

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Lectionary 29 A

October 18, 2020 † Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Focus on the Season: The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 29 A

In today's gospel reading, Jesus' words are more than a clever response to a trap set by his opponents. Give the tax that is due to the ruler, he says, but offer to God what is God's: the very life given you by the Creator. These words of Jesus remind us that no earthly authority can claim the church's ultimate allegiance to God. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world, and become, like the Thessalonians, like Moses, witnesses to the grace and glory of God to the world.

Keep this document open on the screen, to aid in your worship today. The links are embedded in this pdf, so you don't have to return to the email. You can also print these pages and use the links in the email.



Centering and Gathering

Light your candle. [Start the video by clicking here](#); it will continue through the Postlude.

PRELUDE: "Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester" L. J. White
Recorded by members of the Cantorei on Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

ENTRANCE HYMN: ELW 877, "Praise the Almighty!"
Sung at Mount Olive on the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 25 C, September 22, 2019.

Word

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Apostolic greeting is on the video)*

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Exodus 33:12-23; reader – Thomas Fenner, lector

¹² Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' ¹³ Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." ¹⁴ He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵ And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. ¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

¹⁷ The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." ¹⁸ Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." ¹⁹ And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰ But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." ²¹ And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on

the rock; ²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; ²³ then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

PSALMODY: Psalm 99 *Sing along with the leaders in the video; the tone is there.*

Recorded by singers of the Cantorei on Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

¹The LORD is king; let the | people tremble. * The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

²The LORD, | great in Zion, * is high a- | bove all peoples.

³Let them confess God’s name, which is | great and awesome; * God is the | Holy One.

⁴O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity; * you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob.

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be- | fore God’s footstool; * God is the | Holy One.

⁶Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your | name, O LORD; * they called upon you, and you | answered them,

⁷you spoke to them out of the pil- | lar of cloud; * they kept your testimonies and the decree | that you gave them.

⁸O LORD our God, you answered | them indeed; * you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their | evil deeds.

⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God’s | holy hill; * for the LORD our God is the | Holy One.

SECOND READING: I Thessalonians 1:1-10; reader – Vicar Andrea Bonneville, assisting minister

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 174, “Celtic Alleluia”

Sung before and after the Gospel reading.

Sung at Mount Olive on the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 18 B, August 5, 2018.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

SERMON

God’s

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Silence for reflection

HYMN: ELW 725 “When the Poor Ones”

Sung at Mount Olive on the Sixth Sunday after Epiphany, Lect. 6 C, February 17, 2019.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

*Our Assisting Minister for today, Vicar Bonneville, has prepared intercessory prayers for us to pray this morning. As our prayers rise up from all over the metro area and beyond, once more we are joined together in Christ. (Our weekly prayer list is on the last page.) Response: **Hear our prayer.***

PEACE *Please greet one another with Christ’s peace.*

OFFERING

There are ways to continue to give of your gifts to our shared work at Mount Olive during this time apart. The Olive Branch has suggested ways both electronic and by mail. See: <https://www.mountolivechurch.org/resources/olive-branch-newsletter/>

Sending

LORD’S PRAYER *Pray the Lord’s Prayer together.*

BLESSING *Response: **Amen***

HYMN: ELW 871, “Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”

Sung at Mount Olive on the Second Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 9 C, May 29, 2016.

DISMISSAL *The assisting minister leads the dismissal.*

☒ Go in peace to love and serve as Christ.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

Improvisation on “Praise the Almighty”

Recorded on the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 22 B, September 2, 2018, Cantor David Cherwien, organist.



In Our Prayers

- *Please pray throughout the week for the following persons: Mary Lee; Elizabeth Beissel, Nancy Flatgard; Leila Froehlich; Victor Gebauer; Leanna Kloempken; Kandi Jo Nelson; Jerry Ostlund; Pariann Schenk; John Wall, Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; Jodi Royce, daughter of Julia Adams and daughter-in-law of Evelyn Royce; Kjell Thompson, Reba Zumberge, relatives of Nancy Anderson; Tommie and Susie Hunter, Danna Nelson, Jacques, friends of Jim Bargmann; Tom McCarr, friend of Keith Bartz; Arthur Kaemmer, friend of David Bryce; Randy Caverly and Nancy Stelling, nephew and friend of Marcia & Dan Burow; Lela Frazier, sister of Irene Campbell; Klarrisa Ramirez, friend of Gretchen Campbell-Johnson; Logan Bushaw, friend of Allen & Lora Dundek; Greg Eklund, son of Harry & Jeanette Eklund; Susan Bary, friend of Judy Graves; Dolores & David G. Gutierrez, Sr., Chris and David Gutierrez, Jr., parents and brothers of Consuelo Gutierrez-Crosby; Carol Halter (missionary in Hong Kong), friend of Eunice Hafemeister; Lynn Kernkamp, friend of Peggy Hoeft; Tami Huisinga, relative of Wes Huisinga; Craig Cunningham, brother-in-law of Brian Jacobs; Donald Johnson, father of Nicholas Johnson; Nicole Sanders and Ann Clark, daughter and friend of Mary Rose Kaliher; Danielle Pitzen, friend of Ellen Kormanik; Barbara Dahl, sister of Carla Manuel; Dani Olson, Harper Linqvist, Steve Camper, relatives and friend of Julie Manuel; Jan McCuen, mother of Matt McCuen; Martha Johnson, sister of Rhoda Nelson and aunt of Sherry Nelson; Janet Freeburg, friend of Lisa Nordeen; Michael Waechter, friend of Rod & Connie Olson; Kathleen Austad, sister of Jerry Ostlund; Jay Heffern, friend of Gary Pagel; Todd Erickson, friend of Jean & Doug Parish; Goodie Anderson, aunt of Dwight Penas; Rudd Rayfield, Jolie Meshbesh Hassler, Katelyn Bowden, Cindy Williams, father and friends of Robin Rayfield; Leila Jeffers, mother of Lynn and Lisa Ruff; Miranda Alvis, niece of Tim Sneer; Carrie, friend of Paul & Melissa Stone; Norlene Bateman, aunt of Ted Thompson; Jennifer Kobylinski, cousin of Kathy Thurston; David Duran, friend of Kevin Vazquez; Andrew Weichman, Levi Boswell, son and nephew of Grace Wiechman; BJ Wilkes, Joshua Wilkes, LaTrell Wilkes and Julius Underwood, and Lonnell Wilkes, son, nephews, grandson and brother of James Wilkes; Sandra Dycus, Becky Groska, Diane Ristrom, Cathy Reid, Karen Swanson, Patrick Clark, Annie Hose-Ryan, Marcia Van Gorden, friends of Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; Anne-Marie Lundberg, cousin of Eric Zander; Jeff Sartain, husband of former Mount Olive Cantor, Mark Sedio; Judy Bonnes, Jan Harper (spouse of former Mount Olive vicar, the late Jean Hay); Tommie & Susie Hunter; Barbara C. Johnson, friends of Mount Olive.*
- **At the death of:** Dan Adams; Stephen Bidwell, brother of Dennis Bidwell; Margaret Anderson Vistad, aunt/godmother of Dwight Penas; Helen Spitzack, mother of Mark Spitzack.
- **For those celebrating their baptism anniversaries this week:** Alvin Bipes, Roberta Ross, David Kloempken, Jonathan Siess, JoAnn Sorenson, and Sue Ellen Zagrabelny.
- **Prayers for all in the health care system here and around the world** who put their lives at risk to care for those infected with COVID 19 and caring for all others who are ill as well.
- **Our continual prayers are offered for peace:** We pray for all of the world's governments, leaders and peoples, especially for those who work overseas toward peace: Solveig & Philip, daughter and son-in-law of Karen Johnson; and Tyson Crosby, relative of the Crosby family.

- ***We remember the saints who have gone before us:***

October 18: *St. Luke, Evangelist* - Identified as the author of both Luke and Acts, Luke was careful to place the events of Jesus' life in their social and religious contexts. His gospel gives us some of the most beloved parables, as well as the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels, and Simeon.

October 23: *St. James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62* - One of three early-church leaders named James, this man is identified in the New Testament and by a historian of the time as a brother of Jesus. Scholars are uncertain whether this means a blood brother. He was a leader of the church in Jerusalem.

Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting

The October semi-annual Congregation Meeting for 2020 will be held virtually during the morning of Sunday, October 25. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Mount Olive's 2021 budget. Additional information, including specific agenda, budget materials, and instructions for accessing the meeting online will be sent out closer to the time of the meeting. Please plan to attend to hear and join in the discussion.