

West St. Olaf Lutheran Church

70640 260th Avenue - Hayfield, MN

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 5, 2010

Pastor: Darby Lawrence West Organist: Gloria Pew

Choir Director: Kim Jacobson

INTRODUCTION

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship today, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of the Christ in the blessed sacrament and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS p. 56

ENTRANCE HYMN: Take My Life, That I May Be (LBW 406)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 30:15–20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the Lord; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD

your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel ¹ of the wicked,* nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats ¹ of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law ¹ of the LORD,*

and they meditate on his law ¹ day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that ¹ do not wither;* everything they ¹ do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so ¹ with the wicked;*

they are like chaff which the wind ¹ blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when ¹ judgment comes,*

nor the sinner in the council ¹ of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way ¹ of the righteous,*

but the way of the wick- ¹ ed is doomed.

SECOND LESSON: Philemon 1:1–21

While Paul was in prison, he was aided by a runaway slave named Onesimus. The slave's master, Philemon, was a Christian friend of Paul. Paul told Onesimus to return to his master and encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a Christian brother.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love — and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother — especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE p. 62 *Alleluia*

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25–33

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

(SING) *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus speaks frankly about the fearsome costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶"Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

The Gospel of the Lord.

(SING) *Praise to you, O Christ.*

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult* (LBW 494)

NICENE CREED

**C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayer Response: Pastor: "Hear us, O God."

Congregation: "Your mercy is great."

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY p. 66 *Let the vineyards*

OFFERTORY PRAYER p. 67

DIALOGUE p. 68

PREFACE p. 68

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY p. 69

THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER p. 71

COMMUNION p. 71

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

(ALL GREEN) #486 *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*

#474 *Children of the Heavenly Father*

#448 *Amazing Grace*

CANTICLE p. 72 *Thank the Lord*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER p. 74

CLOSING HYMN: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (LBW 499)*

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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West Prayer List: Esther Wilson, Lucille Morris, Jeff Lechnir, Violet Alrick, Jeff Mittelstadt, Marietta Fjerstad, Keith Morris, Alice Tiegen, Elina Senjem, Kent Fjerstad, Rev. Leon Holtan, Darcy Jacobson, Chris Woodwick (nephew of Ardean and Carma Bjornson), Hope Noel Burns (relative of Jeff Thoe family), Sandy Pew (Boyd's sister-in-law), Jim Shekleton (brother of Donna Larsen)

East Prayer List: Sherman Golberg, Scharlene Schroeder (sister of Carol Mestad), Ludie Frey, Iva Sattre, Bev Brandt, Helen Thompson, Alice Watson, Gayle Robinson, Marvin Brandt, Mildred Braaten, Bill Fritts, Mya DeCook (daughter of Ryan and Jennifer)

Those with a long term need for our prayers: Laurine Gulbransen, Matt Miller (nephew of Carma Bjornson and Julie Boyum), Donnie Senjem

TIME CHANGE: During September West worship services will be at 9 AM. East services will be at **11 AM**. Sunday School will resume on September 12th at 10 AM at both Churches. **We will also bless the children's back packs, so bring them in.**

OUR APPOINTMENTS

WEDNESDAY	1:30 PM	WELCA Meeting
THURSDAY	9:00 AM	Pastor in Office Till Noon
	10:00 AM	Bulletin Deadline
FRIDAY		Pastor's Day Off
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	West Worship Service
	10:00 AM	Sunday School both Churches
	10:00 AM	WELCA Bazaar Planning Meeting
	11:00 AM	East Worship Service

Thank You to those serving us today

Altar Guild: Julie Boyum and Wendy Iverson
Acolytes: Ushers
Reader: Nancy Peterson
Ushers: Don Alrick, Ben Horejsi, Neil Rabehl, Craig Steinfadt
Deacon: Nancy Peterson

WELCA will meet on Wednesday at 1:30 PM. Inez Hauglum will lead devotions. The program will be "Bible Study." Hostesses are Loretta Himle and Shirley Gulbransen

There are four children graduating from the West St. Olaf Cradle Roll and starting Sunday School next Sunday. They will receive their Beginner's Bibles during church services that morning. They are:

Adam Glynn Nicholas Larsen
Landon Steinfadt Greer Tiegen

The three 3rd graders receiving Bibles are:

Peyton Jervis Riley Phenix Olivia Larson

WELCA will meet during coffee hour next Sunday to play the Bazaar and Luncheon on October 9th.

Stained Glass Window Project: Phase 2 Window Repair is planned to begin in late July or early August. The cost for Phase 2 is \$14,187. A down payment of 10% (\$1,419) has been made. Donations and memorials are appreciated.

If you would like the deacons to send a card to a family in our West congregation who is ill or has lost a loved one, please let the deacon for the month know. The September deacon is Nancy Peterson.

Last Week's Attendance and Collections: Attendance: 71. Current Offering: \$951, Benevolence Offering: \$30 and Window Fund: \$40.

Nest week's acolytes: Julia Smith and Catrina Fjerstad

Next week's Readings: Exodus 32:7-14, Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28, Psalm 51:1-10, Psalm 14, 1 Timothy 1:12-17, Luke 15:1-10

THRIVENT INFORMATION

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, you will be receiving a letter regarding Choice Dollars. Eligible Thrivent members are being designated dollar amounts, in which you have the choice as to where you wish this dollar amount to be given. This program is called Choice Dollars.

Eligible Thrivent members may request their Choice Dollars to be given to many organizations nationwide, including West St. Olaf, such as Current, Stain Glass Window Fund, Cemetery, etc. Potential designated Choice Dollar amounts may range from \$25.00 to \$500.00 for each eligible member.

If you are eligible to direct Choice Dollars, you will be receiving a letter soon from Thrivent telling you how to designate your Choice Dollars. If you are uncertain about your eligibility, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice, or contact your local Thrivent Financial representative.

PRAYERS FOR CONGREGATIONS - We are "Called into God's Marvelous Light" to be Christ-Centered Disciples. This week we are asking for prayers for the following:

United Lutheran in Frost
Salem Lutheran in Albert Lea
Ngimu Congregation in Tanzania (partnered with Salem, Albert Lea)
Trinity Lutheran in West Concord
Vista Lutheran in New Richland
Nkinto Lutheran Church in Tanzania

Pastor: Rev. Darby Lawrence 258-0381 revdarby@gmail.com
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