

The Seventeenth Sunday of Pentecost
September 27, 2009

Welcome Visitors- We are happy to share the Word of our Lord with you. If you have questions, you may speak to the ushers or the pastor

Music and Meditation- We have reserved several minutes before the service for music and meditation. This is to help you prepare to worship.

Our Offering- Our guests are under no obligation to bring an offering. Offerings may be placed in the plates at the back of the church.

Order of Service- Page 15 of the red hymnal.

Hymns: 275, 234, 164 in Let All the People Praise You, 250

Prayer for the Day:

Lord, we pray that Your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving You with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Old Testament Reading- Isaiah 50:4-10

The Lord gives signs that we might recognize our Savior.

The Psalm of the Day- Psalm 116- page 107 of the hymnal

The Epistle Lesson- James 2:1-5; 8-10; 14-18

Do not show favoritism and express your faith with actions.

The Verse for the Day- Alleluia. Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Alleluia.

The Gospel Lesson- Mark 8:27-35

Jesus predicts His death and tells His disciples of the cost of discipleship.

Jesus heals the man who was deaf and not able to speak.

The Sermon Text- Psalm 103:1-5

The Sermon Theme- Praise the Lord

Announcements-

After the Service—

WELS Connection

Sunday School and Bible Class at 10:45.

Bible class and Sunday school will gather for a brief devotion then children will leave to go to their Sunday school classes.

Youth Catechism instructions begin at 12:15

Thursday- Pastor in town

Saturday- Pastor in town

Next Sunday- Worship service at 9:30 with Holy Communion.

Sunday school and Bible Class at 10:30.

Confirmation Instructions at 12:15.

Memory Verse- Each week, as a congregation, we try to learn one Bible verse. This weeks verse: ***Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ*** (Romans 10:17).

WELS Connection- The WELS Connection is a monthly update on happenings in our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The September edition deals with the just-completed synod convention.

Special Bible Class- Your church council has decided to dedicate the last Sunday of every month to the encouragement and study of personal mission work in our community. Please stay and sharpen your skills for being a better Christian witness.

The Purpose of Worship- What is the purpose of worship? Consider these words from a newsletter called *Worship the Lord*. “ Lutherans know that ‘they cannot by their own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ or come to Him.’ Faith, forgiveness, the sacraments- all are received. This is most certainly true: *worship is primarily God serving His people with Word and Sacrament*. God gives. His people receive. The Apology states: ‘This is how God wants to become known and worshiped, namely, that we receive blessings from Him, and indeed, that we receive them on account of his mercy and not on account of our merits. This is the richest consolation in all afflictions, which the opponents destroy when they trivialize and disparage faith and only teach people to deal with God through works and merits.’ Simply put: Christian worship enables people to receive the riches of Christ, and the riches of Christ are proclaimed and delivered through the Gospel in Word and Sacrament.

A biblical view of sin and grace, faith and works, Word and Sacrament, Spirit and his Means leads us to view worship as receiving from God. “

Is there a place for prayers and praises? Indeed there is, however, the focus of worship must always be what God has to say to us and not on what we have to say. If all we had were praise services our faith would starve. “Faith comes from hearing the message.

What about worship and evangelism? David Valleskey wrote, “Lutheran liturgical worship, because it is full of the Gospel, offers what people need, not just to grow as Christians but to become Christians. . . . Such (worship), with the Gospel at its center, will benefit both Christian and non-Christian, member and non-member, mature believer and recent convert. It is entirely proper, therefore, to conclude that Lutheran liturgical worship can serve as a valuable part of a congregation’s program of outreach.”

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