

All Saints Lutheran Church

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity October 5, 2025

The Strength of God's Stewards Luke 7:11-17 and Ephesians 3:13-21

Stewardship requires a spiritual strength that only God can provide. Paul, in his stewardship of the Gospel, faced persecution and suffering. He could not endure without the spiritual strength that comes from above (Ephesians 3:13-21). This strength comes from the Holy Spirit, who causes Christ to dwell in our hearts by faith and who causes us to be rooted and grounded in love. And so we know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge and are filled with the fullness of God. Christ, the same one who in love and pity raised the widow's son (Luke 7:11-17), now dwells in our hearts by faith. He is our strength. Paul kept preaching because the love of Christ overflowed through him to his neighbor. We keep loving because the love of Christ overflows through us to our neighbors.

All Saints Lutheran Church
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Charlotte, NC 28277
704-752-4287 www.allsaintslutheran.org
Rev. Jeffrey Ware, Pastor
Joshua Pauling, Vicar
Dr. Patricia Parker, Director of Music

Communion at All Saints

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord 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. It is important, therefore, that those who come to the Lord's Table 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. Scripture also teaches that Holy Communion is a confession of faith. Those who receive the sacrament together show forth their unity in Christ, that is, a unity of heart and mind accomplished when all who commune together believe the same doctrine and are at peace with one another.

Scripture teaches that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and that Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Therefore, we, along with the historic Christian church, practice *Closed Communion*. Any who are not communicant members of All Saints, or another congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are asked to speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward during communion to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest and bow your head, and the pastor will give you a blessing; and know that we would love to share more with you about our teaching and practice.

Prayers of preparation and thanksgiving for receiving the Lord's Supper are found in the LSB hymnal on p. 308.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; John 17:20–23; 1 Corinthians 11:17–34.





Divine Service 3

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Confession and Absolution

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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

Psalm 86:1, 7, 12–13; antiphon: vv. 3, 5

Introit



Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*

for to you do I cry \mid all the day.

For you, O Lord, are good and for- | giving,*

abounding in steadfast love to all who call up- | on you.

Incline your ear, O LORD, and | answer me,*

for I am poor and | needy.

In the day of my trouble I call up- | on you,*

for you | answer me.

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with | my whole heart,* and I will glorify your name for- | ever.

For great is your steadfast | love toward me;* you have delivered my soul from the depths | of Sheol.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

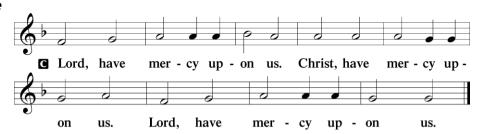
Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*

for to you do I cry | all the day.

For you, O Lord, are good and for- \mid giving,*

abounding in steadfast love to all who call up- on you.

Kyrie



Gloria in Excelsis









P O Lord, we pray that Your grace may always go before and follow after us, that we may continually be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 17:17–24

Psalm 102:15-16

¹⁷After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸And she said to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!" ¹⁹And he said to her, "Give me your son." And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰And he cried to the LORD, "O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?" ²¹Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, "O LORD my God, let this child's life come into him again." ²²And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. ²³And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives." ²⁴And the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Gradual



Nations will fear the name | of the LORD,* and all the kings of the earth will fear your | glory.

For the LORD builds up | Zion;* he appears in his | glory.

Epistle Ephesians 3:13–21

¹³So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory. ¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

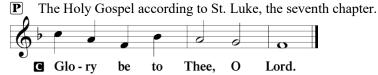
²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

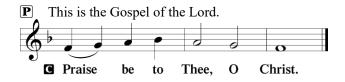


Holy Gospel

Luke 7:11–17



¹¹Soon afterward [Jesus] went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹²As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. ¹³And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." ¹⁴Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." ¹⁵And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. ¹⁶Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" ¹⁷And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

whose kingdom will have no end.

and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

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,

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

758 The Will of God Is Always Best 1 The will of God is al - ways best And shall be done for -2 God is com - fort and my trust, My hope and life mv a -3 Lord, this I ask, O hear my plea, De - ny me not this 4 When life's brief course on run And Ĭ this world am earth is ev er; And they who trust in Him are blest; bid And His coun - sel, wise and ing; to just, When Sa - tan sore - ly trou - bles fa vor: me. "Your leav Grant say, will be done," ing, me to He will for - sake them He helps in - deed nev er. In vield, in Him con - fid The ver - y hairs, His ing. guard me do not let me ver. O well. My wa faith - ful Word be - liev dear - est Friend, I My ing. time of need; He chas-tens with for - bear - ing. They who de -Word de-clares, Up-on my head He num - bers. By night and fear dis - pel, Ful - fill Your faith - ful say - ing: All who be now com-mend My soul in - to Your keep - ing; From sin and On God, their friend, Shall not be left pend de spair - ing. God He nev - er sleeps nor day my stay; slum - bers.

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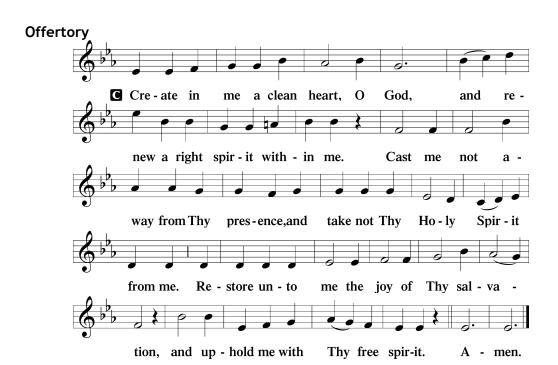
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Sermon

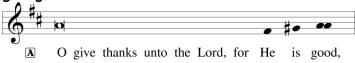


Prayer of the Church





Thanksgiving

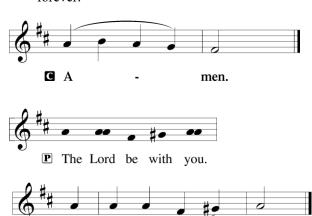




P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

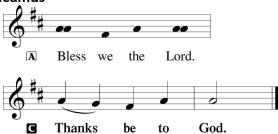
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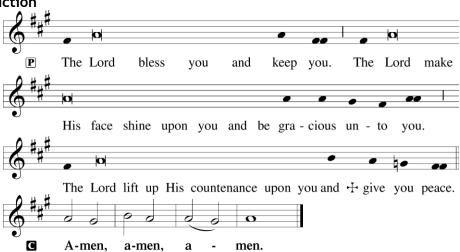
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Benedicamus



Benediction

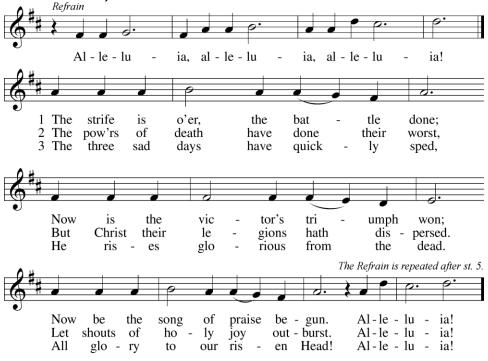
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464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



- 4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell; The bars from heav'n's high portals fell. Let hymns of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee, From death's dread sting Thy servants free That we may live and sing to Thee.

Alleluia! Refrain

Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, 1695, Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt. Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525–1594, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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