

## TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*From Receiving Grace to Generous Giving*

November 14 & 15, 2015

### AS WE GATHER

Today as we continue to focus on our “Renewed in Christ” campaign, the account of how Jesus changed the life of Zacchaeus will reveal how we can respond to God’s blessings in a way that dramatically touches the lives of others. Before meeting Jesus, Zacchaeus thought of himself, his career, his money, his possessions. After coming to know Jesus, generosity flowed from his heart in great gifts to those in need. May Jesus and His Spirit cause the same change of heart in each of us.

### WELCOME

### STEWARDSHIP STORY

Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you.

Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord,  
because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

(1 Corinthians 15:58, NIV)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #906 “O Day of Rest and Gladness” (Rise for the last stanza)

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,  
O balm of care and sadness, Most beautiful, most bright;  
This day the high and lowly, Through ages joined to bless,  
Sing, “Holy, holy, holy,” The triune God confess.

This day at earth’s creation The light first had its birth;  
This day for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth;  
This day our Lord victorious The Spirit sent from heav’n,  
And thus this day most glorious A threefold light was giv’n.

This day, God’s people meeting, His Holy Scripture hear;  
His living presence greeting, Through bread and wine made near.  
We journey on, believing, Renewed with heav’nly might,  
From grace more grace receiving, On this blest day of light.

(Rise)

That light our hope sustaining, We walk the pilgrim way,  
At length our rest attaining, Our endless Sabbath day.  
We sing to Thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son;  
The Church her voice upraises To Thee, blest Three in One.

### INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### RESPONSIVE READING OF THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 19:1-10 (Jesus changes everything!)

Pastor: Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him,

People: **“Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.”**

Pastor: So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter,

People: **“He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”**

Pastor: But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord,

People: **“Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”**

Pastor: Jesus said to him,

People: **“Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord God, recall to our minds the story of Zacchaeus: how our Savior called him out of that tree, was a guest in his home, and worked in him a living faith. Move us, by your Holy Spirit, to respond as he did that day, even as we confess:

**People:** Like Zacchaeus, you have called me to faith, but I neglect to call out in faith to you; like Zacchaeus, you have made my heart your home, but I often do not make you welcome there; like Zacchaeus, you have inspired me to respond to your love, but so often, my response is weak. For the sake of Jesus, the friend of sinners, forgive me.

*We pause to remember and repent of our sin*

**Pastor:** On the day the Lord shared his word with Zacchaeus, he and his house came to faith! Many lives were touched with blessing by the response that Zacchaeus gave to his salvation. May the same be true for each of us. Because the Word promises that the cross of our Savior was the payment the Father required for sin, we are forgiven and set free from sin and death. Upon your confession, as the called servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. Let us respond to God’s grace with generosity.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE #829 “Christ the Eternal Lord”** Stanzas 1 & 4

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;  
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,  
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,  
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,  
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief journey ends.

#### **COLLECT**

**Pastor:** Lord Jesus,

**People: Though we were lost in sin, you sought us, found us, and saved us by your grace; inspire us to such gratitude for our salvation, that giving generously we may touch the lives of others with the good news of the Gospel, for you live and reign with your Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.**

(Be seated)

**10:30 BAPTISM** of Luca Ezequiela Colon Gonzalez  
*Please refrain from taking photos during the worship service.*

**10:30 CHOIR ANTHEM** “United in Christ

✠ **WORD** ✠

**EPISTLE** 1 Timothy 1:12-17 *God’s grace is given to us – when we least deserve it*  
I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service. Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #781 “We Give Thee But Thine Own”**

We give Thee but Thine own Whate’er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blesses us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,  
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled Are straying from the fold.

To comfort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,  
To tend the lone and fatherless Is angels’ work below.

The captive to release, To God the lost to bring,  
To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:  
Whate’er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee.

**SERMON**

**“Giving With A Generous Heart”**

**Luke 19:1-10**

1. Generous giving begins with a generous God.
2. Generous giving rejoices in a generous God.
3. Generous giving responds to a generous God.

(Rise)

**5:00 & 8:00 NICENE CREED** *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Pastor: Lord of the Church,

**People: You have touched our lives with grace and all our earthly blessings!  
Like Zacchaeus, may we respond to you with a generosity that touches  
the lives of the lost and the hurting with your Gospel of salvation. In  
your name we pray. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*After each petition:*

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Pastor: . . . we pray in His name.

**People: Amen.**

**5:00 & 8:00 THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**✠ SACRAMENT ✠**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PEACE OF THE LORD**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI**

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**HYMN #637 “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”**

Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you out-poured;  
Offered was He for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and himself the priest.

He who His saints in this world rules and shields,  
To all believers life eternal yields;  
With heav’nly bread He makes the hungry whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow  
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

**HYMN #730 “What Is the World to Me”**

What is the world to me With all its vaunted pleasure  
When You, and You alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!  
You only, dearest Lord, My soul’s delight shall be;  
You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!

The world seeks to be praised And honored by the mighty  
Yet never once reflects That they are frail and flighty.  
But what I truly prize Above all things is He,  
My Jesus, He alone. What is the world to me!

The world seeks after wealth And all that mammon offers  
Yet never is content Though gold should fill its coffers.  
I have a higher good, Content with it I’ll be:  
My Jesus is my wealth. What is the world to me!

What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,  
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my pleasure,  
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss eternally,  
Once more, then, I declare: What is the world to me!

**HYMN #554 “O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”**

O Jesus, King most wonderful! O Conqueror renowned!  
O Source of peace ineffable, In whom all joys are found:  
When once You visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine,  
Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.

O Jesus, light of all below, The fount of life and fire,  
Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire:

May ev’ry heart confess Your name, Forever You adore,  
And, seeking You, itself inflame To seek You more and more!

Oh, may our tongues forever bless, May we love You alone  
And ever in our lives express The image of Your own!

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Pastor: Let us pray. Father in heaven, as you have invited us into your presence, have declared us to be your forgiven children, and have called us to respond to what you have done, inspire us to invite others into your presence by inspiring generosity in us every day of our lives; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Receive the gracious benediction of the Lord, your God: 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 His favor and give you His peace.

**People: Amen!**

**CLOSING HYMN #921 “On What Has Now Been Sown”**

On what has now been sown Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;  
The pow’r is Thine alone To make it sprout and grow.  
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise, And Thou alone shalt have the praise!

To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow’rs;  
Accept what is Thine own And pardon what is ours.  
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive, And to Thy Word a blessing give.

O grant that each of us, Now met before Thee here,  
May meet together thus When Thou and Thine appear  
And follow Thee to heav’n, our home. E’en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!

Preacher	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Liturgist	Pastor Harold Bender
Lectors	Jim Adams, Marc Stefanic, Dan Vaclav
Acolytes	Jennifer Moyle, Aidyn Roska, Isabella Foti
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Choir Director	Nancy Hoelke
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller