

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 25, 2016

Worship Focus

**THE BELIEVER GROWS IN CHRISTIAN CHARACTER...
Christians find real wealth in heavenly treasure.**



**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
9807 CHURCH ROAD
DALLAS, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567
churchsec@caltex.org**

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

457 - Fight the Good Fight



1 Fight the good fight With all your might;
2 Run the straight race Through God's good grace;
3 Cast care a - side, Lean on your guide;
4 Faint not nor fear; His arms are near.



Christ is your strength and Christ your light.
Lift up your eyes and seek his face.
His bound - less mer - cy will pro - vide.
He chang - es not, and you are dear.



Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Life with its way be - fore us lies;
Lean, and the trust - ing soul shall prove
On - ly be - lieve, and you will see



Your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
Christ is the path and Christ the prize.
Christ is its life and Christ its love.
That Christ is Lord e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-75, alt.

Tune: MENDON (448 88) *The Methodist Harmonist*, New York, 1821.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation And also with you.

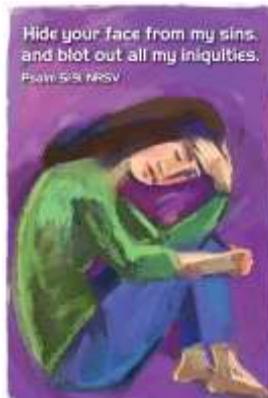
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**



PRAYER AND PRAISE

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Where Your Treasure Is

Grades PreK-4

Refrain

*Where your treasure is, there your heart shall be.
All that you possess will never set you free.
Seek the things that last; come and learn from me.
Where your treasure is, your heart shall be.*

- 1 *What do you gain from all your worry,
What you should eat or what to wear?
There is no peace in stress or hurry.
Do you not know that you are held within God's care?*

Refrain

- 2 *Look at the ravens high above you.
They do not work their whole life through,
And yet God feeds them and protects them.
So how much more will God protect and care for you?*

Refrain

- 3 *Behold the lilies in their splendor.
In grace and beauty they are dressed,
And yet so soon their bloom is faded.
So how much more will those who look to God be blessed?*

Refrain

- 4 *O little flock, do not be frightened;
Yours is the kingdom of the Lord.
Give your possessions to the needy;
Obtain a treasure in God's heaven safely stored.*

Refrain

Text (st. 1-3): Luke 12:22-34, alt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc.
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Text (st. 4): Michael Schultz, b. 1963 © 2006 Michael Schultz. All rights reserved.
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Amos 6:1-7

The wealthy in Israel preferred earthly luxury rather than spiritual restoration.

AMOS 6:1 Woe to you who are complacent in Zion,
and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
you notable men of the foremost nation,
to whom the people of Israel come!

² Go to Calneh and look at it;
go from there to great Hamath,
and then go down to Gath in Philistia.
Are they better off than your two kingdoms?
Is their land larger than yours?

³ You put off the evil day
and bring near a reign of terror.

⁴ You lie on beds inlaid with ivory
and lounge on your couches.
You dine on choice lambs
and fattened calves.

⁵ You strum away on your harps like David
and improvise on musical instruments.

⁶ You drink wine by the bowlful
and use the finest lotions,
but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.

⁷ Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile;
your feasting and lounging will end.

PSALM

Psalm 146

Refrain Tune: Lynn Trapp. © 1989 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

All sing Refrain and Gloria. Men sing the first half of the verses; women respond with the second half.



Praise the LORD, | O my soul.*

I will sing praise to my God as long | as I live.

Do not put your trust in | princes,*

in mortal men, who | cannot save.

Blessed is he whose hope is in the | LORD his God,*

the maker of heav | en and earth.

Refrain

The LORD gives food to the | hungry,*

the LORD sets | prisoners free.

The LORD gives sight | to the blind,*

the LORD lifts up those who are | bowed down.

The LORD watches over the | outcast*

and sustains the fatherless and the | widow.

The LORD remains faithful for | ever.*

He upholds the cause of | the oppressed.

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.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON 1 Timothy 6:6-16

Godliness with contentment leads the faithful steward to a life marked by faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

¹TIMOTHY 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹ People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time--God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

VERSE OF THE DAY

**At the name of Jesus Ev'ry knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess him King of glory now;
'Tis the Father's pleasure We should call him Lord,
Who from the beginning Was the mighty Word. (344:1)**

GOSPEL Luke 16:19-31

The account of the rich man and poor Lazarus teaches a striking lesson about what really is true treasure.

¹LUKE 16:19 "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

²⁵ “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷ “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father’s house, ²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

²⁹ “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

³⁰ “ ‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

³¹ “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HYMN OF THE DAY

466 - Though Thoughtless Thousands Choose



1 Though thought - less thou - sands choose the road
 2 In Christ, by faith, I wish to live,
 3 Christ is my ev - er - last - ing all.
 4 Soon will the Lord, my life, ap - pear;
 5 Soon will the saints in glo - ry meet,
 That leads the soul a - way from God,
 From him my life, my all, re - ceive,
 To him I look; on him I call,
 Soon shall I end my tri - als here,
 Soon walk through ev - 'ry gold - en street
 This hap - pi - ness, dear Lord, be mine;
 To him de - vote my fleet - ing hours,
 He will my ev - 'ry want sup - ply
 Leave sin and sor - row, death and pain,
 And sing on ev - 'ry bliss - ful plain,
 To live and die en - tire - ly thine,
 Serve him a - lone with all my pow'rs,
 In time and through e - ter - ni - ty,
 To live is Christ; to die is gain,
 "To live is Christ; to die is gain."

Text: Joseph Hoskins, 1745-88, alt.
 Tune: WAREHAM (LM) William Knapp, 1698-1768, alt.

SERMON

Luke 16:19-31

“Direct Us to What is Right in YOUR Sight...”

CONFESSIOIN OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M In the name of the Lord Jesus and on the sure foundation of the prophets and apostles, let us pray for God’s continued blessing upon us and all people.

Brief silence

M For the Church, that all those who belong to Jesus, who have been set free from the slavery of sin and death through faith in His Gospel, would be led by His Spirit to

crucify their flesh with all its passions and desires and use their freedom to love one another in true peace and joy, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M For all the messengers of Christ in the world, that having set their hand to the plow, they would not look back but preach the kingdom of God; that by the voice of His Gospel, the Lord, our God, would reveal Himself to His people and preserve them in the faith and worship of His name, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M For the president and Congress of the United States and all others in authority, and for all who work for peace, justice, health and protection, that the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ would grant them wisdom by His Word and Holy Spirit; that we also might serve Him without fear within our callings and walk before Him in justice and truth, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M For all those who are in any way afflicted or distressed in mind, body or estate; for those who travel, and for all who are in danger; for the homebound and hospitalized, and for all who have no house or home on earth; [*especially...*], that the Word of the Lord would come to them and comfort them in all adversity; that He would save them from destruction and grant to them His peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M For all those who have not received and do not know the Son of Man, that our Lord God would call them to repentance, free them from their error and, to the glory of His name, bring them into the faith and fellowship of Christ, their Savior, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M Hear us, O Lord, the God of hosts, in these our humble requests which we offer unto You in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those
who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SERMON HYMN

475 – The Man Is Ever Blest



1 The man is ev - er blest Who shuns the
2 But makes the law of God His stud - y
3 He like a tree shall thrive With wa - ters
4 Not so the wick - ed man! He no such
5 How will he bear to stand Be - fore that



sin - ners' ways, A - mong their coun - sels
and de - light A - mid the la - bors
near the root. Fresh as the leaf his
bless - ing finds. His hopes shall flee like
judg - ment seat Where all the saints at



nev - er stands, Nor takes the scorn - ers' place,
of the day And watch - es of the night.
name shall live; His works are heav'n - ly fruit.
emp - ty chaff Be - fore the driv - ing winds.
Christ's right hand In full as - sem - bly meet?

6 God knows and he approves
The way the righteous go,
But sinners and their works shall meet
A dreadful overthrow.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: ST. MICHAEL (SM) *Trente quatre Pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, alt.

PRAYER

M O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



CLOSING HYMN

434 - Lord, You I Love with All My Heart



1 Lord, you I love with all my heart; I pray you ne'er from
2 Lord God, 'twas your rich boun-ty gave My bod-y, soul, and
3 Lord, let at last your an-gels come; To A-bram's bos-om



me de-part; With ten-der mer-cies cheer me. Earth has no
all I have In this poor life of la-bor. Lord, grant that
bear me home That I may die un-fear-ing. And in its



plea-sure I would share; Heav-en it-self were void and bare
I in ev-'ry place May glo-ri-fy your lav-ish grace
nar-row cham-ber keep My bod-y safe in peace-ful sleep



If you, Lord, were not near me. And should my heart for
And serve and help my neigh-bor. Let no false doc-trine
Un-til your re-ap-pear-ing. And then from death a-

sor - row break, My trust in you no one could shake.
 me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
 wak - en me That my own eyes with joy may see,
 You are the trea - sure I have sought; Your pre - cious blood my
 Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my cross - es
 O Son of God, your glo - rious face, My Sav - ior and my
 soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, My God and Lord,
 will - ing - ly. Lord Je - sus Christ, My God and Lord,
 Fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, My prayer at - tend,
 my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust your Word.
 my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust your Word.
 my prayer at - tend, And I will praise you with - out end.

Text: Martin M. Schalling, 1532-1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: HERZLICH LIEB HAB ICH DICH, O HERR (887 887 88 88 488) *Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur*, Strassburg, 1577, alt.

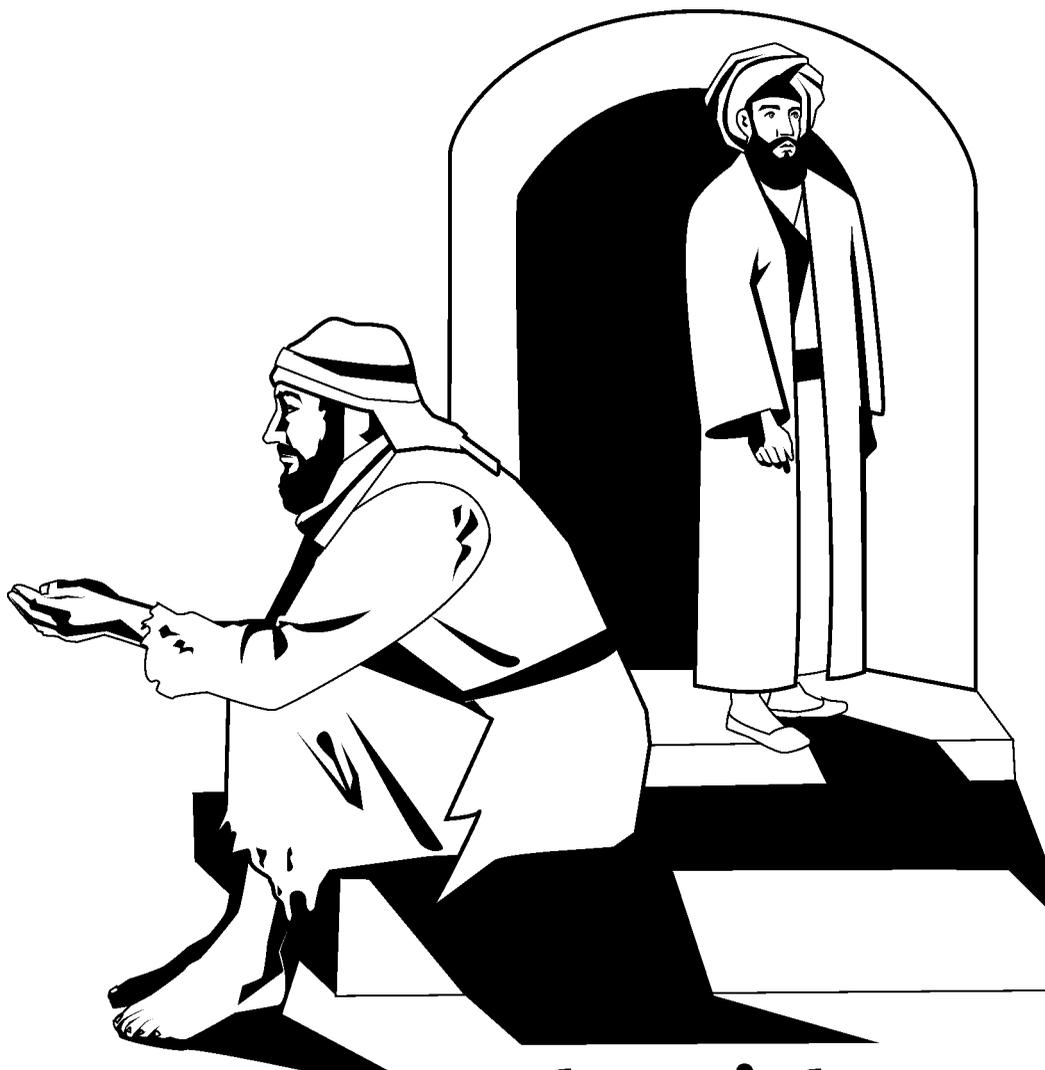
After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.





... THERE IS
A GREAT CHASM
SEPARATING US ...

L U K E 1 6 : 2 6



Lazarus & The Rich Man