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CELEBRATE THE HARVEST: 10 FOR 10
JOYFUL DECISIONS — SACRIFICIAL GIVING
October 19, 20, and 23, 2019

Scripture tells us of people who, even in their poverty, opened their hands and gave beyond their ability. They gave sacrificially, not superficially. What an inspiration they are for us!

BELLS AND WELCOME

HYMN 489, vv. 1, 2

Lord, You Love the Cheerful Giver

M In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.



CONFESSION OF SINS

M Brothers and sisters in Christ, the apostle Paul told the young pastor Timothy to “command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

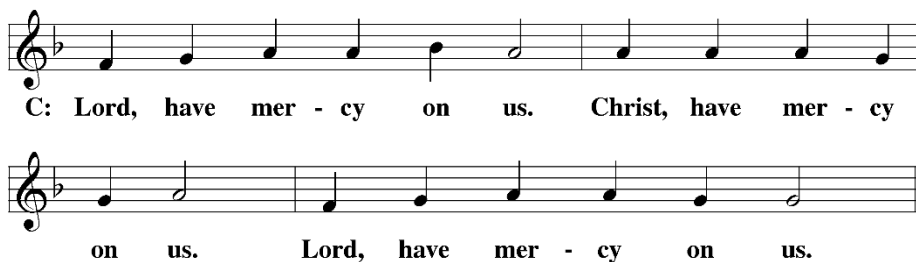
C **“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.**

M In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age,
C **so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life” (1 Timothy 6:17-19).**

M Although wealth is a great blessing, it also is a great responsibility. It can become a stumbling block to our faith. Greed and selfishness live within our sinful hearts and build walls that separate us from God and others. Since healing and the power to change can only be found in Christ and his forgiveness, let us humble ourselves before God and confess our sins to him.

All **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am like a sheep who has gone astray. I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I do what is evil and fail to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY



M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us. God himself provided the Lamb when he sent his only Son. Jesus' bloody sacrifice on the cross satisfied God's just wrath against the sins of the world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

RESPONSE 489, v. 3

Lord, You Love the Cheerful Giver

Blessed by you with gifts and graces,
May we heed your Spirit's call,
Gladly in all times and places
Give to you who gives us all.
You have bought us; now no longer
Can we claim to be our own;
Ever free and ever stronger
We shall serve you, Lord, alone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



M Let us pray.

O merciful Creator, you open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

C **In your overwhelming generosity, you have provided all that we need both physically and spiritually.**

M Make us thankful for your loving providence. Help us remember every day the richness of your grace,

C **that we, too, may live generously.**

M We pray in Jesus' name. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

2 Corinthians 8:1-9, Bible page 1161

Paul speaks of the sacrificial generosity of the Macedonian Christians.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 73, Hymnal page 94

There is nothing on earth I desire more than my God and being in relationship with him.

GOSPEL

Mark 12:41-44, Bible page 1017

A generous gift from the grateful heart of an impoverished woman.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Sunday 7:45 am*)
(*Sunday 9:15 am*)

Simple Gifts, *Strings Ensemble*
Simple Living, *Lutheran School Grades 2 and 3*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M O Lord God, we thank you for the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, your Son, and for the promised graces we have received through him. We thank you that through his perfect life and his obedience to death on the cross we have been granted cleansing and pardon for all our sins.

C **We thank you that in his resurrection we have the promise of life everlasting, and that in his ascension to the right hand of your majesty we have the assurance that he continually intercedes for us.**

M Help us believe and trust in him, love and serve him, that in all our thoughts words, and actions we may manifest his spirit.

C **Rebuke our selfishness and subdue our self-indulgence. Deepen our sympathies, strengthen our hope, and confirm us in our faith.**

M Dwell in our homes, O Lord, and let the trust of our families be centered in you alone, so that no difficulty, trial, or adversity rob us of the conviction that you are our helper in every time of need.

C **Relieve the afflictions of the weary and the sick, and dry the tears of the troubled and sorrowful. Lead them to look to you as the unfailing spring of healing and hope.**

Special prayers and intercessions.

M Lord, hear us now, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M All these things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

M Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our perfect Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDING MINISTER (*Sunday*) *Pastor Jeffrey Bonack*

ORGANIST *Darik Mischke*



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person
in our area of influence closer to Christ through
regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of October 21, 2019

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	Woodwinds Rehearsal
TUE	9:00 am	Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room)
	9:30 am	Ministry Growth Team Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	10:30 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	6:00 pm	<i>DivorceCare</i> (School Classroom 8)
	6:30 pm	Handbells Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
	7:30 pm	Festival Choir Rehearsal
WED	9:30 am	Mommy and Me (Faith Room)
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Classes
	6:30 pm	Financial Peace University (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
THURS		No Lutheran School—Teachers' Conference
	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	Pickleball
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
FRI		No Lutheran School—Teachers' Conference
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	8:00 am	Festival Choir Rehearsal
	8:00 am	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (School Classroom 8)
	3:00 pm	Wedding of Mary Ludwig and Nicholas Frederick (Richfield)
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:15 am	Kids Club
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion

10 FOR 10

If you have not already done so, pick up your 10 for 10 information packet in the church lobby today. Return the plan-for-giving card the weekend of October 27. These plans will be placed on the altar unopened as a covenant between you and God. At the beginning of 2020, they will be mailed to you so that you can evaluate your personal progress in giving.



The Tithe – A Child’s Decision

In the Old Testament, God commanded his people to tithe or give 10%.

A tithe of everything from the land... belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD (Leviticus 27:30).

He even accused them of robbing him if they gave less than 10%.

“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

“But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’

“In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me” (Malachi 3:8-9).

God treated his Old Testament people like minor children. He gave them the law as a guardian, to tell them exactly what to do (*Galatians 3:23-25*). God treats us, who live in the time of New Testament fulfillment, like adult children. No longer are we told exactly what to give. Instead, we have the more difficult task of determining proportionate giving.

Proportionate Giving – An Adult’s Decision

We have received the full revelation of God’s plan of salvation in the life, death, and resurrection of his Son. Many of us enjoy a standard of living that surpasses nearly every Old Testament believer. If God commanded his “minor children” of the Old Testament to tithe or give 10%, what is an appropriate response for us adult children? This is the challenge for us.

There are many questions for us to think and pray about:

- Will the percentage of my giving change as my situation in life changes?
- Will I include tuition for my child’s Christian education as part of my proportionate response because it is a part of my support for gospel ministry?
- Will I base my percentage giving on “net income” or “gross income”?

As you prayerfully consider your plans for the next ten weeks, remember these two promises.

- The promise God gave to his “minor children” of the Old Testament: *“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it” (Malachi 3:10).*
- The promise that our offerings, given in faith, are acceptable to God through the forgiving blood of Jesus: *“You... are... a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:5).*

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

FUNERAL

Mary Braun, born July 2, 1941, received the gift of heaven with her Savior on October 12, 2019. Funeral arrangements are set for Saturday, October 26. Visitation will be from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, with the funeral immediately following. We praise God for the many years Mary served in the public ministry among us as a teacher in our school, as well as a faithful volunteer, signing for the hearing impaired at countless worship services.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. ...they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them" (Revelation 14:13).

BAPTISM

Mackenna Cheri Crosby, daughter of Benjamin and Shelby (nee Sorensen) Crosby, was born October 3, 2019, and baptized in a private ceremony on October 18, 2019. May God bless Mackenna in her saving faith her whole life long.

WEDDINGS

Justin Wauer and Alison Huebner were married on Saturday, October 12, and Tommy Stark and Amanda LaLicata were married on Saturday, October 19. May God bless these two couples in their marriages joined together in Christ.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Carol Beyer, David Burkowitz, Steve Drobka, Carol Gosseck, Lois Guhr, Connie Hikade, Barbara Luedtke, Josh Nagel, Mary Schauwitzer, Carol Smith, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

HOSPITALIZED

Marilyn Miller is in hospice care at Elder Care Cottages in Tichigan, and Terry Risch is at Community Memorial in Menomonee Falls. Christy Kudek and baby Ezra have been discharged from the hospital.

ATTENDANCE

990 attended worship services last week.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH MINISTRY



Kids Club, for 3K to grade 6, begins at 9:15 on Sunday mornings in the school. Enter the school through the Trinity Cafe. Clearly marked signage will direct you to your child's check-in and room location. Kids Club features a large group opening followed by small group discussion to help your child apply God's word to their lives. For more information visit our website at www.stpaulmuskego.org/grow.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO START IN BIBLE STUDY?

Following the Promise is a great study to find answers to your questions. Wide-open discussion will challenge you to rethink deeply the promises of our God. If you are not a member, use this as a path to become a ministry partner with us at St. Paul's. Or just use this course as a chance to connect with the God of the Bible. Tuesday classes meet in the Faith Room at 7:00 pm at church, Sunday classes in meet at 8:00 am in Room 8 at the school. Register on the back of your Connection Card.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

WELCOME HOME WORSHIP SERIES—OCTOBER 27-NOVEMBER 28

“Home!” For many, that word fills us with warmth and comfort.

“There is no place like home.”

From October 27 through the month of November, we are going to focus on how Jesus makes his church such a home full of warmth and comfort.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our entire St. Paul's family could experience that love of the Savior with us?

So...

- Who can you pray for that hasn't been “home” to St. Paul's for a while?
- Who can you invite that doesn't have a church “home”?
- Who do you know needs the warmth and comfort of home?

There is no place like home!

(The ushers will be distributing postcards of invitation after the service today.)

WELCOME
Home

NOVEMBER GRACE ROOM SERIES

A defining moment in American Lutheranism occurred when the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod split apart in 1961. So what went wrong between these two church bodies? “A Tale of Two Synods” led by Rev. Dr. Mark Braun from Wisconsin Lutheran College and author of the book by the same title, will present a clearer picture of what happened and where things are today in the Grace Room, November Sundays, 9:15-10:15 am.

A VOLUNTEER'S MISSION TRIP – OCTOBER 27 AT 9:15 AM IN GRACE ROOM

St. Paul's member, Kara Darling, wife, mother of five, and frequent volunteer, will tell about her recent trip to Malawi, Africa, and the disability ministry she engaged in with WELS Kingdom Workers. Kara's fascinating and faith-filled story will stir your heart for Jesus.

HIM + HER WORSHIP CONCERT

Him + Her Worship is a worship duo from Minnesota who will be teaming up with St. Paul's for a **worship concert** on **Wednesday, November 6, at 7:00 pm.** *(This will be in place of our Wednesday worship service.)*

From Seth + Jenna:

“Hi there! We are Seth and Jenna Herlich, and we are Him + Her Worship. We are super passionate about awakening hearts for Jesus and creating worship environments that are comfortable for all people. Please come and invite your friends and family, especially those who do not yet know Christ. We do our best to be real and authentic. We sing both familiar songs and original Christian music! We would love for you to come sing and worship with us!”

Check out their story and their music:

Instagram: @himandherworship

Website: www.himandherworship.com

YouTube: Him + Her Worship

Facebook: www.facebook.com/himandherworship

him + her
WORSHIP

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Express your appreciation for our pastors during October; it's pastor appreciation month. Acknowledge their compassion, hard work, leadership, and faithful service given all year through. A simple thank-you in person or via email, voice message, card, or other personal acknowledgment will mean so much to our pastors and their families.

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY—MILWAUKEE METRO SOUTH CIRCUIT FALL RALLY

The fall rally for the Milwaukee Metro South Circuit of LWMS will be held on Saturday, October 26, at St. Paul's in Franklin. The Hmong outreach efforts in Vietnam will be the topic presented by the mission speaker, Rev. Paul Prange. Registration information along with a schedule for the day can be picked up at the Welcome Center in the lobby. Please contact our contact reporter for the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society, Nadine Steger, with any questions you might have at (262) 679-1997.

ST. PAUL'S CHILD CARE CENTER—JOB OPENING

Does snuggling babies sound like a fun job to you? We have part-time job opening in the infant room of our Child Care Center. We are looking for a teacher's aide for one day a week, Mondays, 7:00 – 11:00 am. Please contact Child Care Center Director Kim Neubauer at (414) 422-0320, ext. 200 to apply.

SINGERS AND CLARINETIST – WE NEED YOU FOR THE FESTIVAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

Do you play the clarinet? Join our Reformation Festival Orchestra! Please contact Worship Volunteer Coordinator Heidi Schuh at (414) 530-4284 with questions or to indicate interest.

Sopranos, tenors and bases are also needed for our Reformation Festival Choir. Please contact Michele Eiche at (414) 202-7522 to indicate your interest in singing.

Mass Rehearsals will be Wednesday, October 30, at 6:30 pm, and Saturday, November 2, at 9:00 am. The Festival Choir is currently practicing on Tuesdays at 7:30 am and Sundays at 8:00 am.

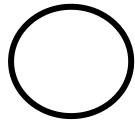
OPENINGS ON THE USHER TEAM

Our Saturday Usher Team currently has two openings. If you would like to be a welcoming face and hand to our 5:00 pm, Saturday worship guests please contact Worship Volunteer Coordinator Heidi Schuh at (414) 530-4284.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER – NOVEMBER 1

Enjoy a fun evening of food and music while supporting Wisconsin Lutheran High School's fine arts department on Friday, November 1, 4:30-7:00 pm. A continues serving of all-you-can-eat spaghetti, chicken alfredo, salad, garlic bread, beverages, and dessert will be served in the WLHS cafeteria while Wisco Kids and Inspiration perform. Stay after and enjoy the school drama production, A Curious Savage. Tickets for the dinner are sold at the door: \$10 for adults, \$7 for children. For questions call 414-453-4567 or visit www.wlhs.org.





GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

Life application materials for us in Connector Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

1. Share a spiritual high or low point from the previous week.
2. Read the following excerpt from *Money, Possessions and Eternity*.

Describing the Macedonian Christians, Paul writes, “Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability” (2 Corinthians 8:2-3).

How do “severe trial,” “overflowing joy,” “extreme poverty,” and “rich generosity” all fit together in one verse? Among other things, we see here that giving is not a luxury of the rich. It’s a privilege of the poor.

There are three levels of giving—less than our ability, according to our ability, and beyond our ability. It’s fair to say that 96 percent of Christians in the Western world give less than their ability. Perhaps another 3 percent or more give according to their ability, and less than 1 percent give beyond their ability.

What does it mean to give beyond our ability? It means to push our giving past the point where the figures add up. It means to give when the bottom line says we shouldn’t. It means living with the faith of the poor widow. For most of us, giving according to our means would stretch us. Giving beyond our means would appear to break us. But it won’t—because we know God is faithful.

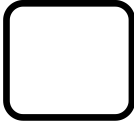
Giving sacrificially also means giving the best. If we have two blankets and someone needs one of them, sacrificial giving hands over the better of the two. Sadly, much of our “giving” is merely discarding. Donating secondhand goods to church rummage sales and benevolence organizations is certainly better than throwing them away. But giving away something we didn’t want in the first place isn’t giving; it’s selective disposal. It’s often done because we want a newer or better version.

King David said, “I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing” (2 Samuel 24:24). Sacrificial giving is parting with what we’d rather keep. It’s keeping the old and giving away the new or giving away both. The giving of the first Christians was spontaneous, unguarded, and uncalculated...

We don’t like risky faith. We like to have our safety net below us, a backup plan in case God fails. Our instinct for self-preservation leads us to hedge our bets...

A disciple does not ask, “How much can I keep?” but “How much more can I give?” Whenever we start to get comfortable with our level of giving, it’s time to raise it again” (Randy Alcorn, *Money, Possessions and Eternity*, p. 203).

3. What were your “ahha’s” in this reading, making you think about giving in a new way?
4. How would you describe “sacrificial giving”?
5. Why might “comfortable with our level of giving” be an indication it is time to raise our offering?
6. Close by reading of 1 Chronicles 29:10-13, King David’s song of praise at the generosity of God’s people.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points

Consider Carefully Your Ways: Someone is Watching Your Giving

Mark 12:41-44

1. He is the only One who knows if it is safe or sacrificial giving.

- a. He knows your _____ (Acts 5:1-11).
- b. He knows your _____.
 - a. _____ (Ephesians 5:5)
 - b. _____ (Psalm 145:14-16)
 - c. _____ (Romans 14:23)
 - d. _____ (1 Chronicles 29:17)

2. He is the only One who creates sacrificial giving.

- b. When he looks at your giving, he sees _____ (1 Peter 2:5).
- c. When he looks at your giving, he sees _____ (Colossians 1:28-29).

My Next Steps

- Praise the Lord for his gifts to you. Read Psalm 103—Praise him for all his spiritual benefits. Read Psalm 104—Praise him for providing for your physical needs.
- Spend time praying over your 10 for 10 Plan for Giving.
- Return the 10 for 10 Plan for Giving next week.