

## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

September 27, 2020

Pastor Scottie Burkhalter

800 Broad St., Kingsport, TN | HolyTrinityKingsport.org | 423-247-9106

Please turn your radios to station FM 99.7

**Prelude**

***Shepherd Me O God***  
***Blessed Assurance***  
*(In loving memory of Edith Hildebrand)*

Marty Haugen  
Fanny Crosby

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

<sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**1 John 1:8-9**

**P** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C Amen.**

### **THE GREETING**

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

**C And also with you.**

### **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

**C O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.**  
**Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **Song of Preparation for the Word**     *Create In Me a Clean Heart*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, O Lord,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

### **WORD**

#### **First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

*Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

## **Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13**

*As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of  
death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the  
earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32**

**P** The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty first chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

<sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>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 after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

## THE SERMON

Pastor Scottie Burkhalter

### Hymn of the Day

### *Change My Heart O God*

Change my heart, O God;  
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;  
may I be like you.

You are the potter;  
I am the clay.

Mold me and make me;  
this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God;  
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;  
may I be like you.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

P We have been made God's people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C 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 to the dead. 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.**

## THE PRAYERS

### AT THE OFFERTORY

### **Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow**

*(words are on the website)*

[https://holytrinitykingsport.org/sixth\\_sunday\\_after\\_pentecost](https://holytrinitykingsport.org/sixth_sunday_after_pentecost)

### OFFERING PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

## Holy Communion - Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

#### BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

#### SENDING HYMN

*Praise to You O God Of Mercy*

1 Praise to you, O God of mercy:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
thanks be to you forever!

#### **Bridge**

Strong is your faithfulness,  
strong is your love,  
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.

2 From of old you loved and sought us:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Truth and justice you have taught us:  
thanks be to you forever!

3 Praise to you, O God of mercy:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Thanks be to you forever!

#### THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P WE ARE HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

C Helping Transform Lives in Christ

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### Drive-Thru Holy Communion

As you receive the bread and wine today, may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace. Amen.

***(Additional music will be broadcast as you receive Holy Communion.)***

May the Lord be with you as you drive away this day.

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**Current 14 day avg. of new COVID cases as of 9/22/20 = 14.0 Category = Yellow**

**Assisting Minister:** Charlie Nitschke / **Meals on Wheels - COOKS:** McMurray & Peters **DRIVERS: BLUE-**Nitschke; **RED-**Reinhardt;  
**GREEN -**DeBaal; **GOLD-**Jantzi

**Pastor: The Rev. Scottie J. Burkhalter \ Ministers: People of HTLC**

Staff: Sue Morgan, Parish Nurse; Janet Thomas, Administrative Assistant; Dr. Susan Waters, Musician