

WEST IDA IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

160 Years of Serving Together

Sunday, July 31, 2022

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way.

Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.

When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side.

Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.

Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn – "God of Grace, God of Glory" #705

Greeting

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

C) And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P) Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C) Amen

Children's Message

The Readings for This Day

AM) The first reading is from Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

AM) ²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity. AM) Word of God, word of life.

C) **Thanks be to God.**

AM) **The responsive reading today is Psalm 49 1-12**

AM) Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

C) **you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.**

AM) My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

C) **I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

AM) Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

C) **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?**

AM) One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;

C) **for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,**

AM) in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.

C) **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

AM) Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

C) **Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.**

AM) **The Second Reading is** Colossians 3: 1-11

AM) ¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

- AM) The Word of the Lord.
C) **Thanks be to God.**
P) Please stand in body or spirit for the reading of the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

- C) ***Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.***

- P) The holy Gospel according to **Luke 12: 13-21**

- C) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

- P) ¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

- P) The Gospel of the Lord.

- C) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – "Be Thou My Vision" #793

Prayers of Intercession

- P) Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.
*(Each petition will end God in your mercy; The congregation will respond with **receive our prayer**)*

- P) Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

- C) **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

- P) The peace of the Lord be with you always. C) **And also with you.**

The Offering is Gathered

Thank you to all who have sent or brought your tithes and offerings.

If, because of employment or financial difficulties, you are unable to bring or send your offerings at this time, please know the church will be helped by your offerings of prayers.

Thank you for giving from your heart – because God LOVES a cheerful giver!

(If you would like to donate electronically, you may do so at our website or Facebook page)

Offertory Hymn – "Take My Life" ELW#583

Offertory Prayer

- P) God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.

C) Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

P) The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C) Amen

Sending Hymn – “The Lord Now Sends us Forth” #538

Dismissal

P) Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C) Thanks be to God.

Announcements

SISTERS BIBLE STUDY -meets at 6p on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Come as you are, and join us!

Upcoming Commemorations

Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), died 1221

Monday, August 8, 2022

Dominic was a Spanish priest who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.