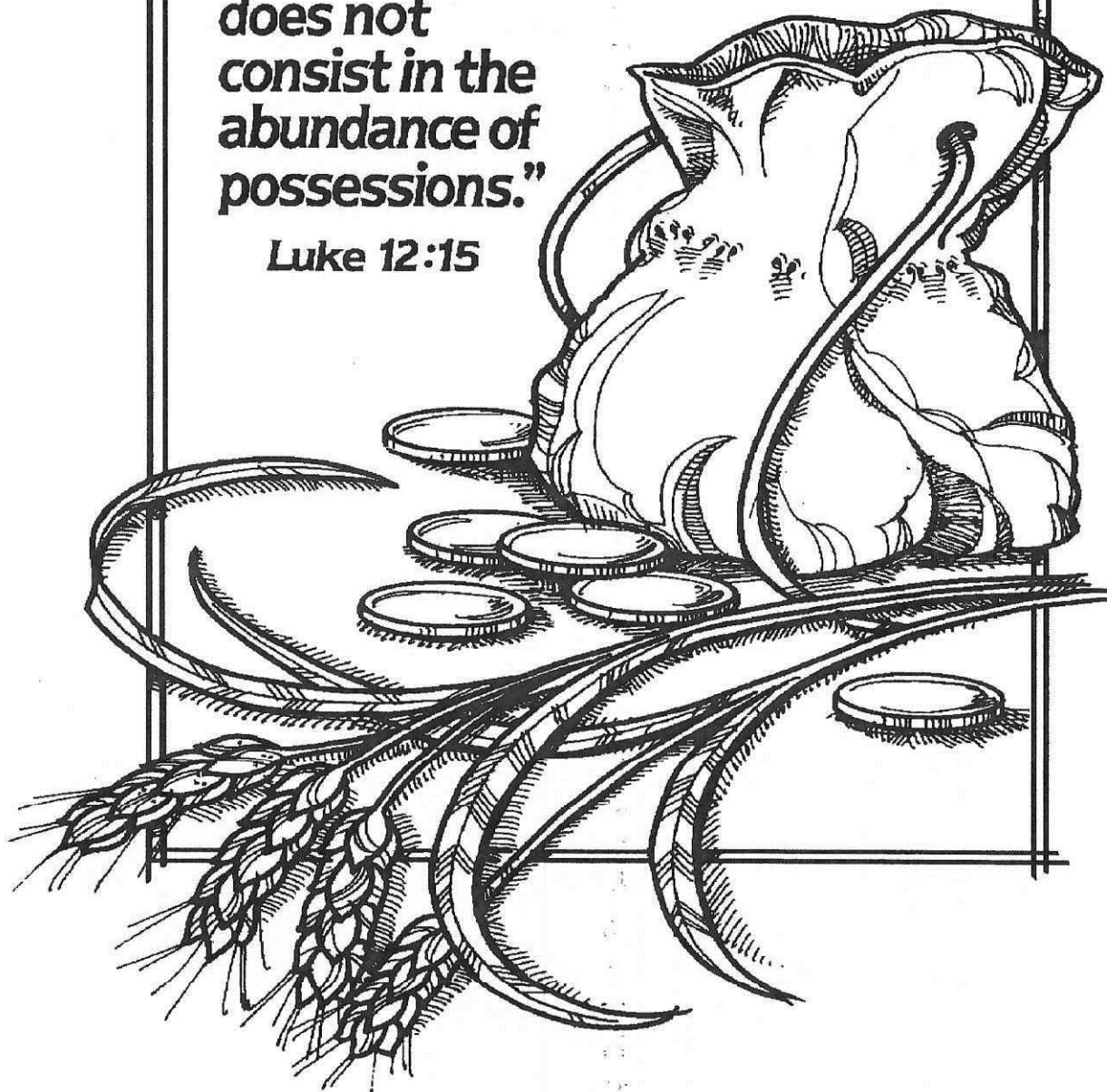


Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas

***"...one's life
does not
consist in the
abundance of
possessions."***

Luke 12:15



8th Sunday after Pentecost

KEEP LOOKING UP!

July 31, 2022

TODAY'S MESSAGE: KEEP LOOKING UP!

Today's readings from God's Word teach us about the vanity and the meaninglessness of searching for happiness and placing our trust in the treasures and the pleasures of this world. Even with all his wealth and earthly power, King Solomon recognized the worthlessness of a life lived without faith in the living God of heaven and earth. In the Gospel Reading, Jesus tells us that the value of life "does not consist in the abundance of possessions" but in being "rich toward God". We are "rich toward God" when we believe in the One He has sent. Paul writes in Colossians: "Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, not on earthly things." In the midst of the suffering, grief and stress of life, we are encouraged to "keep looking up" to Christ – His love, His forgiveness and His promise of eternal life.



In the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. The Lord's Supper is also a very sacred and intimate proclamation of fellowship among those who confess the same faith (doctrine, teachings) concerning God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ. Therefore, we practice close communion and ask that those who are not confirmed members of an LC-MS congregation receive instruction prior to receiving the Lord's Supper.

Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Before receiving the Lord's Supper, we need to examine ourselves in the following way:

(1) Am I truly repentant (sorry) for all of my sins and do I truthfully desire to change my sinful life? (2) Do I believe that Jesus is my Lord and Savior and that in the Lord's Supper I receive His body and His blood for the forgiveness of all my sins? And (3) Have I been instructed in the Scriptures and have I publicly confessed my belief that the teachings of this church and the LC-MS are faithful to God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ?

If you have questions about what God's Word says concerning the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor and/or pick up our brochure titled "Fellowship in the Lord's Supper". Those who are not confirmed are welcome to come to the altar, cross your arms and receive a blessing. For those who will be communing: **Non-alcoholic** wine is located in the center of each tray for those who have concerns with alcohol. We also offer the **chalice** as well as individual cups. If you desire the chalice, do not take an individual cup from the tray and the pastor will serve you from the chalice. Christ is present in both to grant you forgiveness.

✚ ORDER OF SERVICE WITH COMMUNION ✚

[“Divine Service: Setting One” from LSB p.151]

Please silence – or turn off – all phones and electronic devices before and during the service.

Welcome

Opening Hymn

“Renew Me, O Eternal Light”

LSB 704

**Renew me, O eternal Light, and let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace, that issues from Your holy face.**

**Remove the pow’r of sin from me, and cleanse all my impurity,
That I may have the strength and will, temptations of the flesh to still.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord, that gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire, and with new life my soul inspire.**

**Grant that I only You may love, and seek those things which are above,
Till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.**

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

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

C: *(sung)* A - - - men.

Confession of Sins

1 John 1:8-9

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

ALL: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve your present and
eternal punishment. 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 you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*
- C: *(sung)* A - - - men.

Entrance Psalm [ESV]

Psalm 39:4-7

- P: O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!
- C: Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you. Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath!
- P: Surely a man goes about as a shadow! Surely for nothing they are in turmoil; man heaps up wealth and does not know who will gather!
- C: And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you.

ALL: 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.

Hymn of Invitation

“Seek Ye First”

LSB 712

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find.
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!**

**Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word,
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord. Allelu, alleluia!**

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: *(sung)* And also with you.

Opening Prayer

- P: Let us pray.

ALL: Lord Jesus, you have laid up for us treasurers in heaven. In your mercy, cleanse and defend us that we remain rich toward God, and because we cannot continue in safety without your help, lead us and protect us always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Our hope, O Lord, is in you and in your Word. Psalm 119:74; 130:5

Epistle Reading [ESV]

Colossians 3:1-11

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Our hope, O Lord, is in you and in your Word.** Psalm 119:74; 130:5

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Luke 12:13-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12th chapter.

C: *(sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

"What is the World to Me"

LSB 730

**What is the world to me, with all its vaunted pleasure,
When You, and You alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord, my soul's delight shall be.
You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks to be praised, and honored by the mighty,
Yet never once reflects, that they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize, above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone. What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks after wealth, and all that mammon offers,
Yet never is content, though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good, content with it I'll be:
My Jesus is my wealth. What is the world to me!**

**What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure.
My life, my health, my wealth. My friend, my love, my pleasure.
My joy, my crown, my all. My bliss eternally.
Once more then, I declare: What is the world to me!**

Sermon

KEEP LOOKING UP!

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Offertory *(sung)*

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,

In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Offering *(Greet those seated near you. You may say, "The peace of the Lord be with you.")*

[If you are a guest, please feel under no obligation to give anything, but receive this worship service as our gift to you. For the members and friends of this congregation, our mission and ministry is dependent upon your generous giving, a significant act of our worship.]

Offering Prayer

[LSB 781 (v.1-2)]

P: We give Thee but Thine own, whatever the gift may be. All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

C: May we Thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive. And gladly, as Thou blessest us, to Thee our first-fruits give! Amen.

Prayers

✠ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

VISITORS and MEMBERS

Please read the message inside the first page of this bulletin re: participation in the Lord's Supper.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: *(sung)* And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C: *(sung)* We lift them to the Lord.

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

Psalm 136

C: *(sung)* It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name . . .

Sanctus (*sung*)

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

ALL: 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.

Words of Our Lord

Mt. 26:26-28; Mk. 14:22-24; Lk. 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

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

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

John 20:19

C: (*sung*) A - men.

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

John 1:29

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace.

Distribution Hymns

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

LSB 575

My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness.

No merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.

**When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace.
In ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.**

**His oath, His covenant and blood, support me in the raging flood.
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before His throne!
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.**

"All Depends on Our Possessing"

LSB 732

**All depends on our possessing, God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart. They who trust with faith unshaken,
By their God are not forsaken, and will keep a dauntless heart.**

**He who to this day has fed me, and to many joys has led me,
Is and ever shall be mine. He who ever gently schools me,
He who daily guides and rules me, will remain my help divine.**

**Many spend their lives in fretting, over trifles and in getting,
Things that have no solid ground. I shall strive to win a treasure,
That will bring me lasting pleasure, and that now is seldom found.**

**When with sorrow I am stricken, hope anew my heart will quicken.
All my longing shall be stilled. To His loving kindness tender,
Soul and body I surrender. For on God alone I build.**

**Well He knows what best to grant me. All the longing hopes that haunt me,
Joy and sorrow, have their day. I shall doubt His wisdom never.
As God wills, so be it ever. I commit to Him my way.**

**If my days on earth He lengthen, God my weary soul will strengthen.
All my trust in Him I place. Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding. Safe I anchor in His grace.**

**Jesus, priceless treasure. Fount of purest pleasure. Truest friend to me.
Ah, how long in anguish, shall my spirit languish, yearning, Lord for Thee?
Thou art mine, O Lamb divine! I will suffer naught to hide Thee.
Naught I ask beside Thee.**

**In Thine arms I rest me. Foes who would molest me, cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, ev'ry heart be quaking, Jesus calms my fear.
Lightnings flash and thunders crash. Yet, though sin and hell assail me,
Jesus will not fail me.**

**Satan, I defy thee. Death, I now decry thee. Fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me, nor thy threats alarm me, while I sing of peace.
God's great pow'r guards ev'ry hour. Earth and all its depths adore Him,
Silent bow before Him.**

**Hence, all earthly treasure! Jesus is my pleasure. Jesus is my choice.
Hence, all empty glory! Naught to me thy story, told with tempting voice.
Pain or loss, or shame or cross, shall not from my Savior move me,
Since He designs to love me.**

**Evil world, I leave thee. Thou canst not deceive me. Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me, get thee far behind me, come not forth again.
Past thy hour, O pride and pow'r. Sinful life, thy bonds I sever.
Leave thee now forever.**

**Hence, all fear and sadness! For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father, though the storms may gather, still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er I here must bear, Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!**

Song of Thanksgiving "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"

LSB 632

**O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee, my heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed, on me Thy body and Thy blood.**

**Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blest am I! How good Thou art!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALL: God our Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent your Son into the flesh, we thank you that for his sake you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament and we ask you not to forsake your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we be enabled to serve you constantly; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: *(sung)* A - men, A - men, A - - men.

Closing Hymn

"I am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

LSB 729

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, trusting only Thee.
Trusting Thee for full salvation, great and free.**

**I am trusting Thee for pardon, at Thy feet I bow.
For Thy grace and tender mercy, trusting now.**

**I am trusting Thee for cleansing, in the crimson flood.
Trusting Thee to make me holy, by Thy blood.**

**I am trusting Thee to guide me. Thou alone shalt lead.
Ev'ry day and hour supplying, all my need.**

**I am trusting Thee for power. Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me, must prevail.**

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus. Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever, and for all.**

TO OUR VISITORS

Thank you for joining us in worship. Please fill out a *Welcome to Worship* card (w/ address) and place it in the offering or give it to an usher. God's peace be with you and come again!

CLC MISSION STATEMENT: "We are a FAMILY LIVING and GROWING in God's Word, sharing God's love by TELLING others about Christ and SERVING them in His name."