



**Pentecost XII** **Matthew 16:27**  
 “For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.” St Paul talks about rewards on the Last Day in I Cor. 3, and Jesus says more about this “repaying” in Matt 19:27-30. Bottom line: your good works can’t buy you heaven, but in Christ your good works do matter, they’re pleasing your Heavenly Father, and they will be rewarded. In other words: your sacrifices for the Lord’s Kingdom are not in vain, they are not unnoticed by your Father. This should encourage you in your faithfulness.

**Stewardship News**  
**Attendance last Sunday: 79**

**Last Sunday GF Offerings: \$3,471.00** **GF Offerings YTD: \$93,171.00**  
**Weekly 2017 Expenses: \$3,200.98** **2017 Expenses YTD: \$105,632.40**

**Voter’s Meeting**

A Voter’s Assembly meeting will be held on September 10, 2017 in the Fellowship Hall between Church and Sunday School. The Bell Tower Committee would like to discuss the following three issues:

1. The removal of the current Grace Lutheran sign.
2. Adding a sidewalk to the Bell Tower from the parking lot.
3. Adding the Apostles Creed sign to the front of the podium under the Bell Tower.

These improvements will be funded by the Bell Tower Committee.

- Discussion of the New Sign for Grace Lutheran Church.
- Elect a layperson to represent Grace Lutheran Church at the Southern District Convention, March 8-9, 2018.

**Rally Day at Grace**

Rally Day will be celebrated next Sunday, September 3rd. The Christian Education Committee will coordinate Rally Day. This will take place in the fellowship hall following worship. This will be the kick-off for the fall quarter Sunday School program. We invite all families of Grace to join us for Rally Day as we look forward to another year of “Growing in Christ”. Please contact Lorie Moreau if you’d like to help with the activities for Rally Sunday.

**Sunday School Teachers Needed!**

The Christian Education Committee will be needing Sunday School teachers and substitutes beginning in September for the fall semester for grades Preschool-1 & 2-5. The lesson materials and assistance will be provided. If this is something you’d be interested in, please see Lorie Moreau.

**Biscuit Makers**  
 Sept. 3 - Gabby & Haily  
 17 - Shelby & Karoline

**FALL FEST RAFFLE TICKETS ARE HERE!**

We need everyone's participation in selling these to your family and friends. Tickets are \$2.00 a piece. You may purchase single tickets or a book of 5 for \$10.00.

**This year's prizes are:**  
**1st prize - \$1000 CASH; 2nd prize - 2600 PSI Pressure Washer;**  
**3rd prize - Child’s Battery Operated Motorcycle/Tricycle**  
**Prizes are on display on the fellowship hall stage.**

Stop by the table outside the Sacristy on Sunday mornings, or by the church office (Tuesday - Friday 10am - 2pm) for your tickets.

**+ PREPARATION +**

*Stand*

**HYMN** “Blessed Jesus, at Your Word” LSB 904 verses 1-3

**INVOCATION**

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
 People: Amen.

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm 138:2, 6; Romans 12:2*

Leader: I bow down toward Your holy temple  
 People: **and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness, for You have exalted above all things Your name and Your Word.**

Leader: For though the Lord is high,  
 People: **He regards the lowly, but the haughty He knows from afar.**

Leader: Do not be conformed to this world,  
 People: **but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *Isaiah 51:1–2, 4, 6, adapted*

Leader: The Lord, who is the rock of our salvation, invites His people to listen. “Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord.”  
 People: **We confess that we have not listened to the Lord. We have instead listened to what our itching ears want to hear and have shut our ears to the truth of Your Word.**

Leader: The Lord invites His people to look. “Look to the rock from which you were hewn . . . to Abraham and Sarah.”  
 People: **We confess that we have not always looked to the Lord for our provision, hope, and guidance. We have looked for and to other things of this world that have led us astray, through which our worship and prayers have faltered.**

Leader: The Lord invites His people to “Give attention to Me, My people, and give ear to Me, My nation.”  
 People: **We confess that we have become distracted in our earthly pilgrimage. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Leader: "Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but My salvation will be forever, and My righteousness will never be dismayed."

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

**HYMN** "Blessed Jesus, at Your Word" LSB #904, verse 4

**+ WORD +**

**INTROIT** *Psalm 2:6–7; Ps. 117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18*

Leader: But we will bless the Lord

People: **from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!**

Leader: As for me, I have set my King

People: **on Zion, my holy hill.**

Leader: I will tell of the decree:

People: **The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."**

Leader: Praise the Lord, all nations!

People: **Extol him, all peoples!**

Leader: For great is his steadfast love toward us,

People: **and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!**

Leader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

People: **and to the Holy Spirit;**

Leader: as it was in the beginning,

People: **is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Leader: But we will bless the Lord

People: **from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!**

**KYRIE** *(p. 168 in hymnal)*

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Which are such words and promises of God?

People: **Christ, our Lord, says in the last chapter of Mark: *He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that does not believe shall be damned.***

Leader: How can water do such great things?

People: **It is not the water indeed that does them, but the word of God which is in and with the water, and faith, which trusts such word of God in the water. For without the word of God the water is simple water and no baptism. But with the word of God it is a baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: *By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ, our Savior, that, being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying.***

Leader: What does such baptizing with water signify?

People: **It signifies that the old Adam in us should, by daily contrition and repentance, be drowned and die with all sins and evil lusts, and, again, a new man daily come forth and arise; who shall live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

Leader: Where is this written?

People: **St. Paul says in Romans, chapter 6: *We are buried with Christ by Baptism into death, that, just as He was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, we also should walk in newness of life.***

**PRAYER IN THE ABSENCE OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR**

Leader: Let us pray.

People: **Dear Father in Heaven, who not only gave Your Son unto death on the cross for our forgiveness, but continues to send His saving grace in Word and Sacrament, fill us with Your Holy Spirit that we would always long for Christ's saving body and blood in, with and under the bread and the wine. Give us faithful hearts that eagerly anticipate the next time we gather around Your table here in time, and long for that day we gather together before Your throne in eternity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Leader: May our Lord who shows and reveals Himself as the God of comfort bless you and keep you. May the Lord who has sought us out and adopted us as His redeemed children make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord who has promised, "My salvation will be forever, and My righteousness will never be dismayed," look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

**HYMN** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer" LSB #918

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Leader: O Lord, we come to this Table at Your gracious invitation to eat and drink the very body and blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith. Grant us repentance and faith to receive these gifts to Your glory and for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
People: **Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9–13)

People: **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.**

*Sit*

### OFFERING

*Stand*

OFFERTORY "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart" LSB #806

### CATECHETICAL REMEMBRANCE OF HOLY BAPTISM

Leader: As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household; What is Baptism?  
People: **Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.**  
Leader: Which is that word of God?  
People: **Christ, our Lord, says in the last chapter of Matthew: *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.***  
Leader: What does Baptism give or profit?  
People: **It works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE (p. 155 in hymnal)

***This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His rain. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

### SALUTATION

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

*Sit*

### OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 51:1–6

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

### EPISTLE Romans 11:33–12:8

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

### VERSE Ephesians 2:19b–20

Leader: Alleluia. You are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,  
People: **built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**     *Matthew 16:13–20*

Leader:     The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

People:     **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Leader:     Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said,

People:     **“Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”**

Leader:     He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied,

People:     **“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”**

Leader:     And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Then He strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that He was the Christ.

Leader:     This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People:     **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**CREED**     *Apostles Creed*

People: **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.  
                  On 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.**

*Sit*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Built on the Rock” LSB #645

**HOMILY**

**MEDITATION**

*Stand*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Leader:     Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Almighty God, from You and through You and to You are all things. You have built Your Church on the confession of the Gospel and have promised that the gates of hell will not overcome it. To Your Church throughout the world, together and united as one body, grant the faith and courage to confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Lord, in Your mercy,  
People:     **hear our prayer.**

Leader:     Wherever the Church is under attack, O Lord,  
People:     **protect and defend her against the assaults of the evil one even to the gates of hell.**

Leader:     Wherever people are oppressed or denied their dignity, O Lord,  
People:     **raise up leaders to order society in peace and justice. May all the rulers of the earth acknowledge Your authority in gratitude and praise.**

Leader:     Wherever Your people are straying from Your Word and will, O Lord,  
People:     **arm Your servants with Your mighty Gospel, and cause them again to confess You as the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

Leader:     Whenever we fail to use the gifts You have placed within us, O Lord,  
People:     **turn our hearts toward repentance and open our eyes to see the gracious opportunities for service that You provide within the Body of Christ.**

Leader:     Whenever we allow the distractions of this world to blind us to Your power and glory, O Lord,  
People:     **remind us again of the depth of Your riches, wisdom, and knowledge. Call us again to listen, and look, and pay attention that we may seek You where You and salvation will be found.**

Leader:     Wherever people are in mourning or ill health, without food or shelter, or in any other distress, O Lord,  
People:     **visit, relieve, support, and uplift them in Your mercy. Fulfill Your purpose for them.**

Leader:     We remember before You especially those near and dear to us, who we mention silently in our hearts this moment. *(pause)* O Lord,  
People:     **hear our prayer, Rock of our salvation.**