



The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proclaiming the Truth Always Makes Enemies

September 16, 2018

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are thankful that you've chosen to worship with us.

We love children worshipping with us, but we understand that kids can get restless. We have a few options for your convenience: Quiet Bags in the back of church, a Quiet Area in the library area of our Commons, and Changing Tables in both washrooms down the hallway to the right as you exit the chapel.

Most of the service is projected on the front wall. You can also find the service and hymns in the hymnal. Bibles are available on request. If you want, you may follow along with the today's readings from your mobile device. *Please be sure to silence your mobile device so you don't disrupt the service or distract people's worship.*

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Jesus gave us Communion to strengthen our fellowship with the Triune God and to express our fellowship with one another. For this reason, we practice **Close Communion**. If you have already established communing fellowship with us, you may prepare yourself to receive the Lord's Supper using the questions in the hymnal on page 156. If you would like to establish communing fellowship with us, please speak with the pastor after worship about how to make that happen.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Just how deeply should the Word of God penetrate heart and life? Jesus himself is the model in whose footsteps we follow, stumbling though that following be.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Jesus, I my cross have taken, All to leave and follow you. Go, then, earthly fame and treasure!
Come, disaster, scorn, and pain! In your service pain is pleasure; With your favor loss is gain.
Amen. (*Christian Worship*, 465)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist

Organist

Ushers

Pastor Erich Westphal

Janice Budach

John Nueman

Guy Schimenz

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Scripture taken from *The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®)* © 2017 The Wartburg Project

OPENING HYMN

Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke | **453**

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 38:1-13

Faith works by warning of the coming judgment of God.

Shephatiah son of Mattah, Gedaliah son of Pashhur, Jehucal son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur son of Malkijah heard what Jeremiah had told the people when he said, ²“This is what the LORD says. Whoever remains in this city will die by sword, famine, and plague, but whoever goes over to the Chaldeans will live. He will escape with his life, and he will live. ³This is what the LORD says. This city will surely be handed over to the army of the king of Babylon, and he will capture it.”

⁴Then the officials said to the king, “This man should be put to death because he is demoralizing the soldiers who are left in the city. He is demoralizing all the people by saying these things to them. This man is not seeking the welfare of the people. He wants to hurt them.”

⁵King Zedekiah answered, “Very well. He is in your hands. The king cannot do anything to stop you.”

⁶So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern of Malkijah, the king’s son, which was in the courtyard of the guard. They let Jeremiah down by ropes. There was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank down into the mud.

⁷Ebed Melek the Cushite, an official in the king’s house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the cistern. While the king was sitting in the Benjamin Gate, ⁸Ebed Melek left the palace and said to the king, ⁹“My lord the king, everything that these men have done to Jeremiah the prophet is evil. They have thrown him into a cistern, where he is likely to die because of the famine, for there is no more bread in the city.”

¹⁰Then the king gave orders to Ebed Melek the Cushite: “Take thirty men from here under your command and lift Jeremiah the prophet up out of the cistern before he dies.”

¹¹So Ebed Melek took command of the men and entered a room under the treasury in the palace. He took some old rags and worn-out clothing from there, and he lowered them with ropes to Jeremiah in the cistern. ¹²Ebed Melek the Cushite said to Jeremiah, “Put these rags and worn-out clothes under your arms to pad the ropes.” After Jeremiah did that, ¹³they lifted him up with the ropes and pulled him out of the cistern. After this Jeremiah remained in the courtyard of the guard.

SECOND LESSON

James 2:1–5, 8-10, 14-18

Faith work by not inflicting suffering on our brothers and sisters or making what they suffer more painful than it already is.

My brothers, have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ without showing favoritism. ²For example, suppose a man enters your worship assembly wearing gold rings and fine clothing, and a poor man also enters wearing filthy clothing. ³If you look with favor on the man wearing fine clothing and say, “Sit here in this good place,” but you tell the poor man, “Stand over there” or “Sit down here at my feet,” ⁴have you not made a distinction among yourselves and become judges with evil opinions? ⁵Listen, my dear brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him?

⁸However, if you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. ⁹But if you show favoritism, you are committing a sin, since you are convicted by this law as transgressors.

¹⁰In fact, whoever keeps the whole law but stumbles in one point has become guilty of breaking all of it.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says that he has faith but has no works? Such “faith” cannot save him, can it? ¹⁵If a brother or sister needs clothes and lacks daily food ¹⁶and one of you tells them, “Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,” but does not give them what their body needs, what good is it? ¹⁷So also, such “faith,” if it is alone and has no works, is dead. ¹⁸But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Romans 15:4

Alleluia. Whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that, through patient endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we would have hope. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Mark 8:27–35

Faith works by suffering for our faith in Christ, whether that is outward persecution or personal struggle with sin.

²⁷Jesus went away with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?”

²⁸They told him, “John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others say one of the prophets.”

²⁹“But who do you say I am?” he asked them.

Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.”

³⁰Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things; be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the experts in the law; be killed; and after three days rise again. ³²He was speaking plainly to them. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But after turning around and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! You do not have your mind set on the things of God, but the things of men.”

³⁴He called the crowd and his disciples together and said to them, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵For whoever wants to save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Master of the Loving Heart | **491**

SERMON

“God Doesn’t Play Favorites” | **James 2:1–5, 8-10, 14-18**

SERMON NOTES

1. What is the **MAIN THING** that God teaches me in this passage?

2. What **SIN** does God lead me to confess, based on this passage?

3. What does God lead me to **GIVE THANKS** for, based on this passage?

4. What does God lead me to **PRAY** for or about, based on this passage?

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

Please record your visit on the Connection Card. This is also where we register for Holy Communion.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Pastor Bruce and Bethel Janisch

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Christian Worship | pg. 33

LORD'S PRAYER

Modern Version

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

*If you want to establish communing fellowship with us, **please wait to receive the Lord's Supper** until you have had a chance to speak with the pastor.*

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

If you have established communing fellowship with us and desire to receive the Lord's Supper today, please use the following questions to help you prepare:

- Q: Do I recognize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment?
- Q: Do I want forgiveness for my failures (according to the Ten Commandments) to carry out the responsibilities of my calling(s)?
- Q: Do I believe that Jesus purchased forgiveness for me by his sinless life for me and death on the cross as the payment for all my sins?
- Q: Do I believe that Jesus gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of my sins?
- Q: Do I intend, with Christ's help, to fight temptation, do what I can to correct the wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

O Lord, We Praise You | 317

CLOSING HYMN

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace | 521

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to Jackson and Odessa George for the beautiful flowers on the altar this morning.

FELLOWSHIP TIME has been a big success this summer and we want to thank everyone for their participation. It has been suggested that we continue our fellowship time during the school year. We are setting up a serving schedule for the fall months. A new sign-up sheet is in the Information Center.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE HYMN?

On the back of your connection card, we are looking for hymn requests.

LWMS FALL RALLY is scheduled for Sunday, October 7. More information is on the bulletin board.

TUESDAY BIBLE CLASS is starting a new book. *The Bloodstained Path to God*. The book focuses on how the worship form in the Old Testament was very different from what we know today. We welcome anyone that would like to join us.

KWIK TRIP MILK CAPS are still being collected. Put your milk caps from Kwik Trip in the jar by the bulletin board. Kwik Trip will then reimburse us 5¢ for each cap.



REMINDER: THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS can be directed to our church or preschool.

Calendar Week

Today

Sunday School	9:00 am
Bible Study	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Fellowship	11:00 am

Tuesday

Bible Class	3:15 pm
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Wednesday

Lawn Mowing	6:00 pm
Isaac and Stefanie Hill	

Sunday – Cantabile Singers

Sunday School	9:00 am
Bible Study	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Fellowship	

Serving In The Lord

Ushers

Today:	John Nueman Guy Schimenz
Next Sunday:	Andrew Boyd Larry Gens

Organist

Today:	Janice Budach
Next Sunday:	Beth Janisch

Blessings From The Lord

Attendance

Sunday School – 4
Bible Study – 17
Sunday Service – 55
Tuesday Bible Class – 0

Tithes & Offerings \$ 1,845.00



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