

Welcome to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church (Obelisk)
3206 Big Road
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July 31, 2022
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

P: Pastor C: Congregation

Prelude "Be Thou But Near" J.S. Bach

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one
another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have not followed your path but have
chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before
ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on
the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from
ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.**

Amen.

P: Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name
of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love
as God loves.

C: Amen.

Greeting

P: Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God,
grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

C: Amen.

First Reading: 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.*

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied
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 human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that
are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing
after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun,
seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—
and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet
they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my
wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and
gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my

labors under the sun, ²¹because 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. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For 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.

Psalm: Psalm 49:1-12

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

- ¹Hear this, I all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell I in the world,
²**you of high de- I gree and low,
rich and I poor together.**
³My mouth shall I speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on I understanding.
⁴**I will incline my ear I to a proverb
and set forth my riddle up- I on the harp.**
⁵Why should I be afraid in I evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my I heels surrounds
me,
⁶**the wickedness of those who put their trust in I their own
prowess, and boast of I their great riches?**
⁷One can never re- I deem another,
or give to God the ransom for an- I other's life;
⁸**for the ransom of a life I is so great
that there would never be e- I nough to pay it,**
⁹in order to live forev- I er and ever
and never I see the grave.
¹⁰**For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and
stu- I pid they perish and leave their wealth to those
who come I after them.**
¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling
places from generation to I generation, though they had
named lands af- I ter themselves.

¹²**Even though honored, they cannot I live forever;
they are like the I 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.

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

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

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

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.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And 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." ¹⁶Then he told them a

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Personal Bank: Use the autopay from your personal bank account to send funds to St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 3206 Big Road, Zieglerville, PA 19492.

Mail: send a check to St. Luke's.

Your continued and weekly offerings are needed to continue the Little Church with a BIG Mission.



God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days,
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.