

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Recommitment Sunday

Pastor Christian Magnell

October 27, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

“Here I Am, Lord”

Celebration Singers

WELCOME AND GREETING

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Lord’s Prayer (It’s Yours)”

All Peace Lutheran Church Choirs

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Father, you have called us to new life, so today we worship you

in the name of the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord, although you’ve called us to life, so often we turn away from it. *(time for reflection)*

God, you’ve given us life and we ignore it. You’ve called us to see the people around us, and we don’t look up. Selfishness overtakes us. We’ve sinned against you and against others in many different ways. Forgive us. Renew us. Teach us to love you and to love those around us.

Jesus died once for all. You stand forgiven. We are made right not because of our deeds but because of what God has already done.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Praise”

Sunday School Choirs

HYMN

“How Great Thou Art (Until that Day)”

READING: 1 Samuel 12:19-25

Fear the Lord and serve Him. That was Samuel’s charge to the people. We pray for each other, serve each other and in doing so, we serve the Lord.

19 And all the people said to Samuel, “Pray for your servants to the Lord your God, that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil, to ask for ourselves a king.” 20 And Samuel said to the people, “Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the Lord but serve the Lord with all your heart. 21 And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty. 22 For the Lord will not forsake his

people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself. 23 Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way. 24 Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you. 25 But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king.”

READING: Romans 12:1-8

No one likes to sacrifice. Yet this is exactly what Paul calls us to do. He describes us as “living sacrifices” being presented to God. Seek sacrificial ways to serve!

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice,

holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be

transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though

many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION God is good. **All the time.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

We are not saved by works. Yet, in this reading, it is clear that we are called, as Christians, to do certain things as part of our walk: feed the hungry, give drinks to the thirsty, welcome a stranger, clothe the less fortunate, or visit people in prison. In short, we serve.

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And

when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ 40 And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’ 41 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ 44 Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ 45 Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION All the time. **God is good!**

HYMN *“Lord, I Need You”*

SERMON – “Doing Life Together – Serving”

PRAYER AT RECEIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION *“The Table”*

PRAYER & BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

May the strength of God pilot us; may the wisdom of God instruct us, may the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us. Be always ours this day and for evermore.

Amen!

CLOSING SONG

"How Great Is Our God"

DISMISSAL

Let's go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!



Thought for the Week - October 27, 2024

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. - Romans 12:3

During my last year in seminary, I worked two jobs to get by (plus school). One of the jobs was working for an organization called "Word Alone," which was a Lutheran reform group in the late 90s, early 2000s. From Word Alone sprung LCMC, our denominational association. I also delivered newspapers. It seemed like the perfect combo. I would get up early each morning (around 2am) and head to the Pioneer Press distribution facility near me, pack my newspapers, get in my car, deliver for a couple of hours, and then get home in time to get cleaned up and head to class.

It was fine in September and October...until it started snowing. That winter was one of the coldest on record in Minnesota and we had snow cover from mid-October to mid-April. As the snow piled up, it got more and more difficult to deliver and get back and showered up in a timely manner. I remember one December morning getting my little Ford Escort stuck on a pile the snowplow had left entering a business parking lot and spending about 30 extra minutes getting unstuck. I was fried by the time I got to class. I realized there had to be a better way to make ends meet with my schedule, and I ended up quitting and getting a job waiting tables.

In this reading from Paul, he encourages us to know ourselves. What should we be doing, when should we be doing it, and what gifts and talents do we bring to the table. I encourage you to know when to say "no" in order to make your "yes" that much more powerful!