

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

The Main Thing



It is always fun to see other people have different perspectives, especially when they are related!

These two sisters, Mary and Martha, loved to entertain and they most especially loved to entertain Jesus. Perhaps it just was a busy time....

We know how the story goes. Mary sits listening to every word that comes out of the mouth of Jesus.

Martha is in the kitchen, probably making "I'm the only one working here" noises. Finally, it gets too much. She has to say something to Jesus about her bum sister who isn't doing anything. It was time He set her straight!

Jesus reminds Martha how much she is appreciated, and at the same time, reminds her how important it is to stay focused. In our language, it is important to keep the main thing, the main thing. Missing the target doesn't win the day, and we need to be certain we are aware of the same thing. Hitting the wrong target doesn't help either!

What is the main thing for believers of today? Maybe it is focusing exactly upon what Jesus himself did. Let's not get lost in the practice of faith, but perhaps we would be better consumed by keeping our focus upon the person and work of Jesus. That might just mean we look to what He did, and do everything in our power, to do the same.

If we employed someone to come cut our grass, we would expect they come to our homes, cut the grass, clean up the clippings, and that would be that. We would not expect them to come and sit. Martha probably was justified in feeling the way that she did, but in this instance, she wasn't thinking with her heart-she was thinking with her head.

There was work to do, and supper wasn't going to prepare itself. How would she know Jesus would not be there forever, and that she really should have set her things down and gone into the same room as everyone else to hear what was being said?

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements

CONFSSIONAL PRAYER

In this Pentecost Season, we confess to You, O Lord – our division, for we are not gathered together as Your people in one place; our fear of the rush of your Spirit in our lives and what it might call us to do or to be; our desire for a monolingual society, even when you allowed the early church to transcend all language, not favoring one over another; our actions that can be like the crowds that taunt and torment, mocking those who are filled with your Spirit that burns like fire and rushes like wind. For the times we have done this, we know we need to offer our confession to Almighty God:

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: In this Pentecost season, Lord – help us to let down our barriers to your Spirit; guide us over to live lives filled with joy, abandon, and faithfulness; and create in us new hearts to be new people who worship only You. 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 Easter joy in His Holy Name, **Amen**.

HYMN 163 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): **Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Alleluia. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and your neighbor as yourself. Alleluia

FIRST LESSON- Amos 8:1-12

New Living Translation (NLT)

Then the Sovereign Lord showed me another vision. In it I saw a basket filled with ripe fruit. “What do you see, Amos?” he asked. I replied, “A basket full of ripe fruit.”

Then the Lord said, “Like this fruit, Israel is ripe for punishment! I will not delay their punishment again. In that day the singing in the temple will turn to wailing. Dead bodies will be scattered everywhere. They will be carried out of the city in silence. I, the Sovereign Lord, have spoken!”

Listen to this, you who rob the poor and trample down the needy! You can’t wait for the Sabbath day to be over and the religious festivals to end so you can get back to cheating the helpless. You measure out grain with dishonest measures and cheat the buyer with dishonest scales. And you mix the grain you sell with chaff swept from the floor.

Then you enslave poor people for one piece of silver or a pair of sandals. Now the Lord has sworn this oath by his own name, the Pride of Israel “I will never forget the wicked things you have done! The earth will tremble for your deeds, and everyone will mourn. The ground will rise like the Nile River at floodtime; it will heave up, then sink again. “In that day,” says the Sovereign Lord, “I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth while it is still day.

I will turn your celebrations into times of mourning and your singing into weeping. You will wear funeral clothes and shave your heads to show your sorrow—as if your only son had died. How very bitter that day will be! “The time is surely coming,” says the Sovereign Lord, “when I will send a famine on the land—not a famine of bread or water but of hearing the words of the Lord. People will stagger from sea to sea and wander from border to border searching for the word of the Lord, but they will not find it.

THE SECOND LESSON: Colossians 1:15-29

New Living Translation (NLT)

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world.

Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together. Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything. For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself.

He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross. This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault.

But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed as God's servant to proclaim it.

I am glad when I suffer for you in my body, for I am participating in the sufferings of Christ that continue for his body, the church. God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his entire message to you. This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God's people. For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.

So we tell others about Christ, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all the wisdom God has given us. We want to present them to God, perfect[c] in their relationship to Christ. That's why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within me.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

New Living Translation (NLT)

As Jesus and the disciples continued on their way to Jerusalem, they came to a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord's feet, listening to what he taught. But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, "Lord, doesn't it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me."

But the Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her."

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON "Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing!"

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

SERMON HYMN: 293 Just As I Am 1,3,6

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

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN 167 The Old Rugged Cross 1+4

THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God

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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!

SILENCE MAY BE "GOLDEN" You might notice after each worship service, our volunteer counters sit down in a corner and begin the count of the offering. They do a fantastic job, but we probably could serve them better by not picking that time to

go up to them and speak to them. The job is made much more difficult by multiple interruptions, so we can serve them well by making note of their work.

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.

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

Church Office: (941) 249-5108

Phone: (941) 916-7300

*No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good,
and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8*