

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Sunday, October 18, 2020 20th Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.



God Is Here!



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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,

whose right hand I have grasped

- to subdue nations before him
 - and strip kings of their robes,
- to open doors before him-

and the gates shall not be closed:

- ²I will go before you and level the mountains,
- I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,
- ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places,
- so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
- the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
- ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,
- I call you by your name,
 - I surname you, though you do not know me.
- ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
 - besides me there is no god.
 - I arm you, though you do not know me,



⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Psalm: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

Ascribe to the Lord honor and power. (Ps. 96:7) ¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. ²Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day. ³Declare God's glory among the nations

and God's wonders among all peoples.

- ⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared | than all gods.
- ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
- ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.
- ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

[¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because 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. ⁶And 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, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For 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. ⁹For 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, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

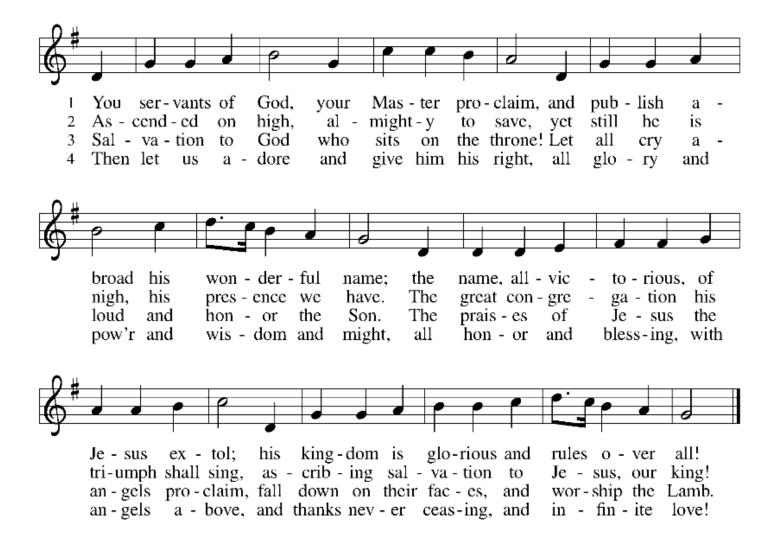
After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

¹⁵Then the 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.



CHILDRENS SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen **SERMON** Pastor Kris Dietzen

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 825



You Servants of God

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

COMMUNION LORD'S PRAYER RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 841, vs 1

Lift Every Voice and Sing



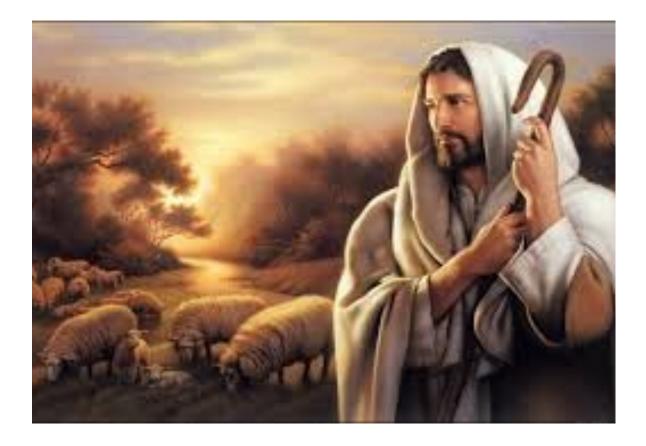
Test: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938.

Musie: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Resemend Johnson, 1873-1954

BLESSING

Mothering God, Father, I Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Remember the poor. Thanks be to God.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain. Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

Ginny Schwartzbeck, Shane Paulson, Pete Cagle, Jeanette Cain, Ron & Ann Gardner, Darrell Strampe, Janet Schmidt, Susan Roberts, Phyllis Dettmer, Jerry Kay Lage, Madison Young

Family & friends:

Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe. Bruce Campbell, Brother-in-law of Joni Benz, Steve Nelson, cousin of Louise Easterberg, McKenna, Granddaughter of the Johnsons. Family of Olathe Mayor, Mike Copeland, Lena Shelton, friend of the Schmideskamps, Crissy, cousin of Tom Bryer, Caroline, aunt of Nancy Bryer, Neil Wray, Son of Lynn and Tom, Brian Lynn, cousin of Amy Hackler, Jeff Needham, friend of St. Mark's, Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle, Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle, Judy Wagner, Sister-in-law of Paula Quade, Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter, Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols, Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart. Shirley, neighbor of Mary Weeg, Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun, Ken Liesche, Brother of 'Sam' Ham, Don Ham, Brother of Hollie Ham, Kelly Franks, Daughter of Hollie and 'Sam' Ham, Janice Ham, Sister-in-law of Hollie Ham, Aeris, Great Niece of Tom Bryer, Sammy Schreiman, friend of Kathy Hinkle, Catherine Dial, relative of Anne Gardner, Karen Bannister, friend of Jane Scherrer, "Our little friend", Catherine Tietjen, Mary Mindrup's sister, Rob Bouler, friend of Mark Schmideskamp, Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart, Joan Nelson, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart, Dean Taake, Joyce Johnson's brother, Gibby, friend of Érica Bryer, Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister, Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother, Bob Hinkle, Kathy Hinkle's dad, Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's

sister-in-law,

Paul Heath, Don Anderson's cousin, Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks, Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade Beck,

Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart Stewart,

Dan Ostergaard - friend of the Goodhearts, Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts, Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Families,

Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin, Ivan, brother of Jane Stresewski, All People affected by natural disasters

Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,

Logan Peck, nephew of Karen and Stan Thompson,

Zack Moran-Prichard, grandson of Hollie and Sam Ham