

WELCOME
TO
Calvary St. John's

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CONGREGATIONS OF THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

Sean De Frain, Pastor ♦ (818) 264-9583

THE 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 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:

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases 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

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my loved one a song about my loved one's vineyard.

My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile ridge.

² He dug it up and gathered the stones out of it.

He planted it with the best vines.

He built a tower in the middle of it.

He also cut a winepress into it.

He expected it to produce clusters of sweet grapes,
but it produced only sour grapes.

³ So now, you residents of Jerusalem and you men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard
that I have not already done for it?

When I expected it to produce clusters of sweet grapes,
why did it produce sour grapes?

⁵ Now, let me tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will take away its hedge, and it will become a pasture.

I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland.

It will not be pruned or hoed.

So briars and thorns will shoot up.

I will also command the clouds not to pour rain on it.

⁷ Yes, the vineyard of the LORD of Armies is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah are the planting that was pleasing to him.

He expected justice, but instead there was oppression.

He expected righteousness, but there was an outcry.

PSALM 118, excerpts

Spoken responsively

The Lord is my strength and my song;

he has become my salvation.

The Lord's right hand is lifted high;

the Lord's right hand has done mighty things!

I will not die but live,

and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;

you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;

the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

You are my God, and I will give you thanks.

You are my God, and I will exalt you.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

for his mercy endures forever.

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 3:12-21

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus also took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it yet, but there is one thing I do: Forgetting the things that are behind and straining toward the things that are ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Therefore, let all of us who are mature continue to think this way. And if you think differently about anything, God will reveal this to you too. ¹⁶ Only let us think the same thing and walk in line with what we already have attained.

¹⁷ Brothers, join together in imitating me and in paying attention to those who are walking according to the pattern we gave you. ¹⁸ To be sure, many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. I told you about them often, and now I am saying it while weeping. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is their appetite, and their glory is in their shame. They are thinking only about earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. We are eagerly waiting for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. I will proclaim your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Alleluia. (Hebrews 2:12 cf. RSV)

♫ **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 21:33-43

"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. He leased it out to some tenant farmers and went away on a journey. ³⁴ When the time approached to harvest the fruit, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵ The tenant farmers seized his servants. They beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then the landowner sent even more servants than the first time. The tenant farmers treated them the same way. ³⁷ Finally, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. ³⁸ But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance!' ³⁹ They took him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ So when the landowner comes, what will he do to those tenant farmers?"

⁴¹ They told him, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end. Then he will lease out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him his fruit when it is due."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?

⁴³ "That is why I tell you the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruit.

♪ Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

#203

**Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would seek to overthrow your Son
And to destroy what he has done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,
For you are Lord of lords alone
Defend your Christendom that we
May sing your praise eternally.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth.
Support us in our final strife,
And lead us out of death to life.**

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

My God, My Father, Make Me Strong
#468

**My God, my Father, make me strong,
When tasks of life seem hard and long,**

**To greet them with this triumph song:
Your will be done.**

**Draw from my timid eyes the veil
To show, where earthly forces fail,
Your pow'r and love must still prevail–
Your will be done.**

**With confident and humble mind
In service freedom I will find,
Praying through ev'ry toil assigned:
Your will be done.**

**What seems impossible I dare;
Yours is the call and yours the care.
Your wisdom shall the way prepare–
Your will be done.**

**Heav'n's music chimes the glad days in;
Hope soars beyond death, pain, and sin;
Faith shouts in triumph, Love must win–
Your will be done!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anyone who wishes to schedule private communion is welcome to contact Pastor De Frain at (818) 264-9583 or sporophytes@hotmail.com.

Wednesday at 7 p.m. – Bible study
We are studying the book of Job. Please contact Pastor for a link to the meeting.

There will be no area Reformation service at St. Paul's First this year due to the current restrictions on gatherings.

LOOKING AHEAD (Calvary)
SATURDAY, October 24
8 a.m. – Church work party

SUNDAY, November 1

9:15 a.m. – Outdoor coffee and refreshments
10 a.m. – Worship video viewing in the picnic area