

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

- ¹I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
- ²He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.
- ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
- ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?
- ⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
- ⁶I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
- ⁷For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

Psalm: Psalm 80:7-15

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

- ⁷ Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ⁸ You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;

you cast out the nations and | planted it.

⁹You cleared the | ground for it;
it took root and | filled the land.

¹⁰The mountains were covered | by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs. R

¹¹You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea
and its branches | to the river.

¹²Why have you broken | down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?

¹³The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

¹⁴Turn now, O | God of hosts,
look | down from heaven;

¹⁵behold and | tend this vine;
preserve what your right | hand has planted. R

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

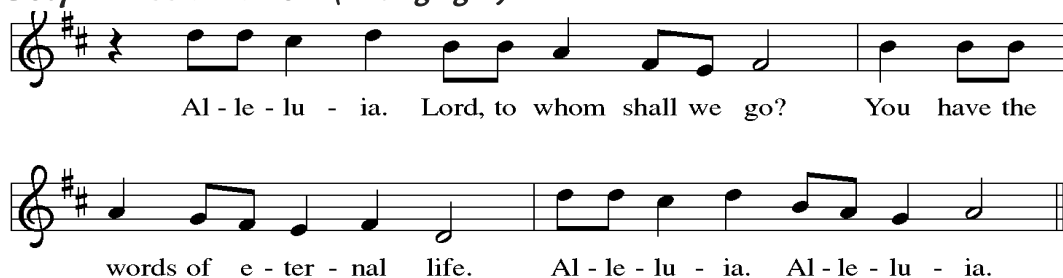
Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:
⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

*** Gospel Acclamation (all singing...)**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*** Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46**

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Service Announcements – October 4, 2026

Harvest Festival Food Drive – The Harvest Festival food drive yielded a donation of 227.2 pounds of food for the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry.

Adult Ed Class - Jerry Jordan hosts an Adult Education opportunity every Sunday after worship. See Jerry or Pastor Amy for more information.

Community Dinner – St. Luke’s Community Dinner will take place on October 15, 2026 from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Hands are at the back of the church.

Quilting & Sewing Group - Meeting on October 21, 2026 from 6:00p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Yoga Class - On October 22, 2026, at 7:00 p.m, we will be hosting our second Yoga Class. Classes will be offered every 4th Thursday of the month at \$15 per person, per class. No experience necessary.

PRAYER REQUESTS – October 4, 2026

Members Of Saint Luke's Church

Rosemarie Bliss, Spencer Brothers, Gail Faust, Kristiana Heinz, Barry Isett, Dan Pulcher, Robert Pulcher, Chris Quigg, Roger Rhoads, Nancy Schodle, Ron Sekellick, David Semmens, Henry Stetler, Carol Welch, Stewart Young

Friends Of Saint Luke's Church

Morris, Harvey
Cousins of Chris Quigg
Gen Adams
Great-grandson of Judy Hunsberger
Glenn Argue
Friend of Doug & Sharon Killough
Beth & family
Friend of Carol & Joe Langton
Angela Boyer
Daughter of Audrey Reinhart
Rose Brendlinger
Friend of Merlyn Jordan
Steve & Debbie Buckner
Friends of St. Luke's
Chris Campbell
Friend of Rob Bickelman
Chris & Shaina & daughter,
Charlotte
Friends of Brendan Greer
Garrett Coyne
Friend of Ian Kratz
Dawn Curran
Friend of Kristin Bauer
Diane Davidheiser
Friend of Brenda Foose
Corey Delong, Heidi Delong
Friends of Jerry & Merlyn Jordan
Mary Doughty
Sister of Peggy Brendlinger

Joan
Friend of Pat & Dick Stonerook
Dan Hogan
Friend of Rob Bickelman
Ken & Marie Hunsberger
Stepson & his wife of Judy Hunsberger
Andy Hunter and Hallie
Koenig
Friends of Dennis Faust
Grant & Nancy Karsner
Friends of Dennis & Gail Faust
Kimberly (Krupp) Keim
Step-sister of Brenda Foose
Sandi Kelly
Friend of St. Luke's
Sue Labbe & family
Aunt of Nicole Greer
Lila Lundborg
Sister of Jerry Jordan
Will Marks
Grandson Of Judy Moyer
Linda McLaughlin
Friend of Carol Langton
Jim Miller & family
Nephew of Carol Welch
Michael & Rita Natalini
Friends of Rob & Paula Bickelman

Jackie
Sister of Kay Badman
Tim Overholtzer
Brother-in-law of Pat Stonerook
Jim & Holly Parmer
Sister & brother-in-law of Gwen Semmens
Scott Randolph
Friend of Rob Bickelman
Marily King
Mother of Brenda Foose
Dennis Ritchie
Requested by Doug & Sharon Killough
Calvin Dietrich Savage
Grandson of Dennis & Gail Faust
Pastor Sellers
Friend of Pastor Amy
JoEllen Shaub
Cousin of Joyce Brothers and Spencer Brothers
Chris Slater
Friend of Rob & Paula Bickelman
Wendy Speilman
Friend of Deneen Kratz
Amy Sheppard
Aunt of Brenda Foose

Persons In Military Service

Joseph P. Breidor, John P Carmelo, IV, Lt. Darby Driscoll, Capt. Ian Driscoll, Ens. Leah Duff, Jared Kirk, JD & his Unit, Greg Kunkle, Andrew Matsko, Guy Row, Kevin Row, Preston Schoenly, Corey Stonerook, Philip Washington