



### **INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY**

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **RINGING OF THE CHIMES**

### **GATHERING**

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✙ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life.  
**Amen.**



You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✙ Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn: GSP #28 "Sweet Hour of Prayer"**

## Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**



## Prayer Of the Day

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE WORD

### Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

*The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.*

<sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>12</sup> I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

<sup>2:18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm: Psalm 49:1-12 (Read Responsively)

*My mouth shall speak of wisdom. (Ps. 49:3)*

- <sup>1</sup> Hear this, all you peoples;  
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,  
<sup>2</sup> **you of high degree and low,  
rich and poor together.**  
<sup>3</sup> My mouth shall speak of wisdom,  
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.  
<sup>4</sup> **I will incline my ear to a proverb  
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**  
<sup>5</sup> Why should I be afraid in evil days,  
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,



<sup>6</sup> **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,  
and boast of their great riches?**

<sup>7</sup> One can never redeem another,  
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

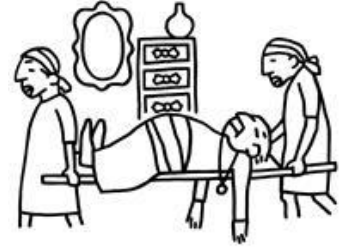
<sup>8</sup> **for the ransom of a life is so great  
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

<sup>9</sup> in order to live forever and ever  
and never see the grave.

<sup>10</sup> **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish  
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

<sup>11</sup> Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation,  
though they had named lands after themselves.

<sup>12</sup> **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;  
they are like the beasts that perish.**



### **Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11**

*Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

**Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

### **Gospel Acclamation – ELW Setting #4 – S 151a**



## **Gospel: Luke 12:13-21**

The Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter, beginning at the 13<sup>st</sup> verse. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.*

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

**Pastor Dean Willich**

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

**Hymn of the Day: GSP #1 "Amazing Grace"**

**The Apostles' Creed**

**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 to the dead.\*  
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 catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear (*especially those we say aloud or hold in our hearts*). Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words. The assembly is seated.*

**Offering** – Collection of our offerings.

*Song during offering – Music Only – GSP #5 "Because He Lives"*

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*



## Offering Prayer

Let us pray, together.

Creator God,  
**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good  
and the harvest is plentiful.**  
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth  
and our labor,  
that we may work for the good of all;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.

## THE MEAL

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy – ELW Setting #4 – S 153



## The Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

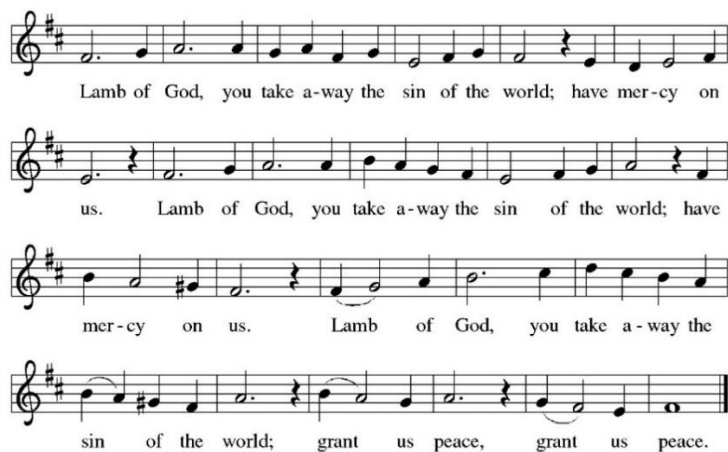


## Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice. Come.

*Please be seated and wait to come forward for Holy Communion after the singing of The Lamb of God song.*

## Lamb of God – ELW Setting #4 – S 154



## Hymn During Communion: GSP #23 “Peace Like a River”

### Blessing after Communion

*After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands. The presiding minister may say a table blessing; the assembly responds Amen.*

### Prayer after Communion

Let us pray, together.

Mothering God,  
you gathered us to your table  
and we drank deeply of your grace.  
Send us out by your Spirit  
to love our neighbors as ourselves  
and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name.  
Amen.

### Sending Blessing

The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit  
✠ bless you and give you peace.  
Amen.

### Sending Song: GSP #30 “The Old Rugged Cross” Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.  
Thanks be to God.

### Postlude

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#### Today’s Lay Leaders

**Lector:** Katie Schmidt

**Ushers:** Bill & Kathy Wakefield

**Communion Assistant:** Jeanette Nowakowski

**Altar Guild:** Deanna Posig

**Music & Worship Coordinator:** Barb Regent

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