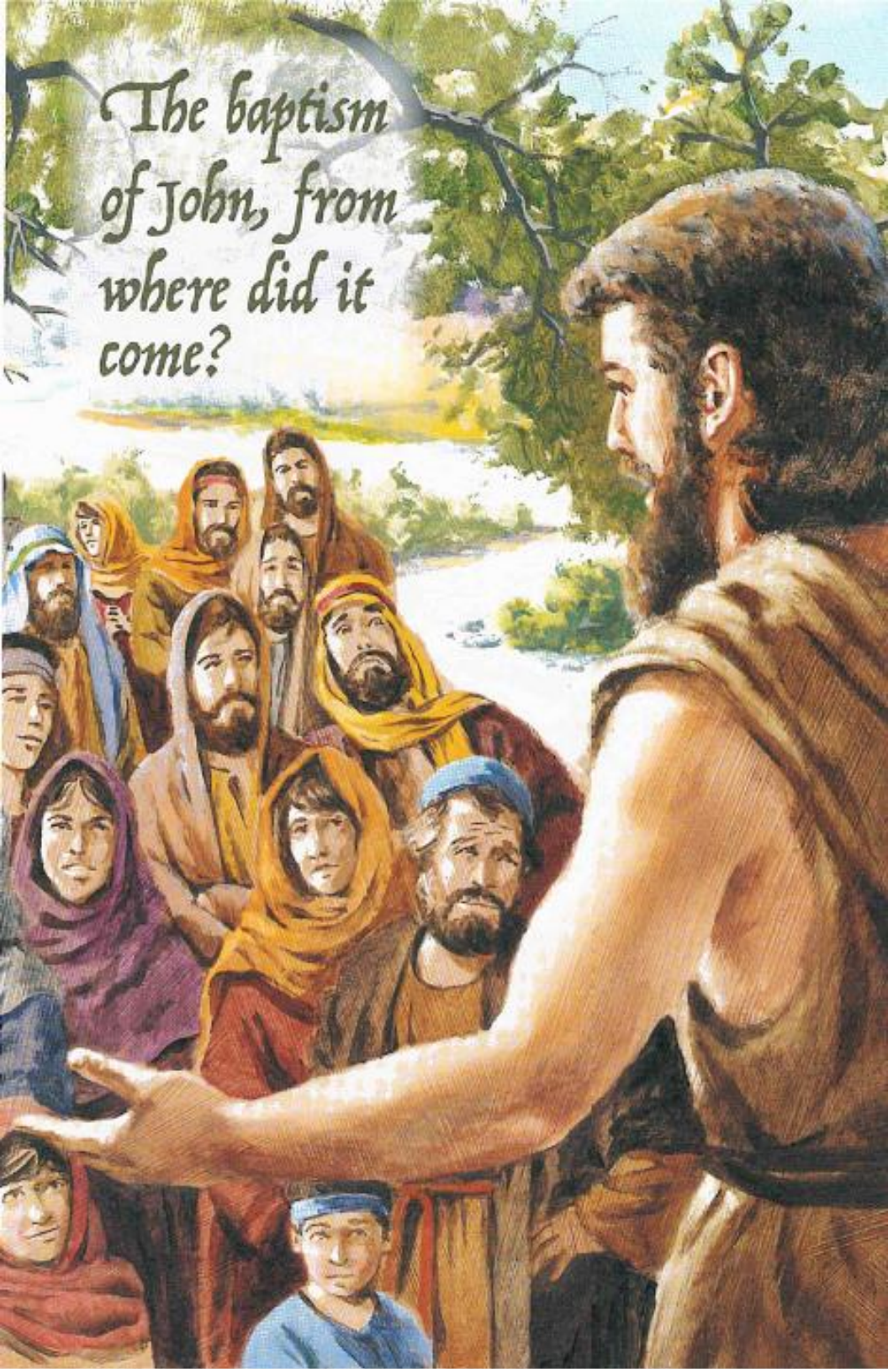


*The baptism
of John, from
where did it
come?*



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2020

What Do You Think?

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

3210 Maple Drive, Plover, Wisconsin 54467
Phone: Church 715-341-2898; Cell 715-498-0093
Website www.beautifulsaviorploverwi.com

Pastor David E. Ficken

Our Mission

“To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known”

Our Vision

Educate, Equip and Encourage ourselves and our families through worship and study, and engage our community through discipleship, example and Acts of Kindness, using the unique gifts bestowed on each member of our congregation by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Worship Information

Parents with Young Children: We encourage families to worship together.

Worship Bulletin: Our order of service is printed out in your worship folder.

Worship Form: There are 5 “Movements” in our Worship.

- God grants us the gift of forgiveness.
- God speaks to us from His Word.
- God receives our offerings and prayers.
- God offers us His real presence in Holy Communion.
- God blesses us and sends us out.


Communion: Please read the Statement of Communion below.

(If you are **gluten intolerant** please speak with Pastor or an elder prior to the worship service so we can accommodate you.)

STATEMENT OF COMMUNION

BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT:

- We are all sinners in need of forgiveness.
- Jesus is our only Savior from sin through His death and resurrection.
- The True Body and Blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion

 **Please see Pastor if you have any questions about this or do not believe in the Lord’s Supper in this way. You are welcome to come forward for a blessing if you are not communing.**

- **TO PREPARE:** Please use the Christian Questions with Their Answers from “The Sacrament of the Altar” on page 329 in the front of the Lutheran Service Book. You are not obligated to partake if you feel, for whatever reason, the need to refrain from the Lord’s Supper for a short time.
- **Please see Pastor if there is something going on in your life that needs the attention of Christ in private confession and absolution.**



Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; For You I wait all the day long. *Psalm 25:45*

AS WE GATHER . . . We always want to know why. The rulers of the people wanted to know why Jesus was saying what He said and doing what He did. But Jesus challenged them with His Word and with the prophetic voice of John the Baptist. Why did they not listen, and why did they not repent? Why do we not listen and repent? Jesus told a parable of two sons—one whose words were yes but his heart was no, and the other whose words were no but whose heart said yes. We are called to listen. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and we shall be saved.

WITNESS & OUTREACH . . . Matthew 21:23-27

God's Word brings together two concepts that you don't see very often: stars and humility. Christians are to shine like the stars in this crooked and twisted world, and to do it with the humility of Christ. Now there is a tall order. How is it done? One needy soul at a time. Christ is working through you for that "tall" purpose. He is working out salvation: the liberation of pain, struggle, challenge, emotional hurt, guilt, and shame through the forgiveness of sin, the loving of one another, the putting of others first, and He is doing it through you to others. You are that bright shining star giving glory to God in the humility of day to day living for Christ. Your life has significance, right where you are. You are the answer to someone's prayer with your Christ-like heart, words, and actions in the vineyard where you radiate with God's glory.

Hymns will be from the Lutheran Service Book (LSB).

WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS

HYMN "With the Lord Begin Your Task"

LSB 869

With the Lord begin your task; Jesus will direct it.
For His aid and counsel ask; Jesus will perfect it.
Ev'ry morn with Jesus rise, And when day is ended,
In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him commended.

Let each day begin with prayer, Praise, and adoration.
On the Lord cast ev'ry care; He is your salvation.
Morning, evening, and at night Jesus will be near you,
Save you from the tempter's might, With His presence cheer you.

With your Savior at your side, Foes need not alarm you;
In His promises confide, And no ill can harm you.
All your trust and hope repose In the mighty Master,
Who in wisdom truly knows How to stem disaster.

If your task be thus begun With the Savior's blessing,
Safely then your course will run, Toward the promise pressing.
Good will follow ev'rywhere While you here must wander;
You at last the joy will share In the mansions yonder.

Thus, Lord Jesus, ev'ry task Be to You commended;
May Your will be done, I ask, Until life is ended.
Jesus, in Your name begun Be the day's endeavor;
Grant that it may well be done To Your praise forever.

INVOCATION *(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of your Baptism.)*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 25:6-7; 147:6*

Pastor: The LORD lifts up the humble;

People: He casts the wicked to the ground.

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love

People: for they have been from of old.

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

People: according to Your steadfast love, remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(Silence for reflection on the Word of God and self-examination.)*

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32 (*The Lord takes no pleasure in the death of anyone, so turn to Him.*) BACK OF BULLETIN

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 25:1–10 (*None who wait on You will be put to shame.*)

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.

³ Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴ Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.

⁶ Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

GRADUAL *Psalm 91:11; 103:1*

He will command His angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

EPISTLE Philippians 2:1–4, 14-18 (*At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.*) BACK OF BULLETIN

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

VERSE *Matthew 28:18b*

Alleluia. All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 21:23–32 (*Which of the two did the will of his father?*) BACK OF BULLETIN

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

HYMN "Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower" LSB 694

Thee will I love, my strength, my tower;

Thee will I love, my hope, my joy.

Thee will I love with all my power,

With ardor time shall ne'er destroy.

Thee will I love, O Light Divine,

So long as life is mine.

Thee will I love, my life, my Savior,

Who art my best and truest friend.

Thee will I love and praise forever,

For never shall Thy kindness end.

Thee will I love with all my heart--

Thou my Redeemer art!

I thank Thee, Jesus, Sun from heaven,
Whose radiance hath brought light to me;
I thank Thee, who hast richly given
All that could make me glad and free;
I thank Thee that my soul is healed
By what Thy lips revealed.

O keep me watchful, then, and humble;
Permit me nevermore to stray.
Uphold me when my feet would stumble,
And keep me on the narrow way.
Fill all my nature with Thy light,
O Radiance strong and bright!

Thee will I love, my crown of gladness;
Thee will I love, my God and Lord,
Amid the darkest depths of sadness,
And not for hope of high reward,
For Thine own sake, O Light divine,
So long as life is mine.

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: As You have promised, Lord, hear Your people when they call, and answer us according to Your mercy.
Almighty Father, You take no pleasure in the death of anyone. As John the Baptist once called a people to repentance and faith, so raise up voices within Your Church today to call a world to turn from their sins and live through faith in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty Father, You have given to us the saving name of Jesus. Continue to bless us with faithful pastors who will preach Jesus Christ and His salvation, and bestow upon us faithful church workers who will serve us in Your name. Bless those now preparing for vocations as pastors, deaconesses, teachers, and all other offices as Your Church has established. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty Father, You are gracious and merciful without end. Deliver us from a spirit of complaint, and keep us from grumbling at Your call to serve You with all that we are and all that we have. Grant us grace to fulfill our baptismal calling where You have placed us and

according to the vocations given to us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty Father, Your power continues to uphold all things. Give Your blessing to our president, Congress, governor, and state legislature. Guide all who make, administer, and judge our laws that they be in accord with Your commands and give protection to the unborn, the aged, and the oppressed. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty Father, You know our enemies and those whose purpose is set against Yours. Give Your blessing to all who defend our nation here and abroad and to all emergency personnel and disaster workers who come to our aid in time of need. Guide the nations in the paths of peace and deliver us from terror and violence. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty Father, You have given us healing, comfort, and peace in Christ, especially in times of illness, affliction, depression, and sorrow. Hear us on behalf of all who suffer any need. Grant them grace sufficient to sustain them in their hour of trouble and at last deliver them into the perfect rest of Your eternal presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty Father, Your Son has set His Table among us and given us the privilege of receiving His own body and blood in this Sacrament. Guard us against anything that would keep us from receiving the full benefit of this communion. Bring us at last to that day when division, false teaching, and impenitence will all be overcome and we shall be one before You. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty Father, You give good gifts to Your people. Keep us from ingratitude and guide us to use the resources entrusted to us for the good of the Kingdom. Accept the tithes and offerings we bring to You this day with the worship of our praise and thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty Father, You have delivered the saints of old into the perfect rest of Your presence. Keep us in faith

that we, too, may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life. Help us to remember their example and to be encouraged in the struggles of this mortal life by the way You sustained them to the end. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He

broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✕ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✕ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26, Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you. Amen.**

AGNUS DEI “The Lamb”

LSB 547

The Lamb the Lamb
O Father where’s the sacrifice
Faith sees believes
God will provide the Lamb of price

Chorus

Worthy is the Lamb
Whose death makes me His own
The Lamb is reigning on His throne

The Lamb the Lamb
One perfect final offering
The Lamb the Lamb
Let earth join heav’n His praise to sing **Chorus**

The Lamb the Lamb
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still His will
On our behalf the law to fill **Chorus**

He sighs He dies
He takes my sin and wretchedness
He lives forgives
He gives me His own righteousness **Chorus**

He rose He rose
My heart with thanks now overflows
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong **Chorus**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS . . .

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

LSB 549

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God
Who from His altar call;
Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod
And crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line,
Whom David Lord did call,
The God incarnate, man divine,
And crown Him Lord of all.
The God incarnate, Man divine,
And crown Him Lord of all.

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

LSB 543

What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the great I AM.
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing.
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing His love for me,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB 211

O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three n One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,

People: for His steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: Almighty and ever-living God, You make us both to will
and to do those things that are good and acceptable in

Your sight. Let Your fatherly hand ever guide us and Your Holy Spirit ever be with us to direct us in the knowledge and obedience of Your Word that we may rejoice in Your good pleasure all the days of our lives and be raised according to Your mercy to live in Your eternal presence forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow” LSB 805

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord

Our “**tithes**” are our first fruits returned to God in proportional, joyful, thankful and faithful response to His grace. “**Offerings**” are special gifts for ministries, memorials and needs over and above the tithe.

(If you are a guest, we welcome you as a guest, so please do not feel obligated to give an offering unless you feel moved to do so by the Spirit).

LOOSE COINS: Don't forget to bring your loose coins to be placed in the offering plates next Sunday. The first Sunday of each month all loose coins placed in the offering plates will be given to the LWML Mite program for Mission Project Grants. October's Project Grant:

NEXT WEEK's READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 5:1–7 (*The vineyard of the Lord is judged.*)

PSALM Psalm 80:7–19

EPISTLE Philippians 3:4b–14 (*Paul witnesses to the congregation at Philippi.*)

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 21:33–46 (*The parable of the tenants in the vineyard*)

Old Testament Reading:
Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

¹The word of the LORD came to me:
²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

Epistle: Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any par-

ticipation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23–27

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”