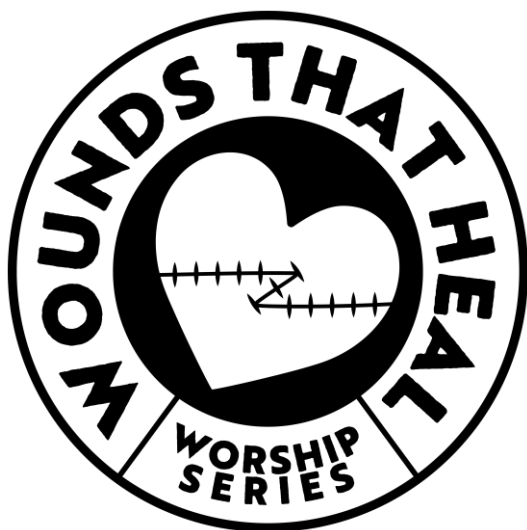


Sunday & Monday Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025



## No One Can Serve Two Masters

### **Note to our Guests about the Lord's Supper:**

We are glad you have come to hear God's Word today with us. Through his Word, the Lord speaks of Jesus' forgiveness to us and his peace fills our hearts.

Today we also celebrate the Lord's Supper, which God describes as a unified joint confession of faith in Jesus. Therefore, we ask that only those who have confessed a unified faith with us through membership in a WELS or ELS congregation come up to receive the Lord's Supper. Thank you for respecting our beliefs based on God's Word.

If you would like to receive the Lord's Supper with us in the future, please speak with one of our pastors.



**ST. PAUL**  

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**LUTHERAN MINISTRIES**

## No One Can Serve Two Masters

*There are more than 2,300 Bible passages that speak about money. Why? Money is a master Satan frequently tempts us to serve. In fact, out of all the masters competing for our service besides God, money is probably at the top of the list. Money provides us with a false comfort and sense of security. Money serves as a source of pride. This week, Jesus' sharp words identify the impossibility of serving more than one master. More, Jesus teaches that if we dedicate our lives in service to money, money will always let us down. In contrast, God has proven that he is a master worth serving. When we serve God, money is put in its proper place. Instead of it being a master to serve, it becomes a tool in our service of our true Master.*

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Service Setting 3, CW p. 188

### What Is the World to Me

CW 717

*Stand*

### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

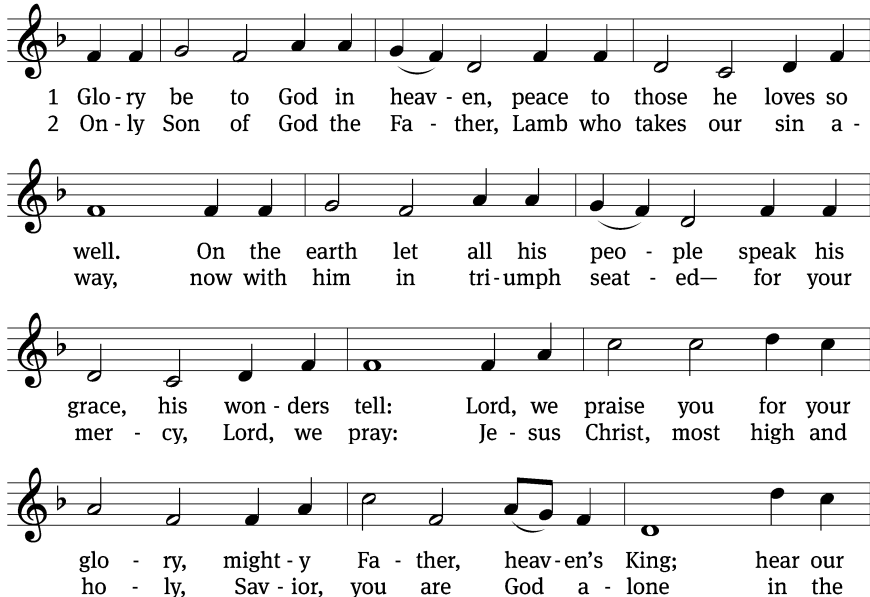
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## Gloria

CW 1003

*Tune: BEACH SPRING*



1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en, peace to those he loves so  
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our sin a -

well. On the earth let all his peo - ple speak his  
way, now with him in tri - umph seat - ed— for your

grace, his won - ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your  
mer - cy, Lord, we pray: Je - sus Christ, most high and

glo - ry, might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; hear our  
ho - ly, Sav - ior, you are God a - lone in the



joy - ful ad - o - ra - tion and ac - cept the thanks we bring.  
glo - ry of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

Text: Michael A. Perry

Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

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Tune: Public domain

## The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you have told us not to be anxious about what we need for this life. Move our hearts to seek you and your kingdom, that all good things may be given to us as well; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Ecclesiastes 5:10–20*

*King Solomon knew from experience that if you serve money, you will end up sorely disappointed.*

<sup>10</sup>Whoever loves money never has enough;  
whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income.  
This too is meaningless.

<sup>11</sup>As goods increase,  
so do those who consume them.  
And what benefit are they to the owners  
except to feast their eyes on them?

<sup>12</sup>The sleep of a laborer is sweet,  
whether they eat little or much,  
but as for the rich, their abundance  
permits them no sleep.

<sup>13</sup>I have seen a grievous evil under the sun:  
wealth hoarded to the harm of its owners,  
<sup>14</sup>or wealth lost through some misfortune,  
so that when they have children

there is nothing left for them to inherit.

<sup>15</sup>Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb,  
and as everyone comes, so they depart.

They take nothing from their toil  
that they can carry in their hands.

<sup>16</sup>This too is a grievous evil:

As everyone comes, so they depart,  
and what do they gain,  
since they toil for the wind?

<sup>17</sup>All their days they eat in darkness,  
with great frustration, affliction and anger.

<sup>18</sup>This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given them—for this is their lot. <sup>19</sup>Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God. <sup>20</sup>They seldom reflect on the days of their life, because God keeps them occupied with gladness of heart.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices

CW 484 sts. 1, 3–4

### Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:6–10, 17–19

*Saint Paul teaches that serving money will lead to spiritual destruction. But serving God with our money leads to a fulfilling life.*

<sup>6</sup>But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup>But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup>Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

<sup>17</sup>Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and

to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup>In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

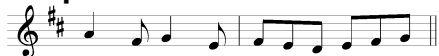
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

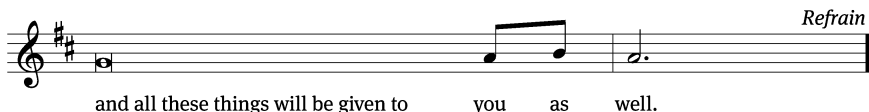
Matthew 6:33



*Refrain*



*Tone*



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## Gospel & Sermon Text

Luke 16:1–13

*All money belongs to God; he loans it to us to manage for his glory. Through a parable, Jesus teaches us to be shrewd in the way we use money to serve him.*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup>So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’

<sup>3</sup>“The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— <sup>4</sup>I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’

<sup>5</sup>“So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

<sup>6</sup>“ ‘Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,’ he replied.

“The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’

<sup>7</sup>“Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’

“ ‘A thousand bushels of wheat,’ he replied.

“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’

<sup>8</sup>“The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. <sup>9</sup>I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

<sup>10</sup>“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. <sup>11</sup>So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?

<sup>13</sup>“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **All Depends on Our Possessing**

CW 807

**Sermon**

**Pastor Matt Holtz**

*Stand*

### **Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from**

**Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

*Be seated*

## **Prayer of the Church**

### **Offering**

### **The Sacrament**

*Stand*

### **Preface**

CW 199

**The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.**

**Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.**



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 200

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,  
 heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### **Words of Institution**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## Lamb of God

CW 202



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, grant us peace.

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*Be seated*

## Distribution

### Take My Life and Let It Be

CW 695

### Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

CW 667

*Stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

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.**

## **We Give Thee but Thine Own**

CW 750

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### **Acknowledgments**

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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## **WORSHIP NOTES**

Preacher: Matt Holtz

Presiding Minister: Justin Shrum

Accompanist: Nancy Zander

### **Service Teams:**

8:00 a.m. Team Hoh; AV: R. Volhard

10:30 a.m. Team Paulson; AV: T. Luehring

6:00 p.m. Team Waack