

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS)

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Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered family dedicated to reaching out to our community, teaching God's Word, caring for one another and sharing God's genuine love.

September 27, 2020

Health Requests: As we seek to protect the health of others and ourselves, please seat yourself and your family *at least* 6 feet away from others, and please wear a mask *at least* when you are speaking and singing, during fellowship, and also when you could be within 6 feet of others. Thank you for your cooperation!

To Our Guests: Welcome to Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church! We are so glad to have you with us this morning, celebrating His great love and dedicating ourselves anew to Him! We hope you'll be blessed and that you'll return and worship among us again. Please take a moment to complete the welcome card in the packet you received and give it to the Greeter or Pastor after the service. Thank you!

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. We recommend that you speak with the pastor beforehand if you have never participated in Communion at Shepherd of the Valley and that children participate in classes and have parental authorization before participating. For maximum sanitation, we are temporarily using sealed

sets. Questions? Please speak with the pastor.

Sunday Study Time! 9:00 in person in the Community Building and also streamed online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86292069694> for those practicing in-home isolation or away. By popular request, we are studying the Augsburg Confession from the perspective of Scripture.

Painting Class Sign-ups have begun for the next session: It's Sunday October 11 (note new date), 12:00 Noon. For more information or to register, go to www.pamscolorpallet.com

Did You Know? We have a church library. It's at the back of the chapel. Lots of great books that are biblically and theologically sound, books that are informational, inspirational and helpful. It's on "the honor system." K Berni is the librarian Questions? Email her at kberni@aol.com

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+ The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost +

Before the Service

The Welcome

The Announcements *See page 1*

The Service of the Word

The Prelude and Silent Personal Prayer

The Opening Song *"Love Divine"*

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
 Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown.
 Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
 Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast;
 Let us all in Thee inherit; Let us find Thy promised rest.
 Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
 End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; Let us all Thy life receive;
 Suddenly return, and never, Nevermore Thy temples leave.
 Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
 Pray and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

The Opening Responses:

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit +
Gathered as His sons and daughters, redeemed by Christ!

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, our God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins in Christ and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We confess to You that we are sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. We have not loved You with our whole heart and we have not loved others as You have loved us. We deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name.

Our heavenly Father has had mercy on us and has given us His only Son to die for us. In Christ, He forgives us all our sins.

Thanks be to God!

Let us speak of the glory of our God! Let us tell of His wonderful grace!
Let us rejoice in the victory of Christ, let us celebrate the victory of salvation!

The Praise Song: *"Come, Thou Fount"*

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
 Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
 Call for songs of loudest praise.
 While the hope of endless glory
 Fills my heart with joy and love,
 Teach me ever to adore Thee;
 May I still Thy goodness prove.

The First Lesson: *Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 ESV*

The word of the LORD came to me: "What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. "But if a wicked person turns away from all his sins that he has committed and keeps all my statutes and does what is just and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the transgressions that he has committed shall be remembered against him; for the righteousness that he has done he shall live. Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord GOD, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live? But when a righteous person turns away from righteousness and does injustice and does the same abominations that the wicked person does, shall he live? None of the righteous deeds that he has done shall be remembered; for the treachery of which he is guilty and the sin he has committed, for them he shall die.

Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? Therefore, I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live." *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

The Psalmody: From Psalm 89

We will sing of your love!

O Lord, your faithfulness is constant!

We will praise you for your goodness!

O Lord, your faithfulness is constant!

We live in the light of your kindness!

O Lord, your faithfulness is constant!

The Second Lesson: *Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18 ESV*

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others... Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children

of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me. *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

The Gospel Lesson: *St. Matthew 21:28-32 ESV* Please Stand

(Jesus said) "What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go,

sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not

believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did

not afterward change your minds and believe him. *Lord, have mercy on us. Thanks be to God!*

The Affirmation of Faith: *The Nicene Creed (AD 325)*

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things - visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; and who for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered, and was buried. And on the third day He rose according to the Scriptures and

ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; His Kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And 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!

The Children's Message:

The Song of the Day: *“Great is Thy Faithfulness”*

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
 There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
 Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
 As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.
 Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see;
 All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
 Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
 Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
 Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain
 Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see;
 All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
 Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

The Message: *“Talk the Talk or Walk the Walk” Text – Gospel reading on page 6*

In this parable, the father represents _____, the vineyard represents the _____ (or perhaps the _____), and the sons represent _____.

Jesus reminds us that we are _____. This doesn't just apply to pastors but to _____ (that includes _____).

As Christians, we are called to work, to wage the battle. But success won't come unless _____ one is doing their _____, doing it _____ and doing it for the _____.

One said “yes” but didn't do it. His faithfulness of _____. Jesus often _____ such shallow, superficial lip service. But the other son first said _____ but later _____ and went to _____. The second is the model for us because he didn't allow his _____ to rule him.

Reflections:

1. *God has called YOU! Are you ever aware of that? How so? Why not?*
2. *In what ways can you relate to the son who said “YES” but didn't do it? What is Jesus saying to YOU in this parable?*

3. *In what ways can you relate to the son who said “NO” but then repented and went to work? What is Jesus saying to YOU in this parable?*
4. *Does our faithfulness cause God’s faithfulness or does God’s faithfulness cause our faithfulness?*

The Prayers: Please stand

Altar Prayer

Congregation Petitions

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!

The Service of Holy Communion

The Invitation: Please stand

Disciples of the Lord, come to receive our Savior.

We come to receive His true body and blood in this holy Sacrament.

We praise You, O Lord, for having had mercy on us and giving us Your only begotten Son, that whoever trusts in Him will not perish but has everlasting life.

Send Your Spirit into our hearts that He may strengthen our faith and prepare us to joyfully remember and receive our Savior who comes to us in His body and blood

The Institution: Please stand

The Peace:

*The peace of the Lord be with you!
And also with you!*

The Lamb of God: Please stand

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

The Distribution: See announcements on page one

The Thanksgiving:

*We praise You, O Lord, for having fed us with the Body and Blood of our Savior,
Jesus Christ – forgiving us, assuring us and strengthening us.*
**By Your Holy Spirit, help us continue in the fellowship of faith and thank
You by the good works that You desire.**

The Benediction:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace +

Amen!

The Closing Song: *"May I Be Thine Forever"*

Let me be Thine forever, My faithful God and Lord;
Let me forsake Thee never Nor wander from Thy Word.
Lord, do not let me waver, But give me steadfastness,
And for such grace forever Thy holy name I'll bless.

Lord Jesus, my salvation, My light, my life divine,
My only consolation, O make me wholly Thine!
For Thou hast dearly bought me With blood and bitter pain.
Let me, since Thou hast sought me, Eternal life obtain.

O Thou, O Holy Spirit, My comforter and guide,
Grant that in Jesus' merit I always may confide,
Him to the end confessing Whom I have known by faith.
Give me Thy constant blessing And grant a Christian death.

