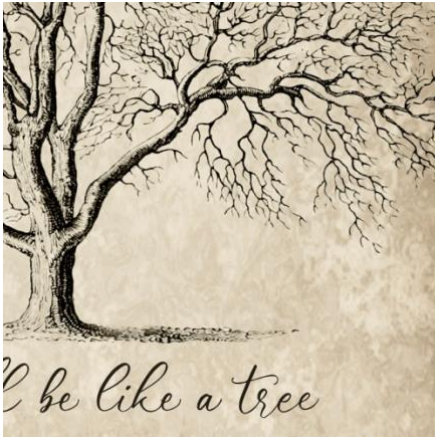


Grace Lutheran Church
Yorba Linda, California

September 20, 2020
16th Sunday after Pentecost



LIKE A TREE!

There are so many things to distract us right now – things that are bad and troublesome as well as things that are good, in and of themselves. But when they distract us, it only ends up bad. God’s Word calls us today to focus on God’s Word. It is the one thing needful, the one thing that will bear fruit, fruit that will last.



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace

6550 Fairmont Blvd / Yorba Linda, CA 92886
714-779-2384 / gracelutheran.church

Pastor Phillip Sievert –
720-364-1002
pdsievert@aol.com or pastor@gracelutheran.church

Light grey text indicates section is for church service only and is not part of the accompanying video.



GATHERING RITE ON THE WORD OF GOD

*God's people long
to gather together
for strength from
God and for mutual
encouragement.
This alternate
beginning for
worship may be
used on any
occasion to remind
God's people of the
blessings of his
Word.*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
C: *(spoken)* Amen.

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Stanza 1

**Blessed Jesus, at your Word We are gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear you,
By your teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love you solely.**

M: Oh, how I love your law!

C: **I meditate on it all day long.**

M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

C: **for they are ever with me.**

M: I have more insight than all my teachers,

C: **for I meditate on your statutes.**

M: How sweet are your words to my taste,

C: **sweeter than honey to my mouth!**

(Psalm 119:97-99,103)

Stanza 2

**All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till your Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us; You must work all good within us.**

M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

C: **so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Stanza 3

**Gracious Savior, good and kind, Light from Light, from God proceeding,
Open now our heart and mind; Help us by your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry your people raises; Hear and bless our prayers and praises.**

M: God gave his Word so "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (*John 20:31*). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

Stanza 4

**Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Praise to you and adoration!
Grant that we your Word may trust, Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander, Till we sing your praises yonder.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy and to bring forth fruits in faith and hope and love; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

THE WORD

The Spirit working through the Word empowers us to bear fruit, or as Paul says, to walk in faith.

THE FIRST READING

Colossians 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

²To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

³We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people— ⁵the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel ⁶that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. ⁷You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, ¹⁰so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, ¹²and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. ¹³For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:38-42

³⁸ As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."



For online worship:



HYMN OF THE DAY

One Thing's Needful (#290)

Verses 1-2

- 1 **One thing's needful; Lord, this treasure Teach me highly to regard.
All else, though it first give pleasure, Is a yoke that presses hard.
Beneath it the heart is still fretting and striving,
No true, lasting happiness ever deriving.
This one thing is needful; all others are vain—
I count all but loss that I Christ may obtain.**

- 2 **How were Mary's thoughts devoted Her eternal joy to find
As intent each word she noted, At her Savior's feet reclined.
How kindled her heart, how devout was its feeling,
While hearing the lessons that Christ was revealing;
All earthly concerns she forgot for her Lord**

And found her contentment in hearing his Word.

PSALM FOR THE DAY

Psalms 1

M. Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

- A. ¹ Blessed is the one
- B. who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked
 or stand in the way of sinners
 or sit in the company of mockers,
- A. ² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
- B. and who meditates on his law day and night.

- A. ³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
- B. which yields its fruit in season
- A. and whose leaf does not wither—
- B. whatever they do prospers.

- A. ⁴ Not so the wicked!
- B. They are like chaff that the wind blows away.

- A. ⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
 nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
- B. ⁶ For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
 but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

M. Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

OFFERING

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and 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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *spoken by the worship leader*

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

M: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

C: **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

One Thing's Needful (#290) Verse 3

**3 Wisdom's highest, noblest treasure, Jesus, can be found in you.
Let me find in you my pleasure; Make my will and actions true,
Humility there and simplicity reigning,
In paths of true wisdom my steps ever training.
If I learn from Jesus this knowledge divine,
The blessing of heavenly wisdom is mine.**

Text: Johann H.
Schröder, 1667–99,
abr., adapt.; tr.
Frances E. Cox, 1812–
97, alt.

CALENDAR

Thursday - Bible Study online – 10 AM or 7 PM

Saturday – California Lutheran High School golf outing

Sunday worship – online (at your convenience) or in-person at 9:30 AM.

This week: Confirmation class

October 10th – Lutheran Women’s Mission Society Rally (virtual meeting)

Look for information in the coming weeks.

Meditations devotions and Forward in Christ magazines are available.

z