

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 23, 2018



Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

James 4:10

PRELUDE

AS WE GATHER

All three Readings today ring out with the gift of humility. Jeremiah, deeply hurt by those who sought to destroy him, still humbly leaves vengeance to the Lord. James exhorts believers not to think of themselves as wiser than anyone else, especially when the evidence of their lives was full of bitter jealousy and selfish ambition. James urges the wise to repent and to exhibit the humility Christ demonstrated by being “peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.” When Jesus makes clear that He is on a path that leads to humiliation on the cross, the disciples haughtily argue about who among them is the greatest. By this they demonstrate that they did not understand what Jesus was saying. Jesus then teaches that the greatest thing in life is to be the servant of all. And to show them the simplicity of it, He picks up a child and exhorts them to receive him in humility. We live in a world still ruled much of the time by brashness, boasting, and exulting in lording over others. At times we are tempted to treat others who are not Christians in these sinful ways. Yet these Readings work together to show us another way to live—humbly trusting God.

ORGAN PRELUDE *Reflections on “Londonderry Air” arr. By Lasky*

WELCOME

BIRTHDAY BLESSING 9/23 Jeff Snow; 9/26 Betty Peuster

♪ **Thanks for our friends who celebrate
And God's rich blessings contemplate.
Praise for another year on earth.
Praise to the Lord who gives us birth. Amen.**

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN “Father Welcomes” #605

Please Stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Submit yourselves therefore to God.

People: Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Pastor: Draw near to God,

People: and He will draw near to you.

Pastor: Cleanse your hands and purify your hearts.

People: Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God is our helper. The Lord is the upholder of our lives. Let us then, assured of God's love, confess our sin before God and one another.

A time of silence is observed.

Pastor: We confess to You that we are by nature sinful.

People: We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We cannot free ourselves.

Pastor: We thought we were wise, when we were actually foolish.

People: We have acted out of jealousy or selfish ambition.

Pastor: We have relished and reveled in conflict both within and outside the Christian community.

People: We have failed to seek Your help in resolving differences great and small.

Pastor: We have laughed when we should have mourned.

People: We have had joy when we should have sorrowed. Lead us to true repentance, Lord. Forgive our sins, both what we have done and left undone. Have mercy on us. Seek us, for You alone can find us and restore us.

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of our youth or my transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember us, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!

As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

music found in pew hymnal page 204

♪ **To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth;
Good-will from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus’
birth; We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name,
we sing; Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our
heav’nly King.**

**To You, O sole begotten, the Father’s Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heart-felt cry,
Where You in pow’r are seated, at God’s right hand on
high.**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord;
Forever and forever, be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High;
In God the Father’s glory. “A-men!” our glad reply.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please be Seated

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT Jeremiah 11:18-20

(Jeremiah entrusts his life to the Lord as enemies plot to kill him)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE James 3:13-4:10

(Christians are called to humbly submit to God and seek peace with one another.)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *We speak together.*

Alleluia. If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 9:30-37 *(Who is the greatest?)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 9th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel lesson is read)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED *found on the last page of your pew hymnal*

Please be Seated

HYMN "Children of the Heavenly Father" #725

SERMON *Pastor Ed Trost*

OFFERING AND ORGAN OFFERTORY

"I've Been in the Storm So Long" African-American Spiritual, arr. by Kidwell

*"I've been in the storm so long, I've been in the storm so long
children, I've been in the storm so long, Oh give me little time to pray"*

Please Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: The Lord God calls us to turn to Him and live. So now let us turn to God in prayer, looking not only to our own interests, but also to the interests of others.

For the Church throughout the world, that, rather than argue about who is the greatest, we serve the lost and the least of this world and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ. For missionaries at home and abroad, that their proclamation and demonstration of the Gospel bring hope and healing to people in despair. O God,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the world, that the leaders of our nation and of

nations throughout the world promote peace and well-being for all whom they serve. For those who serve in dangerous occupations that help to keep the peace—soldiers, police officers, judges—that they be kept safe from harm and fulfill their tasks confident that they are part of establishing and keeping the good order of society that God desires for us. O God,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the needs of our local community, that the hungry are fed, that the homeless find shelter, that the unemployed find work, that the wealthy share generously, that the peacemakers not lose heart. O God,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For those who are experiencing distress, especially Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Paul Krahenbuhl, Mike Albano, Bill Hepting, and Alice Vogt. For those who are sick, that, according to God's holy will, they experience healing and renewal. For those who are dying, that they take comfort in knowing that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. For those who are grieving, that they experience peace in the hope of the resurrection. O God,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We also pray especially for Leah Moore in her final weeks of pregnancy. Keep her and the baby healthy and strong until the time of delivery. O God,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For our own congregation, that we live by the wisdom from above—pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. O God,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: In thanksgiving for those who have gone before us in faith and have died, that their examples of faith and good fruits inspire us to the same, until that day when we are all gathered around the throne of the Lamb, singing His praise. O God,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Fill us, Lord God, with Your wisdom that is from above. Keep us from jealousy and arguments. Fill us with mercy and good fruits. These petitions, and all else You know that we need, we submit to You in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

Pastor: The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN

“Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service” #848

POSTLUDE *Allegro, from Marcello's Sonata No. 5, arr. By Edwards*