



St. John's Lutheran Church

1000 Bluff St., Beloit, WI 53511
www.stjohnsbeloit.com

**“Sharing the good news of forgiveness and eternal life
through Jesus Christ.”**

August 9, 2020

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or dispose of it in our recycling bin.
Thank you.*

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

2 Samuel 22:26–34

1 Corinthians 10:6–13

Luke 16:1–9 (10–13)

The Steward's Shrewdness Sanctified

“The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness” (Luke 16:1–9). The steward’s shrewdness is praiseworthy for two reasons. First, he knew the master would be merciful. He trusted that the master would honor the debts he forgave in the master’s name. In the same way, though we have squandered our heavenly Father’s possessions in selfishness and sin, Jesus is the Steward who has canceled our debt, knowing that His forgiveness will be honored by the Father because of the holy cross. Secondly, the steward was shrewd in using oil and wheat to provide for his earthly welfare. So also do these earthly elements aid us when pressed into heavenly use in the anointing of baptism and the wheat of the Lord’s Supper. Those who have the Sacraments will have an eternal home when their earthly home fails. These provide us aid in times of temptation (1 Cor. 10:6–13). For the Lord is our strength and a shield to all who trust in Him (2 Sam. 22:26–34).

Silent Preservice Meditation and Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Lord, Have Mercy (Kyrie) *LSB 204*

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Let us pray.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 22:26-34

²⁶To the merciful you reveal yourself as merciful.
To the blameless you reveal yourself as blameless.
²⁷To the pure you reveal yourself as pure,
but to the crooked you reveal yourself as crafty.
²⁸For you save humble people,
but your eyes are on the proud, and you bring them down.
²⁹Yes, you are my lamp, O LORD.
My God turns my darkness to light.
³⁰For with you I can charge against a battalion.
and with my God I can jump over a wall.
³¹This God—his way is blameless.
The speech of the LORD is pure.
He is a shield for all who take refuge in him.
³²For who is God besides the LORD?
And who is the Rock except our God?
³³This God wraps me with strength
and makes my way blameless.
³⁴By making my feet like those of a deer
he enables me to stand on high places.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:6–13

⁶Now these things took place as examples to warn us not to desire evil things the way they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters like some of them—as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and got up to celebrate wildly.” ⁸And let us not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell. ⁹Let us not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and so were being destroyed by the serpents. ¹⁰And do not grumble, as some of them grumbled, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹All these things that were happening to them had meaning as examples, and they were written down to warn us, to whom the end of the ages has come.

¹²So let him who thinks he stands be careful that he does not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you except ordinary testing. But God is faithful. He will not allow you to be tested beyond your ability, but when he tests you, he will also bring about the outcome that you are able to bear it.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 16:1–9 (10-13)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus also said to his disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager who was accused of wasting his possessions. ²The rich man called him in and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you can no longer be manager.’

³“The manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, since my master is taking away the management position from me? I am not strong enough to dig. I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I know what I will do, so that when I am removed from my position as manager, people will receive me into their houses.’

⁵“He called each one of his master’s debtors to him. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He said, ‘Six hundred gallons of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and write three hundred.’ ⁷Then he said to another, ‘How much do you owe?’ And he said, ‘Six hundred bushels of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and write four hundred and eighty.’

⁸“The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the children of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the children of the light are. ⁹I tell you, make friends for yourselves with unrighteous *mammon*, so that when it runs out, they will welcome you into the eternal dwellings.”

¹⁰“The person who is faithful with very little is also faithful with much. And the person who is unrighteous with very little is also unrighteous with much. ¹¹So if you have not been faithful with unrighteous *mammon* who will entrust you with what is really valuable? ¹²If you have not been faithful with what belongs to someone else, who will give you something to be your own? ¹³No servant can serve two masters. Indeed, either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and *mammon*.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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.**

Sit

Message **“Have you ever served Mammon?”**

Stand

Prayers of the Church

P. Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P. For the priesthood of all the baptized, that they would be humble and merciful, faithful in their vocations, and grateful for the salvation they have in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord:

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For the Lord of the harvest to fill His vineyard of grace with faithful workers, that His Means of Grace would be available to sinners in need the world over, let us pray to the Lord:

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For Matthew, our Synod president; John, our district president; all circuit visitors and pastors in Christ, that they would preach the Gospel in its purity and administer the Sacraments according to Christ's institution, let us pray to the Lord:

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For the strength to resist the temptations that assault God's children, especially the temptations to indulge in sexual immorality or to be overcome with the love of money, that they would repent where they have fallen prey to these temptations and, with God's help, strive to be chaste and content, let us pray to the Lord:

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For a faithful prayer life among God's children, that they would call upon the Lord when in need, give Him thanks for the provisions He provides for body and soul, and praise Him in everything, let us pray to the Lord:

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For good government among us, that we might live in freedom and peace without violence or oppression, let us pray to the Lord:

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For those experiencing physical afflictions at this time, especially those whom we have named on our prayer list and those we now name in the thoughts of our hearts that they would be delivered from every trouble and strengthened in their faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C. Amen.

Sit

Offering - offerings will be received in the basket placed in the center aisle as worshipers come to the front for reception of the Lord's Supper.

Service of the Sacrament

Silent Prayer and Meditation before Communion

Dear Lord Jesus, at your gracious invitation I come to your table to eat and drink your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of your holy name; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Stand

Preface *LSB 208*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C 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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus) *LSB 208*

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Lord's Prayer

C 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 Words of Our Lord

- 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 T 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 cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Peace of the Lord (Pax Domini)

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Sit

Receiving the Lord's Supper - worshipers are asked to come to the front via the center aisle, while maintaining a six-foot distance between family units (please see the lines on the floor). Each communicant will receive first the bread and then the wine from the pastor. After the worshiper has communed, they are invited to return to their seat via the side aisles. Trays for receiving the empty cups will be placed at the front of each side aisle.

Communion Blessing (after everyone has received communion and returned to their seats)

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
C Amen.

Stand

Post-Communion Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten 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 may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Blessing (Benedicamus) LSB 212

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Blessing (Benediction)

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C Amen.

Acknowledgments

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For announcements, please see this week's Communicator.

Staff and Contact Information

Rev. Dennis Roser, Pastor

dennismroser@gmail.com cell: (608) 713-2050

Mrs. Berta Eddy, Administrative Assistant

officestjohnsbeloit@gmail.com

www.stjohnsbeloit.com

www.facebook.com/stjohnslutheranbeloit/

www.facebook.com/stjohnslutheranschoolbeloit

www.youtube.com/channel/UCw9-9SrlBpZwdB2bPj-7Stg

Communion Practices of this Congregation

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John's every Sunday in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. In addition to the members of this congregation, visitors from our sister LCMS congregations and other Lutheran denominations with whom we enjoy altar fellowship are invited to join us at the Lord's Table. For further study, please see Matthew 5:23; 10:32; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.