



**For God  
all things  
are possible**

**MARK 10:27**

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
October 10, 2021**

**MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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**Welcoming all  
Reaching out in love  
Growing together in Christ  
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name**

**The Rev. Dr. Christopher Suehr  
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*Office hours are Monday and Wednesday: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm  
Tuesday and Thursday by appointment***

**Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone, complete the connection card and place it in the offering plate.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

## **GATHERING**

*In order to keep us all safe for the time being there will be no singing of the liturgy or the hymns because the spread of the virus is greatly increased by singing.*

## **WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** *"Prelude in E Major"*

*- Bach*

*Please kneel or sit*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one whose love never ends.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**

**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**

**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**

**We exploit the earth out of greed and apathy.**

**Rescue us from our sin, gracious God.**

**Help us when we call out for help.**

**Lead us to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. With happy hearts, receive the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

Please stand

**GATHERING HYMN “Lord of Light”**

**ELW 688**

*The organist will play the hymn but we will not sing. Please read the words as she plays. Even in our silence the meaning of the hymn will be present to us.*

*Lord of light, your name outshining all the stars and  
suns of space, use our talents in your kingdom  
as the servants of your grace; use us to  
fulfill your purpose in the gift of Christ your Son:*

Refrain: *Father, as in highest heaven, so on earth your will be done.*

*By the toil of faithful workers in some far  
outlying field, by the courage where the radiance  
of the cross is still revealed, by the victories  
of meekness, through reproach and suffering won: Refrain*

*Grant that knowledge, still increasing, at your feet may  
lowly kneel; with your grace our triumphs hallow,  
with your charity our zeal; lift the nations  
from the shadows to the gladness of the sun: Refrain*

*By the prayers of faithful watchers, never silent  
day or night; by the cross of Jesus, bringing  
peace to all and healing light; by the love that  
passes knowledge, making all your children one: Refrain*

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE “Glory to God”**

**READ TOGETHER**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

**Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## WORD

### FIRST READING

**Amos 5:6-7, 10-15**

*Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.*

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. <sup>7</sup>Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! <sup>10</sup>They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. <sup>11</sup>Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. <sup>12</sup>For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. <sup>13</sup>Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. <sup>14</sup>Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. <sup>15</sup>Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

**90:12-17**

**READ RESPONSIVELY**

<sup>12</sup>So teach us to number our days

that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

<sup>13</sup>**Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry?**

**Be gracious to your servants.**

<sup>14</sup>Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning;

so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.

<sup>15</sup>**Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us  
and as many years as we suffered adversity.**

<sup>16</sup>Show your servants your works,  
and your splendor to their children.

<sup>17</sup>**May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;  
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.**

## **SECOND READING**

**Hebrews 4:12-16**

*We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.*

<sup>12</sup>Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

<sup>13</sup>And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. <sup>14</sup>Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.

<sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia. (Matt. 5:3)**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 10th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL**

**Mark 10:17-31**

*Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.*

<sup>17</sup>As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>18</sup>Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" <sup>20</sup>He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." <sup>21</sup>Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you

will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”<sup>22</sup> When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.<sup>23</sup> Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”<sup>24</sup> And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!<sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”<sup>26</sup> They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?”<sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”<sup>28</sup> Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.”<sup>29</sup> Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,<sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.<sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## **SERMON**

*Please stand*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “*Take My Life, That I May Be*” **ELW 685**

*The organist will play the hymn but we will not sing. Please read the words as she plays. Even in our silence the meaning of the hymn will be present to us.*

*Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.*

*Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.*

*Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.*

*Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.*

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Uniting God, you call forth different gifts in those who follow you. Encourage us to welcome the diverse benefits and blessings of the whole church in teaching, preaching, prophecy, healing, and more. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, you bring forth crops from the soil and bounty from the trees. Increase the produce of the land and bless all who toil in fields and orchards. Provide for good working conditions and keep them safe. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Empowering God, you offer compassion for those who are overlooked or forgotten. Open the hearts of local, national, and world leaders to show such compassion and love for their neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sheltering God, in Jesus you travelled among us without a place to lay your head. Provide safe places to sleep and rest for those who have no place to live. Sustain ministries that offer food, clothing, and peace of mind (*SPO, Katie's Place, Prayer Crafters, Little Free Pantry*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Renewing God, you bring life out of death. Help us part with those things that are no longer beneficial to us and open our hearts to see where new life is budding in this congregation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, we thank you for the lives of those who have died. Make us confident in your promise of salvation and support us in our own journey of faith. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(Everyone is to remain in their pew for the passing of the peace. To share the peace with someone sitting near you, share a slight bow, wave, or cross your arms with hands touching the opposite arm, a gesture of embrace.)*

*Please be seated*

### **OFFERTORY**

*The Ushers will collect the offering*

### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Please stand*

## **MEAL**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

**Amen.**



## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

*Read Together*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Reveal yourself to us Lord in the breaking of the bread.

**As once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

*Please be seated*

### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.*

*Please stand*

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN “God of Grace and God of Glory”

**ELW 705**

*The organist will play the hymn but we will not sing. Please read the words as she plays. Even in our silence the meaning of the hymn will be present to us.*

*God of grace and God of glory, on your people  
pour your pow'r; crown your ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flow'r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ,  
assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days, for the living of these days,*

*Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to  
your control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils  
we deplore; let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.*

*Please be seated*

### POSTLUDE “Organ Fugue in D”

- Beethoven

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church, died 1996 (TFF)**

**Sunday, October 10, 2021** - A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.

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