

**A Prayer
Upon
Entering
Church**

O Sovereign
Lord, thou
lover of
men's lives,
whose incor-
ruptible Spirit
is in all
things: We
bring to thee
ourselves, our
sins and fail-
ures, as to a
merciful Fa-
ther, who un-
derstandest
all and for-
givest all; for
thy mercy's
sake.

~ adapted by
G.W. Briggs
from
*Ecclesiasti-
cus*



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 2019 + 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. According to a 2018 study, the average American is in \$38,000 of debt. Imagine having that much debt, or more, and discovering that it is suddenly canceled! We find a man doing this very thing in today's Gospel reading, canceling debts owed to his master – and to everyone's surprise, the master congratulates him! Clearly, when our Lord tells that story, He is describing a different world! It is the New Creation that Jesus Himself brings, a new world in which the Master cancels all debts, and you are free!

Sharing God's Blessings Today

- Sunday's Radio Broadcast is sponsored in loving memory of their mother, Pearl L. Tranetzki, who passed away September 16, 2016, by her children: Thomas Tranetzki and wife, Emi; and Polly Ann Nemec and husband, Larry, and family.
- The flowers at the altar are sponsored in memory of Mavis Boettcher, wife and mother, by Carl Boettcher, and Judy and Paul Henning.
- The sponsor charts for 2019 for Broadcasts and Flowers are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

"Authentic, Dynamic" Christian Living: Beware!

People keep looking for the key to a dynamic Christian life, some magic formula to bring zest to dull, half-hearted commitment. Unfortunately, most of the formulas suggested tend to be do-it-yourself projects. A do-it-yourself approach to the Christian life is doomed from the start. Reform a sinner and you get a reformed sinner. Discipline a sinner and you get a disciplined sinner. Educate a sinner and you get an educated sinner. In every case you still have the same sinner you started out with.

No, the Old Adam will not be tamed or reformed or disciplined or educated. He can only be killed. And this is just what God does; in Holy Baptism we are put to death and buried. And since it is the death and burial of Jesus, it makes all the difference in the world. His death and burial brings with it resurrection and new life. By Holy Baptism the Triune God crucifies our Old Adam, buries our sin, raises us as a new creation, and clothes us in Jesus Christ – thus giving us a whole new life to live. This is the authentic formula for Christian living!

~ Harold L. Senkbeil, *Dying the Live: The Power of Forgiveness*, 1994 A.D.

Announcements

Parish announcements may be found in the weekly newsletter, *For You*, provided by the ushers.



PRELUDE

Partita on Darwall's 148th ("Before You, Lord, We Bow")

... Charles Callahan

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

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

Please kneel. Silence for reflection.

“Just talk to God as though He’s anybody else,” they say to me. But who is this “anybody else” that God is supposedly like? I don’t talk to my mother as though she is anybody else. I don’t talk to my kids like everyone else. I talk differently to my coworkers than to my wife, and I talk to my wife differently than I talk to my brother. How I talk to my father depends on whether he’s offering me a beer, his political opinion, or memories of his youth. So which one of them is God supposedly like?

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. 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 holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church, and by the authority of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Please stand.

ENTRANCE HYMN

“Before You, Lord, We Bow” green hymnal #401

THE APOSTOLIC 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.

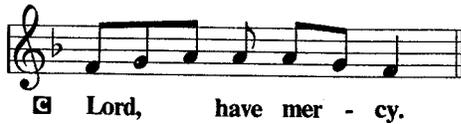
KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

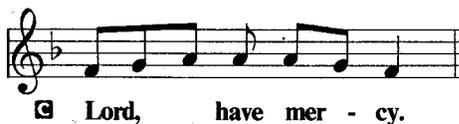
P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



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



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



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



HYMN OF PRAISE

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



... No, I think God is like Himself, and as I must learn to speak to everyone else, each according to his or her kind and relationship with me, so I must learn to speak to God. And for that great task I have no greater resource than the Church's way of prayer, developed over 2000 years and conveyed to me so well in the liturgy and devotional heritage of the saints. My parents taught me to pray as a child, and I am still learning, and really, it is God teaching us all through His Church.
~ C. H. Meadows, 2000s A.D.

The real shocker to us is God. He just loves people and is happiest giving them all sorts of good things and piling them up that they may have His kind of giving happiness . . . The embrace of love and its happy flow back and forth and to and fro . . . The dance of love. The dance of life. The dance stops when we say, "No, I am for me," plant ourselves in the center, and arrange and manipulate things to our own advantage and service, for this is our idea of being a god.
 ~ Pr. Norman Nagel, 1900s A.D.

glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
 Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For you a -
 lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray . . . O Lord, keep your church in your perpetual mercy; and because without you we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

CHORAL RESPONSE (9:00)

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”

... David von Kampen

OLD TESTAMENT Amos 8:4-7

⁴Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, ⁵saying, “When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, ⁶that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?”
⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: “Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 113

Choir/ Hallelujah! | Give praise you servants 'of the LORD;*

L: praise the name 'of the LORD.

C: **Let the name of the 'LORD be blessed,*
from this time forth for'evermore.**

Choir/ From the rising of the sun to its 'going down*

L: let the name of the 'LORD be praised.

The giving of alms to the poor does not bring about eternal life, but the life of repentance and faith that gives alms out of a love for God and neighbor does.

*~ R. Stein,
Luke,
The New American Commentary,
1992 A.D.*

Scripture is a record of the divine voice or message; it is God's Word. The items presented us in Scripture are revealed by the Holy Spirit.
~ Pr. Jacob Preus,
The Second Martin: The Life and Theology of Martin Chemnitz,
1994 A.D.

**C: The LORD is high a'bove all nations,*
and his glory a'bove the heavens.**

Choir/ Who is like the LORD our God, who sits en'throned on high,*

L: but stoops to behold the heavens 'and the earth?

**C: He takes up the weak out 'of the dust*
and lifts up the poor 'from the ashes.**

Choir/ He sets them 'with the princes,*

L: with princes 'of his people.

**C: He makes the woman of a 'childless house*
to be a joyful moth'er of children.**

**All: Glory to the Father and 'to the Son,*
and to the 'Holy Spirit;
as it was in 'the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen**

EPISTLE 1 Timothy 2:1-15

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. ⁷For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. ⁸I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;

⁹likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, ¹⁰but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. ¹¹Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. ¹²I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. ¹³For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. ¹⁵Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

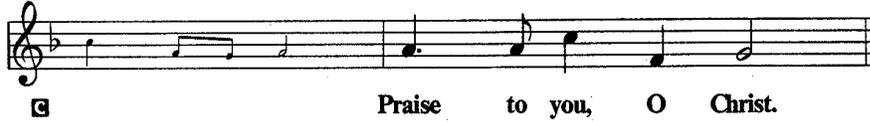
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 16th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The greatest advantage of riches isn't using them for an individual's specific pleasure, but for the welfare of many people. They aren't for one's immediate enjoyment, but for the righteousness that never passes away. Therefore, by all means, we must not hope to receive something in return for showing mercy. We must expect the reward for such duty to come from God alone.
~ Lactantius,
250-325
A.D.

¹Jesus 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. ¹⁰"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." ¹⁴The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



APOSTLES CREED

P: Let us confess the faith with one heart:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

Please be seated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the singing of the hymn, children of preschool age through grade 4 may leave for Sunday School classes downstairs in the church hall. Please reclaim your children at 10:25 a.m. after their music time in the balcony.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" blue hymnal #783

SERMON

“Canceling Debt”

Please kneel.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all creation according to its needs.

P: . . . Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OFFERING

*While the offerings are received, please pass in your row the **Friendship Register**, and add your name(s). If you are a guest or visitor, please include your address.*

VOLUNTARY

“Seek Ye First”

... Nancy Raabe

Please stand.

*In order to
possess what
you do not
possess, You
must go by
the way of
dispossession.
~ T.S. Eliot,
1900s A.D.*

OFFERTORY



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . . Merciful Lord,

C: we do not come to your table trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. Grant us so to eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and so to drink his blood that we may ever dwell in him, and he in us. Amen

We all want to see Jesus, but we already have. In bread and wine, we see the salvation that God has prepared before all people. Our Sacrament is not a private, sectarian ritual, but a meal to which the Father invites the nations: "Come, for all things are prepared." That Divine Supper is the light that lightens the Gentiles and is the glory of Israel. There we stand on heaven's threshold and death evaporates into the past tense.
~ Pr. David
P. Scaer,
In Christ

"I know exactly what 'Lamb of God' means," he said. "Each year at lambing time, there are lambs and ewes who do not make it. Inevitably, on one side of their field is a ewe whose lamb has died. The ewe is filled with milk but will not nourish any lamb she does not recognize as her own. Inevitably, on the other side of the field is a lamb whose mother has died. That lamb will starve because no ewe will accept it and nourish it. So the shepherd takes the dead lamb and slits its throat . . .

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

☐ And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

☐ We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☐ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ("Holy")

☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. 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 in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

In the same way also he took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

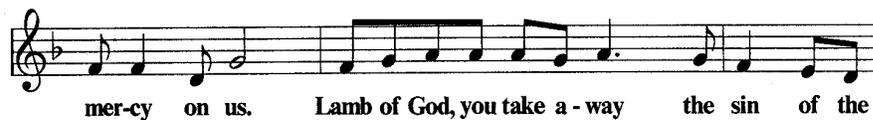
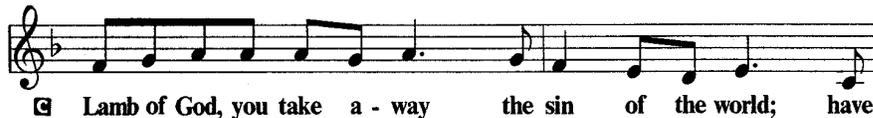
C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

ACCLAMATION

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

AGNUS DEI ("Lamb of God")



... and pours its blood over the body of the living lamb. Recognizing the blood, the ewe will now nurse and save the orphaned lamb.

Through the gift of the blood of the lamb who has died, the living lamb is recognized and restored to the fold, nourished, and saved. That is the Lamb of God."

~ Barbara Williamson, 1900s A.D.



Please be seated.

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. If you cannot use the steps to the altar, you may either ask an usher to have Communion brought to you, or you may go to the altar in the side (west) chapel. Those not communing may cross their arms over their chest for a blessing.

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His body and blood forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"I Come, O Savior, to Your Table" green hymnal #213

"All Depends on Our Possessing" green hymnal #447

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION

P: 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.



☐ A - men

SILENT PRAYER

A Prayer
As You Go
God Al-
mighty, Eter-
nal, Right-
eous, and
Merciful,
give to us
poor sinners
to do for thy
sake all that
we know of
thy will, and
to will al-
ways what
pleases thee,
so that in-
wardly puri-
fied, enlight-
ened, and
kindled by
the fire of the
Holy Spirit,
we may fol-
low in the
footprints of
thy well-
beloved Son,
our Lord Je-
sus Christ.
~ Francis of
Assisi

POSTLUDE

“All Depends on Our Possessing” ... Benjamin M. Culli

+ Soli Deo Gloria +

To God alone be glory

Serving at Worship

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

Presiding: (9:00) The Rev. Joseph Pinzl (*at Bethany, 10:30*)

Assisting: The Rev. Christopher Johnson

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Choir: (9:00) Zion Kantorei

Lector: (9:00) Grace Mueller

(11:00) Paul Henning

Radio Announcer: (9:00) Scott Schubring

Acolyte: (9:00) Michael Cornell

(11:00) Taylor Halverson

Elder: (9:00) Ken Rodemeier

(11:00) Adam Holzschuh

Ushers: (9:00) Sally Christoffersen; Steve and Marlene Kroening;

Ken Rodemeier

(11:00) Al Lippert

Communion Assistants:

(9:00) Grace Mueller

(11:00) Gary Gisselman; Cheryl Plautz

Altar Guild: Bonnie Glasel; Kay Krall

Acknowledgements

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Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

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Senior Pastor Steven K. Gjerde
Associate Pastor Christopher S. Johnson
Associate Pastor Joseph C. Pinzl
Kantor Irene Beethe
Office Manager Pam Gabriel
Secretary Anna Mae Zeinemann
Custodian Michael Renken

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www.zionlutheranwausau.com

Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
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