LUTHERAN CHAPEL



MATTHEW 20:1-16

"UNFAIR MERCY"

The parable of the laborers in the vineyard seems so unfair. Yet God's mercy, surprising and wonderful, is up to Him, right?

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

lutheranchapelchurch.org (704) 864-6491

LUTHERAN CHAPEL SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

BOLD indicates congregational responses.

GATHER

WELCOME

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 John 1:8-9

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:1-17

- 1. You shall have no other gods.
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
- 4. Honor your father and mother.
- 5. You shall not murder.
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.
- 7. You shall not steal.
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

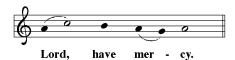
THE KYRIE Mark 10:47







For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



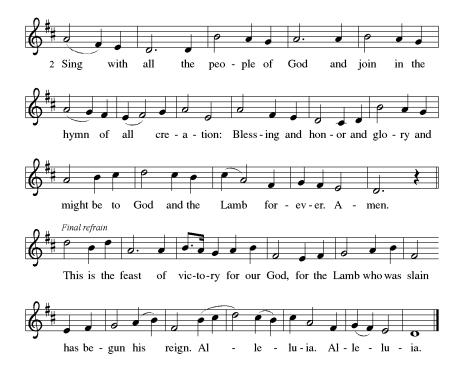




THIS IS THE FEAST

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9





PRAYER OF THE DAY

(prayed together)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

GENESIS 3:1-7, 14-24

The serpent tempts. Humankind seeks to be God. Sin and brokenness enters all. Death is the end.

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the

garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

¹⁴The Lord GOD said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." ¹⁶To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you." ¹⁷And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your face

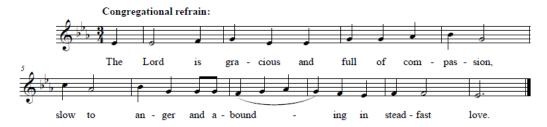
you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

²⁰The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the Lord GOD made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

²²Then the Lord GOD said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" — ²³therefore the Lord GOD sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.

L: The Word of the Lord C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:1-8 Mark Mummert



¹Iwill exalt You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

- ²Every day will I bless You and praise Your name forever and ever.
- ³Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised! There is no end to Your greatness.
- ⁴One generation shall praise Your works to another and shall declare Your power.
- ⁵I shall speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty and all Your marvelous works.

Refrain:

- ⁶They shall tell of the might of Your wondrous acts, and I will recount Your greatness.
- ⁷They shall publish the remembrance of Your great goodness;
- they shall sing joyfully of Your righteousness
- ⁸The Lord is gracious and full of compassion; slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Refrain:

Permission is granted for purchasers of this resource to make copies from electonic files of psalm refrains, provided that copies are for non-sale local use only and each copy carries the following notice:

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SECOND LESSON

PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

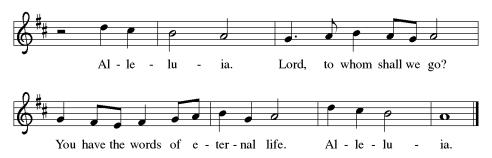
²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68



GOSPEL MATTHEW 20:1-16

Response after the announcement:

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last

and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE "Unfair Mercy"

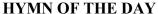
On the Fall What is Mercy?

Hope in Jesus Christ

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: The mercy of the Lord Jesus frustrates me and shows me that I am not in charge.

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: The mercy of the Lord Jesus extends to all, to the late comers to the field, and even to you and me.

On Discipleship: Recognize the human condition - each one wonderfully made in God's image, each one a sinner because of the fall. Choose the way of mercy. What is your take away for your walk with Christ?





THE APOSTLES' CREED

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life + everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

P: Generous God, you make the last first, and the first last. Where this gospel challenges the church, equip it for its works of service. Strengthen those who suffer for Christ (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Prayers conclude:

P: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. 2 Corinthians 13:11

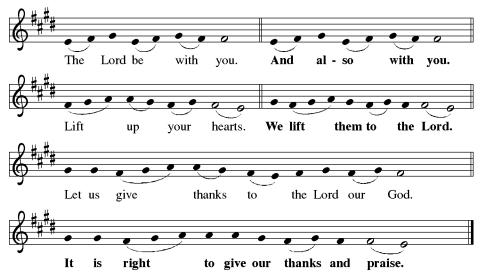
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

THE MEAL AND SENDING

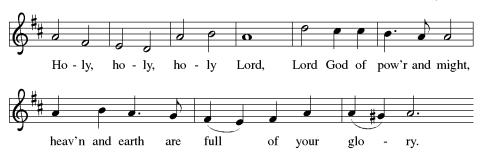
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

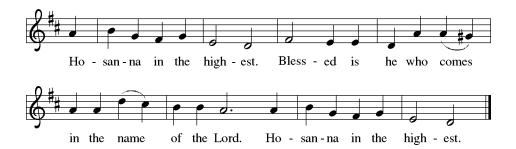
2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136



PREFACE FOR THE DAY AND THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9





THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22, 1 Corinthians 11

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

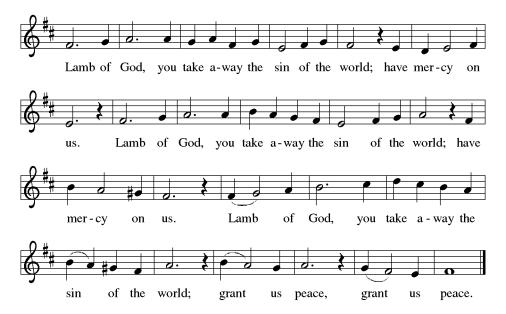
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD John 1:29



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AND INDIVIDUAL DISMISSAL

P: This is the body of Christ given for you. This is the blood of Christ shed for you. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

POSTLUDE

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OUR ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Steve and Delana Clark in honor of their 49th wedding anniversary.

PARISH NEWS

WORSHIP SERVICES: In-person worship for the 10:30 service is being held at <u>limited capacity</u>. For those who are unable to attend due to personal circumstances or choose to refrain from gatherings, please pray on-line using one of the streaming options available: Facebook, YouTube or from the church website. As we continue in these days of the pandemic, changes to the service will be observed to do our best to be safe while gathering. <u>Please note that facemasks are required to be worn indoors while in public per a mandate by the state.</u>

SUNDAY SCHOOL: An on-line Sunday School lesson will be held via Zoom Sunday mornings at 9:00. Please email Steve Laws at stephenclaws@gmail.com to sign up.

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY: The Community Bible Study is studying the Gospel of John all across the world. It's all virtual, everywhere and on the web site www.communitybiblestudy.org you can find a class. The women's day in Gastonia has new meetings September 2, 9, 16 and the first Wednesday of every month through March. It's never too late to join!!!! Men's group starts September 15. You can even create family core groups this year since it's virtual. A great opportunity!!!! God is truly working.

NEWSLETTER: Articles for the October newsletter are due tomorrow, **September 21**.

CATAWBA RIVERSWEEP: On Saturday, **October 3**rd, <u>Roots Youth Group</u> will be participating in the Catawba Riversweep service project from 9am to12pm. Parents of Roots youth, please continue to check your email for updates from Amy as she is still awaiting further information from the organization.

A STUDY OF C.S. LEWIS: During the upcoming church season, our <u>women's book</u> <u>club</u> will be delving into the works and life of C.S. Lewis. Our first novel will be *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Our first meeting will be on **Thursday, October 22nd at 6 p.m.** at the church picnic pavilion. Please contact Amy at <u>amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org</u> if you are interested in attending this book club session.

LADIES NIGHT 2020: Due to the pandemic, the annual Ladies Night Banquet will not be held the second Saturday in December as is the tradition. Our plan is to take a look at the situation in November and if the future looks promising, we will try to plan something around Valentine's Day. We will share this information with the congregation as soon as possible.

OWLS BACKYARD BIRD WATCHING: As the fall season approaches, Amy would like to begin a bird watching club. If you are interested in participating, simply take a picture of birds you find in your backyard, identify them, and send the info to Amy. She will share your discoveries in her daily OWLS message board via email.

CHILDREN'S/YOUTH CHOIR & HANDBELLS: With the Covid-19 restrictions in place, the start time for handbells and children's/youth choir cannot be scheduled at this time. I will be sending out information as soon as I am able. Parents and ringers, please be looking for emails from me. I've been working on music for the Fall and Christmas and the handbells are being refurbished at this time. Love and miss you all! ~Mrs. M

CLOTHING CLOSET: If you are interested in volunteering at the Clothing Closet, contact Kay Robinson. Please note that donations <u>are not</u> being accepted at this time and the Clothing Closet <u>will not</u> be open to the public until further notice except for emergency appointments only.

CAM FOOD DRIVE: The fellowship has graciously donated hundreds of bags of food to Crisis Assistance Ministry since April, thanks be to God! The collection continues as the need is still great in Gaston County. Let us help all we can!

TITHES & OFFERINGS: There are several options to send in your tithes & offerings each week. You can utilize your offering envelopes (or a regular envelope) to mail or drop off in the <u>locked mailbox</u> at educational building. Or you can give on-line through our church website: lutheranchapelchurch.org, top right-hand corner "give" which is a link to Easy Tithe. Any questions or concerns call our Treasurer, Ed Robinson.

DAILY PRAYER

EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD. (Psalm 1:2) A prayer list, daily lessons to read the Bible together each year, and a song of praise are below. The "Our Daily Bread" devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily email, or podcast. Visit odb.org/subscribe. Fill out a prayer card to share or notify the church office with concerns.

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Braylon Beam, B.T. Bradley, Donna Carpenter, Jerry Carpenter, Hunter Clark, Tonya Dowdy, Lynda Ellington, Kathy Finch, Paulette Hale, Helen Hoffman, Henry Hoffman, Dru Huffstickler, Robert Park, Betty Petty, Terry Ratchford, Fran Rice, Joan Riddle, Barbara Robinson, Bill Robinson, and the family of Martin Stamm.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Ruth Benoy, Vera Beutler, **Lee Brinkley**, **Taylor Brinkley**, Baby Ellis Brown, Pebbles Cloninger, Amelia Edwards, Garry and Carole Farmer, Jamison Franklin, Harriet Grantham, Frieda and Shelton Harper, Travis Hogue, Mary Jackson, Paula Kadel, Dave and Crystal Lanning, Suzanne Ledford, Bill McCullen, Lee Norris, Sam & Lara Rasanen, Craig Rooney, Pat Rudisill, Martin Salois, Meredith Scruggs, Pastor Peter Setzer, Charlene Sorenson, Dana Williams, and Lulu Zizak.

WEEK 39: SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 to SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

- 09/20 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 12—Evening Reading: Ecclesiastes 4, 5, 6
- 09/21 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 13—Evening Reading: Ecclesiastes 7, 8, 9
- 09/22 Morning Reading: Galatians 1—Evening Reading: Ecclesiastes 10, 11, 12
- 09/23 Morning Reading: Galatians 2—Evening Reading: Song of Solomon 1, 2, 3
- 09/24 Morning Reading: Galatians 3—Evening Reading: Song of Solomon 4, 5
- 09/25 Morning Reading: Galatians 4—Evening Reading: Song of Solomon 6, 7, 8
- **09/26** Morning Reading: Galatians 5—Evening Reading: Isaiah 1, 2
- 09/27 Morning Reading: Galatians 6—Evening Reading: Isaiah 3, 4

Song Of Praise "Thy Word" W&P #144

Next Sunday, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

- 8:30 Service w/ Holy Communion: Gen. 6:5-9, 7:11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13 ~ "The Flood"
- 9:00 Zoom Sunday School: Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh
- 10:30 Service of the Word: Matthew 21:23-32 ~ "Parable of the Two Sons"

Note: *daily*Lectio.net provides the complete Revised Common Lectionary for both Sunday and daily lessons.

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

Sun-20	8:30 am	Early Service (Family Life Center)			
	9:00 am	Sunday School via Zoom			
	10:30 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion (Sanctuary)			
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir			
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Pavilion)			
Mon-21	8:30 am	Preschool			
	7:00 pm	Troop Y Scout Meeting (Pavilion)			
Tues-22	8:30 am	Preschool			
	10:00 am	Clothing Closet Workday			
Wed-23	8:30 am	Preschool			
Thur-24	8:30 am	Preschool			



We are so happy you joined us for worship this morning. Please fill out the information below and leave this page in the pew following the service. Thank you!

Date:				
Phone:				
_	Member	Visitor	Desire a call from the Pastor	
Prayer Requ	est:			