

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

29 July 2018 Anno Domini

INTROIT *(Ps. 54:1-3, 7; antiphon: Ps. 54:4-5)*



*Behold, God is my | helper;**

the Lord is the upholder | of my life.

*He will return the evil to my | enemies;**

in your faithfulness put an | end to them.

*O God, save me, | by your name,**

and vindicate me | by your might.

*O God, | hear my prayer;**

give ear to the words | of my mouth.

*For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men | seek my life;**

they do not set God be- | fore themselves.

*For he has delivered me from every | trouble,**

and my eye has looked in triumph on my | enemies.

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**

and to the Holy | Spirit;

*as it was in the be- | ginning,**

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*Behold, God is my | helper;**

the Lord is the upholder | of my life.

*He will return the evil to my | enemies;**

in your faithfulness put an | end to them.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL *(Ps. 8:1)*

*O | LORD, our Lord,**

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!

*You have set your | glory**

above the | heavens.

Old Testament:

2 Samuel 22:26-34

²⁶“With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless; ²⁷with the purified you deal purely, and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous. ²⁸You save a humble people, but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down. ²⁹For you are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness. ³⁰For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. ³¹This God—his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him. ³²“For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God? ³³This God is my strong refuge and has made my way blameless. ³⁴He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights.”

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:6-13

⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is

not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:1-9 (10-13)

[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ²And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ ³And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ ⁷Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ ⁸The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.”

⁸ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light.

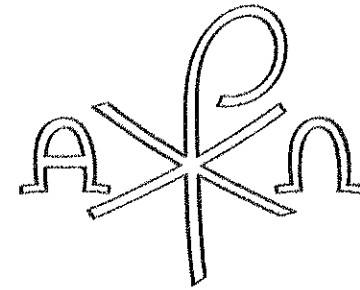
- Literally, “the manager of unrighteousness.” This is key, as the next verse reminds us that we are all managers of unrighteous wealth in this fallen world.
- The master is now stuck because of his manager’s actions. If he corrects the manager’s dishonesty, his reputation would be destroyed in the community. If he allows the manager’s actions to stand, he has suffered a great financial loss (see above), but he also is honored in the community as a good and generous man.
- “Shrewdness” may also be translated “prudence”. This refers to the manager’s awareness of his hopeless situation and his use of his manager’s resources in hope of his mercy.
- Jesus admonishes us to display the same kind of prudence in regards to heavenly things as the unbeliever has in regards to unrighteous wealth: “People will go ten miles in pursuit of a gulden, a groschen, or even a penny, though these are uncertain. Yet for the soul’s salvation and blessedness they can hardly be bothered to cross the street, hear God’s Word, receive the Holy Sacrament, and obtain forgiveness of sins, though these are certain.” (Spangenberg, *The Christian Year of Grace*, 278)

⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.”

- Because this story is so challenging, this verse serves to interpret it for us. The manager is not being praised for his illegal activities. Rather, he serves as an example of how one may use unrighteous wealth to make friends for oneself.
- We are called as managers to use what has been given to us to help and support our neighbors in need. By aiding them with our financial resources, we make friends of them. But rather than being received into their houses, as the manager had hoped, we will be received into the eternal dwellings of our heavenly Father on the day when unrighteous wealth fails, that is, death.



www.steadfastlutherans.org/parish



THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Study Notes for the Christian Layperson

by: Rev. Marcus Baikie

Collect of the Day:

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall 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.

Introit:

Psalm 54:1-3, 7; antiphon: Psalm 54:4-5 – Behold, God is my helper

Psalm:

Psalm: 51:1-12 – *Create in me a clean heart, O God*

Old Testament Reading:

2 Samuel 22:26-34 – *With the merciful You show Yourself merciful*

Gradual:

Psalm 8:1 – O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

Epistle:

1 Corinthians 10:6-13 – *Do not be idolaters*

Verse:

Psalm 112:1 – *Alleluia. Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in His commandments! Alleluia.*

Luke 16:1-9 ESV

Author and Date:

The Holy Spirit caused Luke, the physician, to write the words of this Gospel around AD 55-60. This text, which is not specifically called a parable, is part of a larger teaching discourse, which consists mostly of parables. It follows immediately after the three parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son in Luke 15. These words are spoken during the period of Jesus' travel toward Jerusalem and the cross (see Luke 9:51).

¹ [Jesus] also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions.

- Though this parable follows immediately after the three parables of Luke 15, the audience is different. In Luke 15, Jesus tells the parables to the Pharisees and scribes who grumbled that Jesus received sinners and ate with them. In Luke 16, Jesus tells this parable specifically to His disciples. However, verse 14 tells us that the Pharisees were still listening in.
- The word translated "manager" is often translated "steward". Jesus uses this word in Luke 12:42, "And the Lord said, 'Who then is the faithful and wise *manager*, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.'" A manager had authority over his master's household to administer the master's possessions as he saw fit.
- This text is linked to the texts that precede and follow it. First, the word "wasting" is used also in Luke 15:13; the manager of this story wasted his master's possessions, just like the prodigal son had wasted ("squandered") his father's possessions. Second, the phrase "there was a rich man" begins the story of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31).

² And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'

- Like the LORD God to Adam after the Fall (Genesis 3:11), the rich man gives his manager an opportunity to confess his fault. This gives some indication as to the master's character: rather than casting his wasteful manager into prison, he simply terminates his position.
- Therefore when we consider this story from the perspective of the master, it becomes a lesson on mercy, rather than dishonesty. (See also the previous Parable of the Prodigal Son, which in many ways is better understood as the Parable of the Forgiving Father).

³ And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.

- Like the prodigal son, the dishonest manager has hit rock bottom. There is nothing he can do to redeem his situation.

⁴ I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.'

- The usual courses of actions in such a time would be to make excuses or to blame the master or others (again, consider Adam and Eve's responses after their sin in Genesis 3). The manager does something totally unexpected, however.

⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'

- He calls the master's debtors to him one by one in order that no one would be able to pick up on his scheme. He does not go to them; rather he calls them to himself.

⁶ He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' ⁷ Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'

- The measure of oil is a "bath", approximately eight to nine gallons. The measure of wheat is a "kor", possibly as large as ten bushels. Thus both the amount owed and the amounts forgiven were significant. In both cases, the amount was worth five hundred denarii (see Just, *Luke 9:51-24:53*, 611).
- The manager's shrewdness, for which he will be commended, is apparent. He does not make the changes in his own hand, lest his scheme be discovered. Nor does he allow the debtors to take time to ponder this generosity. He urges them to write the changes in their own handwriting quickly, before his termination is finalized.
- "The man knew that he had no way of escape. He had no illusions. He knew that he was going to be out on his own. Therefore he saw the consequences and acted with dispatch and resolution. But people who want to be Christians sometimes do just the opposite. They harbor the illusion that this is not so important and that everything will come out right in the end. And so they procrastinate. They do not deduce the consequence that their salvation is a matter of dead seriousness and that they must reckon with God in everything above all." (Giertz, *Preaching from the Whole Bible*, 88-89)

News and Notes of Interest

Please use our new Narthex to enter and exit the Sanctuary!

After the early service, join us from 9:15am-9:30am for Coffee & Goodies in the new Fellowship Hall! Stick around for Sunday School and Adult Bible Class! We are currently studying the Old Testament book of Leviticus in our Adult study.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is currently on Summer Break! We will resume classes for children and youth on Sundays & Wednesdays after Labor Day.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: 7/29 Peyton Blakley 7/30 Dianne Stutheit 7/31 Zach Zimmerman 8/01 Rhett Augustin 8/02 Tom Wolfe 8/03 Aaron Latta 8/04 Dianne Botsch

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES: 7/30 Kathy Stutesman 7/31 Craig Weseman

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: 7/31 Jim & Judy Jacobs 8/01 Dale & Karen Bauman 8/04 Josh & Amy Russell

HIGHER THINGS DEVOTIONALS & PORTALS OF PRAYER available in the Narthex July 1-August 11, 2018. Please check in this weeks bulletin for Bulletin Study Notes for the Christian Layperson.

MEMBERS: Now that we have a new Fellowship Hall, the Trustees are seeking comments so we can maintain the church and its appearance as efficiently as possible. Please put your written comments, along with your signature, in Gary Ockinga's mailbox by Friday, August 31st.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL SCHEDULE:

Due to low numbers of children and teachers, we may not have Sunday School this school year. We are in need of individuals to teach Sunday School on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in helping or plan to have your children attend, please let Brenda Christensen know. Thank You!

HEARTLAND LUTHERAN SCHOOL is again a part of the Third City Steak Feed which will be held on Sat., August 4th at GICC. Tickets are \$19 and proceeds from the event will go to support HLHS programs, please call 308-385-3900.

LIFEQUOTE "Arguments from some about when life begins, which inexcusably focus on eliminating the rights of the baby in the womb, are a perfect opportunity to speak the truth in love. We need to do this because this is not an abstract issue. It is a matter of life and death." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: Contemporary Worship, Song of Solomon, Joseph of Arimathea, Jesus Gives the Lord's Supper and more. You can listen live or on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP (Trinity 9)

Luke 16:8-9 - "For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings." The things of this world, including wealth, are merely tools: they can be used for good or ill. They can be squandered or used efficiently.

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

July 29th
8:00am & 10:30am



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Pastor Marcus J. Mackay peacemackay@gmail.com

Cell 402-831-1084 Parsonage 402-462-9800

Welcome to Peace!

We are glad that you are here as we gather around the Word and Sacraments of our Lord Jesus Christ! If you have not already done so, we ask that you sign the Guest Book at the entrance to the church. Contact information can be written in the Fellowship Book located in the aisle side of each pew. If you do not have a church home and are interested in becoming a member here at Peace, please contact Pastor Mackay 402-831-1084.

The Lord's Supper is a Gift. . . and as with all our Lord's gifts, we desire to give and receive them as He intends. The Lord's Supper is for our benefit, but it can be received unworthily. *"Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord"* (1 Corinthians 11:27). Therefore, in faithfulness to our Lord, and in love for you, Peace follows the practice of closed communion.

All Guests should visit with our pastor before coming to the Altar to receive the Lord's Supper. If you do not have opportunity to visit with our Pastor prior to the service, he is more than willing to visit with you during the week.

The Divine Service utilizes beautiful Liturgies and Hymns that the Christian Church has passed down for generations, all the while retelling the story of salvation and enacting the work of Christ among us. This bulletin contains an outline to assist you in locating the various parts of the service within our Hymnal. The inserts have the Scriptures & Propers for the Day, as well as Notes about this particular Sunday or Festival of the church year. May God strengthen you today with His Word and Sacrament!

Prayers of the Church

Mourning + Family of Ward Fitzke + Family of Jan Callan + Family of Dan Warrings + Family of Mark Zimmerman **Expecting** + Erica Siebert + Kayla Reutzel **Hospice, Surgery, or Hospitalization** + Ramona Holtzen + LeRoy Thom + Harlan Wherley + Deb Johnson + Al Kress **Health Issues** + Carol Smith + Randy Russell + Jesse Beran **Cancer** + Brenda Christensen + Andy Jacques + Ed Elshof + Marilyn Houston **Military** + Gary Thompson + Ross Peters

In His Service

Presiding Minister: Rev. Marcus J. Mackay
Organist: Dr. Phil Hesterman Cantor: Mr. David Witt A/V: Tim Yurk
Acolytes: 7/29 8:00am Hunter Fowler 10:30am Violet Nunnenkamp
8/05 8:00am Marc Mackay 10:30am Allie Janssen
Altar Guild: July: Jena M., Brenda C. Aug: Diane G., Diane S.
Ushers: 8:00am Wes C., Zach C. 10:30am Kevin H., Mike Nissen
Elders: 7/29 Wes C. 402-984-4650 8/05 Don N. 402-460-6430
Bus Drivers: 7/29 Kevin H. 402-984-2904 8/05 Wes C. 402-984-4650

Gifts of Time and Treasure

<u>Last Sunday's Attendance</u>	128	<u>Sunday Year to Date Attendance</u>	121
<u>Last Sunday's Offering</u>	\$ 3,106.71	<u>Jan-June Income</u>	\$ 77,105.00
<u>Weekly Need</u>	\$ 3,378.85	<u>Jan-June Expense</u>	\$ 101,420.00

<u>OTD II Capital Campaign Jan-May Income</u>	\$ 34,408.00
<u>May '18 Remaining Balance</u>	\$ 195,555.00

*A complete accounting of all financials are provided at each Quarterly Voters' Meeting.
Questions? Contact our Treasurer, Mrs. Jan Hinze jan@balancedbookslc.com*

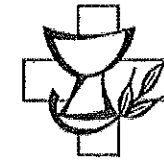
The Lord's Week

Sunday, July 29th	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:15am	Bible Class
	10:30am	Divine Service
Sunday, August 5th	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:15am	Bible Class
	10:30am	Divine Service

*Church Office hours are 9:00am to 12:00 noon and 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.
The office may be closed on occasion due to holidays and errands. Our Secretary is Mrs. Jeri Dush,
Church Office 402-462-9023 or peacelutheranhastings@gmail.com*

The Steward's Shrewdness Sanctified

"The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness" (Luke 16:1-9). The steward's shrewdness is praiseworthy for two reasons. First, he knew the master would be merciful. He trusted that the master would honor the debts he forgave in the master's name. In the same way, though we have squandered our heavenly Father's possessions in selfishness and sin, Jesus is the Steward who has canceled our debt, knowing that His forgiveness will be honored by the Father because of the holy cross. Secondly, the steward was shrewd in using oil and wheat to provide for his earthly welfare. So also do these earthly elements aid us when pressed into heavenly use in the anointing of baptism and the wheat of the Lord's Supper. Those who have the Sacraments will have an eternal home when their earthly home fails. These provide us aid in times of temptation (1 Cor. 10:6-13). For the Lord is our strength and a shield to all who trust in Him (2 Sam. 22:26-34).



DIVINE SERVICE
Setting Four

Prelude & Ringing of Bells
Hymn #726
Confession & Absolution p.203

Service of the Word

Introit *insert*
Kyrie & Gloria in Excelsis
Salutation & Collect
Old Testament Reading *insert*
Gradual
Epistle Reading
Alleluia and Verse
Gospel Reading
Apostles' Creed p.207
Sermon Hymn #730
Sermon 2 Sam. 22:33
"A Blameless Way"

Prayer of the Church
Offering

Service of the Sacrament p.208
Preface & Sanctus
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
The Words of Our Lord
Pax Domini & Agnus Dei
Distribution #636 #809 #738
Nunc Dimittis
Post-Communion Collect
Benedicamus & Benediction
Hymn #722

Announcements

Postlude