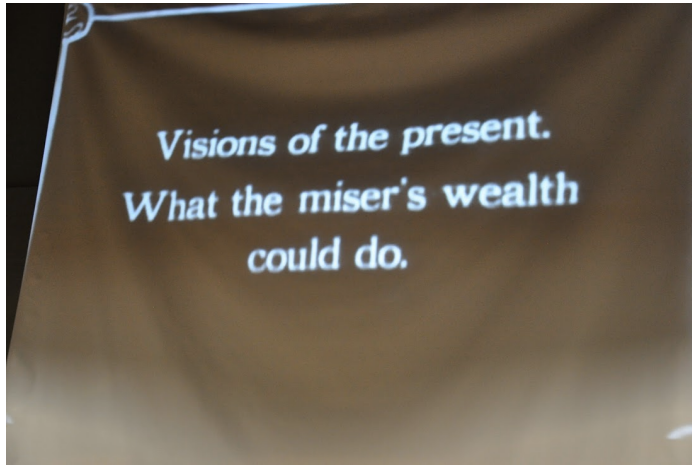


## Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

---



### The Other Side!

This picture is a slide from an old black and white movie recalling Ebenezer Scrooge. This tale at the season of Christmas might do well to set the stage for us today as we consider Jesus' story about the Rich Man and Lazarus in the Gospel today.

Many arguments exist as to whether the story in the Gospel was meant to be literally understood or was it meant as a parable. While anyone can get lost in the argument of literal versus parable, the point of the story actually needs to be the focus of our thought this morning.

There are questions of heaven and hell. There is a certainty that the end is actually the end. There is the Pharisaical confusion that wealth means God's blessing versus poverty meaning God's punishment. There are a whole host of questions in need of our answers.

We really need to address the power of the message today. Christians are constantly reminded that they will be known by the fruit that they bear. Another way of looking at it, others can see what we believe based on what we do. And how we do it! This is really close to the heart of the story line today, as Jesus presents a challenge to the listener to take a serious look at what is "on the other side."

One thing is for certain. The end marks the end. According to Jesus, this will be a time we can spend eternity recalling every missed opportunity as we suffer in hell. This could be a time we spend an eternity of regret. For you and I, and of course Ebenezer, we have a chance to consider things *before* it is too late.

Our relationship with Jesus Christ is at stake as well. Is His call to be aware of those people around us valid for us today? Are we listening? Are we working for the good of others? Now is the time to know!

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

## OUR WORSHIP TODAY

### GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements

### CONFSSIONAL PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty God, we come before your presence this day mindful of our promises to be your people and the many times we have fallen short. We really mean to follow but are so easily distracted by just about anything. The end result of that is the fact we don't do the things we have promised we would do, and we don't even think of the things we should be doing. It is as if our feet are stuck in the mud and we simply can never get a way clear to get out of the mess we are in. For that, dear Lord, we make our confession to you this day.

**ALL: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things 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**

### ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our Lord hears our prayers this day, and has offered to give us the grace of forgiveness. As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray and celebrate this morning in His Holy Name, **Amen.**

### HYMN 461 Just a Closer Walk with Thee 1,2,3

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): **O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Alleluia.** You know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. **Alleluia.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC “In the Garden**

**Dean Carson**

**FIRST LESSON: Amos 6:1a, 4-7**

**New Living Translation (NLT)**

What sorrow awaits you who lounge in luxury in Jerusalem, and you who feel secure in Samaria!

How terrible for you who sprawl on ivory beds and lounge on your couches, eating the meat of tender lambs from the flock and of choice calves fattened in the stall. You sing trivial songs to the sound of the harp and fancy yourselves to be great musicians like David. You drink wine by the bowlful and perfume yourselves with fragrant lotions. You care nothing about the ruin of your nation. Therefore, you will be the first to be led away as captives. Suddenly, all your parties will end.

**THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Timothy 6:6-19**

**New Living Translation (NLT)**

Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

But you, Timothy, are a man of God; so run from all these evil things. Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have declared so well before many witnesses. And I charge you before God, who gives life to all, and before Christ Jesus, who gave a good testimony before Pontius Pilate, that you obey this command without wavering. Then no one can find fault with you from now until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.

For, at just the right time Christ will be revealed from heaven by the blessed and only almighty God, the King of all kings and Lord of all lords. He alone can never die, and he lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach him. No human eye has ever seen him, nor ever will. All honor and power to him forever! Amen.

Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31**

**New Living Translation (NLT)**

Jesus said, "There was a certain rich man who was splendidly clothed in purple and fine linen and who lived each day in luxury. At his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. As Lazarus lay there longing for scraps from the rich man's table, the dogs would come and lick his open sores.

"Finally, the poor man died and was carried by the angels to sit beside Abraham at the heavenly banquet. The rich man also died and was buried, and he went to the place of the dead. There, in torment, he saw Abraham in the far distance with Lazarus at his side.

"The rich man shouted, 'Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames.'

"But Abraham said to him, 'Son, remember that during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, and Lazarus had nothing. So now he is here being comforted, and you are in anguish. And besides, there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there.'

"Then the rich man said, 'Please, Father Abraham, at least send him to my father's home. For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them so they don't end up in this place of torment.'

"But Abraham said, 'Moses and the prophets have warned them. Your brothers can read what they wrote.'

"The rich man replied, 'No, Father Abraham! But if someone is sent to them from the dead, then they will repent of their sins and turn to God.'

"But Abraham said, 'If they won't listen to Moses and the prophets, they won't be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"

The Gospel of our Lord.

**PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

SERMON "If Only"

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

**SERMON HYMN: 13 Come Thou Font of Every Blessing 1,2,3**

## OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### THE OFFERING:

*After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology:*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

### THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**-PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, LORD'S PRAYER**

### THE DISTRIBUTION

All are invited to come together around this table as those who belong to the household of Christ, brothers and sisters who in our baptized lives live out the death and resurrection of Jesus. The family of the reborn and the reconciled, who inhabit a universe of grace. It is our Lord's Table, you are welcomed here!

### THE COMMUNION BLESSING

## HYMN 522 I Love to Tell the Story 1,2,4

### THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

**P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!**

**C. Thanks be to God**

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

**WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN!** Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, ***please place your cell phones on muted*** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Please us a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

**INVITE A FRIEND!** Our rather informal Fall Membership drive begins in October and will run the balance of the month. Now is the time we can begin to think on who we might want to invite! Our best way to bring others to church with you is to simply invite them. We trust here they will experience the love of Jesus and the reason why we follow Him! If you are not yet a member yourself and would like to tidy up that relationship, just talk with Pastor Jon today!

**BIBLE STUDY:** Our Bible Study on the book of Nehemiah will continue in October on Wednesday, October 12th and then the next week on October 19th. We do hope you can join us at 10:00 AM each time we gather! It's a great book to study!

**Our Savior Lutheran Church, LCMC**

14344 Jamison Way Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Website: <http://www.oslc-lcmc.com>

Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.

Bible Study Twice Monthly, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

**Rev. Jonathon Kosec, Lead Pastor**

Pastor's email: [jonathonkosec@gmail.com](mailto:jonathonkosec@gmail.com)

Church Office: (941) 249-5108

Phone: (941) 916-7300