Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Pastor Janine Shearer

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Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost † September 28, 2025

P - Pastor ◆ C - Congregation ◆ A - Assisting Minister

ELW-Evangelical Lutheran Worship-Red ◆ **WOV**-With One Voice-Blue

PRELUDE Prelude on "Brother James's Air" by Searle Wright

WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing -Bell Choir

arr. Judy Endean

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God.
- C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW # 705 God of Grace and God of Glory

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

- P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.

- P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

- P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
- C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

^{1a}Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.

⁴Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall, ⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David improvise on instruments of music, ⁶who drink wine from

bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

- A The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146

¹ Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

- ² I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;
 - I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- ³ Put not your I trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there I is no help.

⁴ When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day | their thoughts perish.

- ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob [|] for their help, whose hope is in the [|] LORD their God;
- ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that [|] is in them: who keeps promises forever:
- ⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to ¹ those who hunger. The LORD sets the ¹ captive free.
- The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.
- ⁹ The LORD cares ¹ for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way ¹ of the wicked.
- ¹⁰ The LORD shall [|] reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. [|] Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, 8but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. 11But as for you, who are of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the

good confession, I charge you 14 to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵which God will bring about at the right time— God who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the Ruler of rulers and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is God alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to God be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, 19thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

- A The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION A (please rise in body or spirit) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31 C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, ¹⁹ There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus.

covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with

Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where the rich man was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and vou are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷The rich

man said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send Lazarus to my father's house— ²⁸for I have five brothers— that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; your brothers should listen to them.' ³⁰The rich man said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' ³¹Abraham said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

- P The Gospel of our Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY Build a Longer Table

- Build a longer table, not a higher wall, feeding those who hunger, making room for all. Feasting together, stranger turns to friend, Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.
- Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail; where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail. For any place where justice is denied, Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.
- Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
 Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
 When we embrace compassion more than fear,
 Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.
- When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad, Christ became our doorway to the reign of God. So must our tables welcome those who roam. None can be excluded; all must find a home.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC Ribaltimento (Abundant Joy) -Bell Choir by Kathleen Wissinger

APOSTLES' CREED (please rise in body or spirit)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS (you may be seated)

A Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

A We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for people in any need especially those on our hearts and minds. Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

OFFERTORY MUSIC Thy Word arr. Susan E. Geschke -Bell Choir

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING (please rise in body or spirit)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

LORD'S PRAYER f (please rise in body or spirit)

Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN ELW # 723 Canticle of the Turning

POSTLUDE Prelude in F Major BWV 556 by J.S. Bach

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Altar Flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Louis & Mary Lou Streicher.

This week please hold in prayer: Mary Lou Zwiebel, Paul & Connie Long, Ed Panning, Lee Weirauch, Bob Lulfs, Nancy & Ken Lange, Oneta Wiechers, Matt Von Seggern, Phil Bowen, Jude Gerken, Linda Hill, Scott Vasher, Terry Roehl, Leo Clausen, Jamie Bostelman, Joanne Neu, Natalie Long, Nancy Bressler, for all those on our hearts and minds, and for peace in our nation and the whole world.

<u>The September Caring Corner</u> collection continues to be school supplies. Many times, students show up for school with little to no supplies. We'd like to assist the teachers in helping supply items to those students. Just buy what you think makes sense for any student in mind, elementary or older. We appreciate your kindness in donating to the Caring Corner. TWCMADI has asked us to continue to collect food pantry items. You can leave your shelf stable food items on the Caring Corner table anytime.

Devotionals

Portals of Prayer and Christ In Our Home are available. There are both regular and large print editions. They will be available in the mailbox by the back doors. Please help yourself to your favorite devotional book.

THE HOLY LAND CHRISTIANS AND OLIVEWOOD CRAFTS

On October 5 2025 at the end of worship we will be hearing about the Christians of the Holy Land. Following worship, a nice display of handmade olive wood religious articles from Bethlehem available for purchase in the elevator space. You can preview some available products at www.hlcsc.org. The carvings are handmade by Christian families from Bethlehem who rely on it for their daily bread. More than 70% of the Christian Community in the Holy Land depend upon tourism as their only source of income . For decades those Christians have

been enduring many hardships as tourism in Bethlehem has plummeted and access to other sources of income has been sharply restricted due to the ongoing conflicts. This made it very difficult for the Christian families to find their daily bread and forced them to immigrate and flee their homeland. The Christian population of the Holy Land was 30% in the last century, today it is less than 1%. If it continues like this, in few years we will find no Christians in the land of Christ, which could cause tragic consequences to our holy sites. Please consider supporting our Christian siblings in the town of Bethlehem where Christ was born by purchasing their carvings. Let us carefully tend to our roots, Christian children of God in the Holy Land. And let us pray together for peace in the land where our Savior once walked to tell the world the good news of salvation.

This Week

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Offering

We have another option for giving now through Emanuel's Paypal and Venmo account. You are welcome to give that way if you would like. If you don't typically use Paypal or Venmo, the way you're giving now is perfectly fine! Donations through Paypal or Venmo will go to where it is most needed now-- the general fund (unless otherwise specified).





venmo