

# WELCOME TO *Calvary* St. John's

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CONGREGATIONS OF THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

Sean DeFrain, Pastor ♦ (818) 264-9583

THE 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 11, 2020

Today's service:

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

page 38 in *Christian Worship*

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent

death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**♪ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessed are they who take refuge in him.  
Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.  
Your faithfulness continues forever.  
Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

Let us pray:

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**♪ Amen.**

## **THE WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON**

*Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32*

The word of the LORD came to me.

<sup>2</sup> What do you mean, you who keep repeating this proverb concerning the soil of Israel, "Fathers eat sour grapes, and their sons' teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup> As surely as I live, declares the LORD God, you will never again use this proverb in Israel. <sup>4</sup> Indeed, all souls are mine. The soul of the father is mine just like the soul of the son. The soul who sins is the one who will die.

<sup>25</sup> But you say, "The LORD's way is not fair." Listen now, house of Israel. Is it my way that is not fair? Is it not your ways that are not fair? <sup>26</sup> If a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and practices unrighteousness, he will die because of it. Because of the unrighteousness that he has practiced, he will die.

<sup>27</sup> But if a wicked man turns from his wickedness that he has done and practices justice and righteousness, he will preserve his life. <sup>28</sup> Because he has seen and turned away

from all the rebellious acts that he had committed, he will surely live, and he will not die. <sup>29</sup> But the house of Israel says, "The LORD's way is not fair." Is it really my ways that are not fair, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not fair?

<sup>30</sup> Therefore, I will judge each one of you according to his ways, O house of Israel, declares the LORD God. Repent and turn away from all your rebellious acts, so that you will not set out a stumbling block that makes you guilty. <sup>31</sup> Throw off from yourselves all your rebellious actions by which you have rebelled, and obtain a new heart and a new spirit for yourselves. Why should you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup> For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies, declares the LORD God. So repent and live!

## **PSALM 25**

Sung to the tune of "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

**To thee I lift my soul,  
In thee my trust repose;  
My God, O put me not to shame  
Before triumphant foes.**

**None shall be put to shame  
That humbly wait for thee,  
But those that willfully transgress,  
On them the shame shall be.**

**Show me thy paths, O Lord,  
Teach me thy perfect way,  
O guide me in thy truth divine,  
And lead me day by day.**

**For thou art God that dost  
To me salvation send,  
And patiently through all the day  
Upon thee I attend.**

**Recall thy mercies, Lord,  
Their tenderness untold,  
And all thy loving-kindnesses,  
For they have been of old.**

## **SECOND LESSON**

*Philippians 2:1-11*

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being united in spirit, and having one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility consider one another better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look carefully not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

<sup>5</sup> Indeed, let this attitude be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. <sup>6</sup> Though he was by nature God, he did not consider equality with God as a prize to be displayed, <sup>7</sup> but he emptied himself by taking the nature of a servant. When he was born in human likeness, and his appearance was like that of any other man, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **THE VERSE OF THE DAY**

Alleluia. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Alleluia. (Philippians 2:10,11 cf. NIV)

♪ **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**These words are written that we may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **GOSPEL LESSON**

*Matthew 21:28-32*

<sup>28</sup> "What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go work today in my vineyard.' <sup>29</sup> He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup> He came to the second and said the same thing. The second son answered, 'I will go, sir,' but he did not go. <sup>31</sup> Which of the two did the will of his father?"

They said to him, "The first."

Jesus said to them, "Amen I tell you: The tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup> For John came to you in the way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him. Even when you saw this, you did not change your mind and believe him.

♪ **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

Before You, God, the Judge of All  
#306

**Before you, God, the Judge of all,  
With grief and shame I humbly fall.  
I see my sins against you, Lord,  
My sins of thought and deed and word.  
They press me sore; to you I flee:  
O God, be merciful to me!**

**O Lord, my God, to you I pray:  
Oh, cast me not in wrath away!  
Let your good Spirit ne'er depart,  
But let him draw to you my heart  
That truly penitent I be:  
O God, be merciful to me!**

**O Jesus, let your precious blood  
Be to my soul a cleansing flood.  
Turn not, O Lord, your guest away,  
But grant that justified I may  
Go to my house at peace to be:  
O God, be merciful to me!**

## **SERMON**

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

## **THANKSGIVING**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day

after day.

**We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

**We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom and love.**

Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

**Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

**Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

***Special prayers and intercessions may follow.***

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

***Silent prayer.***

We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

**We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**♪ Amen.**

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness  
#353

**Praise the one who breaks the darkness  
With a liberating light;  
Praise the one who frees the pris'ners,  
Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the one who preached the gospel,  
Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms and feeding thousands  
With the Father's word of peace.**

**Praise the one who blessed the children  
With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the one who drove out demons  
With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the one who bring cool water  
To the desert's burning sand;  
From this well comes living water,  
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**

**Let us praise the Word incarnate,  
Christ, who suffered in our place;  
Jesus died and rose victorious  
That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer,  
Praise the one who makes us one.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Anyone who wishes to schedule private communion is welcome to contact Pastor DeFrain at (818) 264-9583 or [sporophytes@hotmail.com](mailto:sporophytes@hotmail.com).

Wednesday at 7 p.m. – Bible study

We are continuing our study of the book of Esther. Please contact Pastor for a link to the meeting.