

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good

C: *(spoken)* **and his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* **AMEN**

BLESSING

M: May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

(1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

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.

C: *(sung)* **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Closing Hymn "Take My Life And Let It Be"
Christian Worship Hymn 469

Take my life and let it 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 shalt 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.



HEALING miracle
SPIRIT doing
refresh
community
SEED HEARING
grace
GROWING

Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

OCTOBER 19, 2008



TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**THE GOSPEL HAS THE POWER TO...
MAKE US MODELS!**

Good morning!

Who is your role model? From time to time discussion rises in the media about movie stars, sports stars and the like whether they are qualified to be role models to young people. Maybe these individuals have less significance as a role model than does a close friend or family member. What about you? Do you consider yourself a role model? Let the Gospel empower you to be a model to others! God bless our worship of him this morning.

Opening Song..... "O Holy Spirit, Enter In"
Christian Worship Hymn 184

O Holy Spirit, enter in
And in our hearts your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine,
Around and in us brightly shine,
To joy and gladness wake us
That we May be Truly living,
To you giving Prayer unceasing
And in love be still increasing.

Give to your Word impressive pow'r
That in our hearts from this good hour
As fire it may be glowing,
That in true Christian unity
We faithful witnesses may be,
Your glory ever showing.
Hear us, Cheer us By your teaching;
Let our preaching and our labor
Praise you, Lord, and serve our
neighbor.

C: "Holy, Holy, Holy" *Tree of Life Song Book*

"Holy, holy, holy," angel host are singing.
"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord our God
Holy, holy, holy is God, the Lord of might.
Your glory fills the heavens; your glory fills the earth."
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna is our song.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: (spoken) AMEN

C: "Lamb of God" *Tree of Life Song Book*

Verse 1

Your only Son no sin to hide,
But you have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Verse 2

Your gift of live they crucified;
They laughed and scorned him as he
died;
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

Refrain

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God.
Oh, wash me in his precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Verse 3

I was so lost I should have died,
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod
And to be called a Lamb of God.

Refrain

DISTRIBUTION

C: "Give Thanks"..... *Tree of Life Song Book*

Verse 1

Give thanks with a grateful heart;
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given Jesus
Christ, his Son. (Repeat)

Verse 2

And now let the weak say "I am
strong,"
let the poor say "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done
for us. (Repeat)

Final Ending: Give Thanks

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 forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

The Celebration of Holy Communion



At Tree of Life, we desire to have all commune with us at the Lord's Table. However, since the Scripture encourages us to "recognize the body and blood of the Lord," "examine ourselves," and join together as "one body," we ask those who are visiting with us this morning to take the time to understand these teachings and establish a unity of beliefs with us before partaking of this act of fellowship. By this practice of close communion, we are in no way judging your personal faith and relationship with Jesus, we just ask for an opportunity for us to share our beliefs with you so that together we can make a true expression of oneness at the Lord's Table.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: *(spoken)* **And also with you**

M: Lift up your hearts

C: *(spoken)* **We lift them up unto the Lord**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: *(spoken)* **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times 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 till he comes again in glory. Therefore with all the saints on earth and host of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

O mighty Rock, O Source of life,
Let your dear Word, in doubt and strife,
In us be strongly burning
That we be faithful unto death
And live in love and holy faith,
From you true wisdom learning.
Your grace And peace On us shower;
By your power Christ confessing,
Let us see our Savior's blessing.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all!

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

M: As we gather this morning to hear the Gospel message, we first pause to confess our sins. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Romans, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes." (Romans 1:16) As we hear these words, we must confess that we at times have been ashamed of the Gospel's power and lived as if it has no influence in our lives.

C: Almighty, merciful God, we confess to you that we have sinned against you by our thoughts, words and actions. Our thoughts have justified our sin and convinced us that we aren't as bad as we really are. Forgive us. Our words haven't always given clear testimony to our faith in you. Forgive us. Our actions have often indicated that we are more interested in serving self rather than serving our Savior. Forgive us.

Silence for personal confession

M: The heart of the Gospel is the reality that "God so loved the world so that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." The reality of the Gospel is that "God is faithful and just" and as we confess our sins, "he will forgive us from all our unrighteousness." Unashamedly, as a called servant of Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the powerful name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We rejoice in the reality of God's forgiveness.

Song of Praise “Salvation Unto Us Has Come”
Verses 1 & 5 *Christian Worship Hymn 390*

Salvation unto us has come By God's free grace and favor. Good works cannot avert our doom; They help and save us never. Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, Who did for all the world atone; He is the one Redeemer.	Since Christ has full atonement made And brought to us salvation, Each Christian therefore may be glad And build on this foundation. Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead; Your death is now my life indeed, For you have paid my ransom.
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: God, our refuge and strength, have mercy on your church as we come in prayer before you. Answer us not in judgment on our sins, but in peace and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* **AMEN.**

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON
LEVITICUS 19:1, 2, 15-18

“The law shows us how much we need the Gospel!”

1 The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: 'Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy.

15 " 'Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly.

16 " 'Do not go about spreading slander among your people.

" 'Do not do anything that endangers your neighbor's life. I am the LORD.

17 " 'Do not hate your brother in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in his guilt.

18 " 'Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

STAND

Prayer of the Church..... The Nation—Responsive

M: Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

C: We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

M: You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

C: For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

M: Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

C: Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

M: Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

C: Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

M: Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

C: Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Statement of Belief 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 our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully 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

Friendship Registers

Offering

PSALM 33 *Christian Worship* page 79

Refrain: *The earth is full of the goodness of God, the goodness of our God.*

*Sing joyfully to the Lord, you `righteous;**
it is fitting for the upright to `praise him.

*For the Word of the Lord is `right and true;**
he is faithful in `all he does.

*By the word of the Lord were the `heavens made,**
their starry host by the breath `of his mouth.

*For he spoke, and it `came to be;**
he commanded, and `it stood firm.

Refrain

*The Lord foils the plans of the `nations;**
he thwarts the purposes of the `peoples.

*But the plans of the Lord stand firm for `ever,**
the purposes of his heart through all gener `ations.

*The Lord loves righteousness and `justice;**
the earth is full of his un `failing love.

***Glory be 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***

Refrain

SECOND LESSON
MATTHEW 22:34-46

“Even when God gives us only two commands, we are faced with the reality, we need a savior!”

34 Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

35 One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, 42 "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?"

"The son of David," they replied.

43 He said to them, "How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him 'Lord'?"

For he says, 44 "The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet." "

45 If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?" 46 No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Hymn “Lord, You I Love With All My Heart”
Christian Worship Hymn 434

Lord, you I love with all my heart;
I pray you ne'er from me depart;
With tender mercies cheer me.
Earth has no pleasure I would share;
Heaven itself were void and bare
If you, Lord, were not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break,
My trust in you no one could shake.
You are the treasure I have sought;
Your precious blood my soul has bought.
Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust your Word.

Lord God, 'twas your rich bounty gave
My body, soul, and all I have
In this poor life of labor.

Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place

May glorify your lavish grace

And serve and help my neighbor.

Let no false doctrine me beguile;

Let Satan not my soul defile.

Give strength and patience unto me

To bear my crosses willingly.

Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,

Forsake me not! I trust your Word.

Lord, let at last your angels come;

To Abram's bosom bear me home

That I may die unfearing.

And in its narrow chamber keep

My body safe in peaceful sleep

Until your reappearing.

And then from death awaken me

That my own eyes with joy may see,

O Son of God, your glorious face,

My Savior and my Fount of grace.

Lord Jesus Christ, My prayer attend, my prayer attend,

And I will praise you without end.

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THE GOSPEL HAS THE POWER TO...
MAKE US MODELS!

1 Thessalonians 1:5b-10

Pastor Mike Geiger