

18th Sunday of Pentecost

October 1st & 4th, 2020



Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church
(Wisconsin Synod)
1332 Arrowhead Rd.
Grafton, Wisconsin 53024
Church: 262-377-6363 School: 262-377-7780
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WORSHIP NOTES We turn the pages of Scripture to 1 Thessalonians 3, where the Apostle Paul expresses a feeling of separation from them, his longing to see them, his joy at news of their lasting faith in the face of suffering, his desire to make up what's still lacking in their faith, and his frequent praying for them. This sounds like today, in the distancing of a pandemic, where church members need encouragement as we find new ways to hear, receive and then share the Gospel message in uncertain times.

PRAYER OF THE DAY O Savior, there are so many times that we forget that we are part of the community of faith, and our encouragement is a blessing for those who share the faith. Help us hear the apostle's prayer for us and rejoice that we have each other in this time and place as part of the family of God. You rule all things for the good of Your Church which includes me. In Your name I pray. Amen.

GUESTS Welcome to our visitors!

Restrooms: At the far (south) side of the entry area.

Parents' Room: Also at the far (south) side of the entry area.

Hearing Help: Enhanced hearing units are available. Contact an usher.

Large Print Hymnal: Contact an usher.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE OPENING HYMN "In Unity and Peace" (p. 13) CWS, # 773

ORDER OF WORSHIP CW, p. 26

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



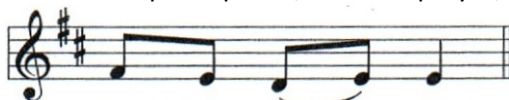
C: Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in

all the earth. Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa-ther,

you crown our life with your love. You take a-way our sin;

you com-fort our spir-it; you make us pure and

ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your on-ly Son,

but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,

how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther,

you came to live with us; you made your Fa-ther known;

you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the

King of glo-ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,

how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

FIRST LESSON 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. For you know quite well that we are destined for them. In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know. For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter had tempted you and that our labors might have been in vain. But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. My grace is sufficient for you,

C: for my power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia. (2 Corinthians 12:9a)

GOSPEL MATTHEW 20:1-16

What is our God like? Jesus teaches us with a story, but we struggle with the lesson. The parable offends our finely honed sense of what's fair and what's not. When we keep our eyes where they belong - fixed on God - then have a correct view of our worth and labor. Then, when God places a denarius in our hands, we can marvel that the Lord isn't fair - thanks be to God! He doesn't give us what we deserve; no, he gives us what we don't.

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. "About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. "He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and did the same thing. About the eleventh hour he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' " 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.' "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.' "The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius. So when those came

who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' "But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

HYMN OF THE DAY

"For Me to Live is Jesus"

(p.14)

CW, # 606

THE SERMON

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13 "Our Encouragement: Longing to Share"

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 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.

THE OFFERINGS

Guests please do not feel any obligation to participate in the offering (though you are always welcome to do so). Find and fill out a Guest Card as you leave, and drop it in with the offerings so we can connect with you – thanks!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, SPECIAL PRAYERS AND 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 SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, he empowered his Church to be witnesses of Christ to the ends of the earth. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.
You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.
I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -
va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'HOLY, HOLY, HOLY'. It consists of six staves of music in C major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glo - ry. You are my God, and I will ex - alt you. I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal - va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.'

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

C: A - men.

The image shows a musical score for the 'WORDS OF INSTITUTION'. It consists of a single staff of music in C major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with the lyrics 'A - men.' written below the staff.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature 'C'. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the fifth staff.

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

CW, # 385

Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed his blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am his and he is mine!

Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity,
Love that found me -- wondrous thought!
Found me when I sought him not.

Only Jesus can impart
Comfort to a wounded heart:
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be,
Christ is all in all to me.
All my wants to him are known;
All my sorrows are his own.
Safe with him in earthly strife,
I await the heav'nly life.

Strengthen me, O gracious Lord,
By your Spirit and your word.
When my wayward heart would stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

"How Firm a Foundation"

CW, # 416

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

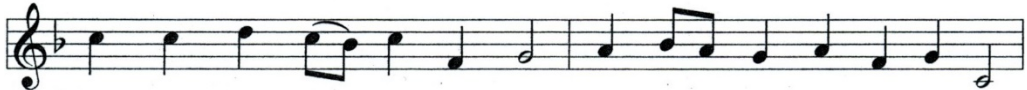
In ev'ry condition, in sickness, in health,
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth,
At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea --
The Lord, the Almighty, your strength e'er shall be.

"Fear not, I am with you. Oh, be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,
For I will be with you your troubles to bless
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

"Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love,
And then, when gray hair shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still on my shoulders be borne."

SERVICE CONTINUES



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



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



He re-news 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!

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. 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.



THE CLOSING HYMN

“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name”

CW, #321:1

Savior, again to thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Once more we bless thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait thy word of peace.

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Refrain*

How good it is and how pleas - ant to



live in u - ni - ty and peace. How



good it is and how pleas - ant to



live to - geth - er in one Lord. Lord.

Verses

1 In the name of our Lord Je - sus Christ, a -
2 Live a life that is wor - thy of your call; be -
3 Share the love that has joined us as one; u -



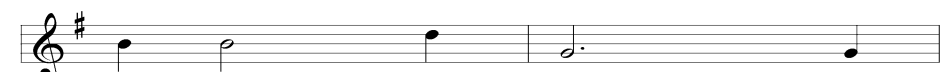
gree hum - ble, in ev - 'ry - thing you say.
nate in gen - tle, and pa - tient.
in spir - it and i - deals.



May there be no di - vi - sions a - mong you, but
Bear with each oth - er in ways that are lov - ing; pre -
Nev - er be ri - vals; do not be con - ceit - ed, but



be u - ni - ted in one mind.
serve the u - ni - ty of faith. For there is
look to oth - ers in their need.



one Lord, one faith, one



God of us all.

To Refrain

606

For Me to Live Is Jesus

1 For me to live is Je - sus; To die is gain for me.
 2 For Christ, my Lord and broth - er, I leave this world so dim;
 3 My woes are near - ly o - ver Though long and dark the road;
 4 In my last hour, oh, grant me A slum - ber soft and still,

So, when my Sav - ior pleas - es, I meet death will - ing - ly.
 And glad - ly seek an - oth - er, Where I shall be with him.
 My sin his mer - its cov - er, And I have peace with God.
 No doubts to vex or haunt me, Safe an - chored in your will.

- 5 Amen! For Christ my Savior
 Will grant this unto me.
 Your Spirit lead me ever
 That I fare happily.

Intro: Satan is real. He tries to harm gospel work. We need discernment and protection, yet we need not be discouraged. God has given us his Word, and in its promises we are regularly reassured. The community of believers will stand by each other.

Our Encouragement: Longing to Share

1. Concern: how separation from each other can harm us. (2:17-20)

- 1.1 Christ's community has always had this happening to them.
- 1.2 In early Christianity it built stronger bonds while distributing blessings.

APP: No one wants persecution or rough times. But these are the tests of character and perseverance for which we are uniquely qualified.

2. Cost: how the act of God demonstrates commitment. (3:1-5)

- 2.1 Friendship acknowledges our weaknesses.
- 2.2 Support in the day of discouragement is the role model from above.

APP: Even Jesus discovered the strengthening of the angels in his critical moments. We need each other because (in so far as) we remind ourselves together, "God's got this!"

3. Consolation: how the receiving of Good News brings relief. (3:6-13)

- 3.1 Our best friends bring refreshment through the gentle reminders of his love.
- 3.2 True comfort lies in promises kept and promises coming.

APP: We need friends who can support us in our desire to be different in the face of pressure or even hostility to conform. Paul felt that his presence with the believers in Thessalonica would have enabled them to stand firm in the face of persecution.

Conclusion: Two major responsibilities of pastoral ministry flow out of the previous passage (2:1-16) and this one (2:17-3:13) – our commitment to the Word of God (2:2, 8, 9, 13), and our commitment to the people of God.

THIS WEEK AT OUR SAVIOR

Sunday (10/4)	8:00	AM	Worship Service w/communion
	9:15	AM	Adult Bible Study
	9:15	AM	Sunday School
	10:30	AM	Worship Service w/communion
Wednesday	4:00	PM	Public School Confirmation Class
Thursday	7:00	PM	Worship Service
Sunday (10/11)	8:00	AM	Worship Service
	9:15	AM	Adult Bible Study
	10:30	AM	Worship Service

Next Week's Readings

First Lesson	Isaiah 35:3-7a
Second Lesson	Acts 3:1-10
Gospel	Mark 7:31-37

*LiveStream on Youtube Channel at 10:30am every Sunday
This service is also recorded for review after livestream.
Link on our website (see below).*

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THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICE

REAL ENCOURAGEMENT
Service Theme

PREACHING

Mark Wagner

ORGANIST

Bob Klug

VOCALIST

Lisa Skogstad

HYMNS

733, 606, 385, 416, 321:1

FIRST LESSON

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 20:1-16

THE SERMON

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

**“Our Encouragement:
Longing to Share”**

FLOWERS

The Flowers this
week are in celebration of
Mike and Sarah Smith's
Wedding Anniversary!