



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH (MISSOURI SYNOD)  
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**The 22<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Trinity—** The Sunday of the Wicked  
Servant—“Resisting the Unforgiving Flesh”—**12 November**  
**2017**

Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant; I formed you; you are my servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.  
(St. Isaiah 44.21)

**WELCOME TO FAITH! GOD’S HOUSE, YOUR HOME.** Here is a **word** for you! —God’s Word. Here is a **Savior** for you! —God’s Son, Jesus Christ. Here is **life** for you! —God’s gift of life **by grace through faith in Jesus.** **Guests,** please do us the honor of signing the guest book in the entryway of the church. If you have any questions about Faith Lutheran Church and the doctrine we believe and confess or have no church home of your own, we invite you to speak to the pastor. We hope to share God’s Word with you again.

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**THE OFFICE OF MATINS—hymnal page 32**

Pre-service Prayers (Hymnal pp. 4; 102-109; 118; 170)

Hymn #22 Lord, When We Bend Before Thy Throne

At the final stanza the congregation turns facing the processional cross

**CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION**

P: In the Name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit. c: Amen.

P: Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth His praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. So that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship Him, let us, with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by His infinite goodness and mercy.

Most merciful God, **C: we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all

your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (✠) and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Opening Versicles—

Hymnal pg. 32

Invitatory: *Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

Venite

pg. 33-34

Hymn #321 O Faithful God, Thanks Be to Thee

**Psalm 130 [Antiphon, vs. 1].**

P: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

**C: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!**

P: O Lord, hear my voice!

**C: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

P: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

**C: But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.**

P: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

**C: my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**

P: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

**C: And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

**C: as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

First Lesson—

**Philippians 1.3-11** [EHV]

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you. <sup>4</sup>Every time I pray for all of you, I always pray with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am convinced of this very thing: that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup>I am equally convinced that it is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, for both in my chains and in my defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all share in this grace with me. <sup>8</sup>Yes, God is my witness of how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>And I pray that your love may still increase more and more in knowledge and every insight. <sup>10</sup>This will result in your approval of the things that really matter, so that you will be pure and blameless for the

day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. **Response— pg. 34**

**Second Lesson—**

**St. Matthew 18. 21-35** [EHV]

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came up and asked Jesus, “Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? As many as seven times?”

<sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup>For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. <sup>25</sup>Because the man was not able to pay the debt, his master ordered that he be sold, along with his wife, children, and all that he owned to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup>“Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, ‘Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!’ <sup>27</sup>The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.

<sup>28</sup>“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began choking him, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’

<sup>29</sup>“So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.

<sup>31</sup>“When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place.

<sup>32</sup>“Then his master called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.

<sup>35</sup>“This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart.”

**Response— pg. 34**

**Sermon—Isaiah 44. 21-23**

<sup>21</sup>Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant; I formed you; you are my servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me. <sup>22</sup> I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you. <sup>23</sup> Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it; shout, O depths of the earth; break forth into singing, O mountains, O forest, and every tree in it! For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, and will be glorified in Israel.

*The Christian Is Both Remembered And Remembers*

1. We are remembered by God
2. We remember God

[Silence for meditation]

**CATECHISM REVIEW—THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR**

P: What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

**C: These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.**

P: How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

**C: Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: “forgiveness of sins.”**

P: Who receives this sacrament worthily?

**C: Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.**

Offering

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT: Philippians 1:5** “I always thank God... because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.” God doesn’t need anything we have. Yet He invites us to give so that we can indeed become “partners in the Gospel.” This is a gift of His grace: inviting us to do significant work in the Kingdom of God.

**CANTICLE:** *Te Deum Laudamus*

pg. 35-37

**THE PRAYERS**

- |                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Kyrie                | pg. 39 |
| Lord’s Prayer        | pg. 39 |
| Salutation/ Collects | pg. 40 |

**COLLECT OF THE DAY:** P: O God, our Refuge and Strength, You are the Author of all godliness. Mercifully hear the devout prayers of Your

Church, and grant that we may indeed obtain those which we ask in faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

**FOR OUR SICK:** O Lord of heavenly might, You rule over the bodies and souls of all, and in Your Son, our Savior Jesus, You healed all manner of infirmities and cured all manner of diseases. Mercifully help, in body and soul, Your servants who are ill, especially those of our congregation and those dear to us. If it is Your will, free them from their sickness, or grant them the grace to take joyfully their present sufferings in full assurance of the glory that will be revealed to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JEWS:** Almighty and eternal God, You want all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Illuminate the hearts of the Jews that they acknowledge Jesus Christ is the Savior of all people. Favorably grant that even as the fullness of the Gentiles enters Your Church, all Israel be saved. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

**FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH:** Lord Jesus Christ, before whom all in heaven and earth shall bow, grant courage that Your children may confess Your saving name in the face of any opposition from a world hostile to the Gospel. Help them to remember Your faithful people who sacrificed much and even face death rather than dishonor You when called upon to deny the faith. By Your spirit, strengthen them to be faithful and to confess You boldly, knowing that you will confess Your own before the Father in heaven, with whom You and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**FOR LIFE:** Heavenly Father, You knit all human life together in the womb. Help us to cherish the unborn child as Your handiwork. Instill in us a selfless compassion to speak on their behalf when their lives are endangered. Shelter those children with Your love, Your care, Your compassion. May all people join us in celebrating life as Your gift and a blessing from Your hand. We ask in Jesus' name, Who came as a child in His mother's womb to be our Savior. **Amen.**

**FOR MARRIAGE:** O Lord God, You created man and woman and have ordained them for the bond of marriage, making them fruitful and picturing in that the sacramental union of Your dear Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Church, His Bride. We beg Your infinite goodness and mercy that You will not let this, Your creation, ordinance and blessing to be disturbed or destroyed, but that You will graciously preserve it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

**FOR OUR SEMINARIES:** Almighty, everlasting God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to Your care we commend all the institutions of our Synod working to train and equip pastors. Grant them Your richest blessing that through their service, workers may be raised up who know and delight in Your holy Word, who eagerly serve Your gifts to Your children and who labor diligently to bring the saving knowledge of Christ to those who know Him not; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

**FOR TELLING THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS:** Lord Jesus Christ, You have made known to us the truth of Your salvation and by it have set us free from sin and death. Lead us to continue in Your Word and so truly be Your disciples, that as we tell the Good News about You to those around us, they may be set free also to glorify You; in Your name we pray. **Amen.**

Collect for Grace pg. 40

Benedicamus and Benediction pg. 40

Hymn #610 And Will The Judge Descend

***The congregation faces the processional cross as it leaves***

Silent Prayer

**We Continue With A Brief Service of Holy Communion**

***TELL THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS***

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH**

Tuesday— Bible Study (Revelation) 6 pm

Thursday—Bible Study (Revelation) 9.30 am

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Virginia Butler, Dan and Jean Fraser, Jonna Holden, Arthur Scott, Karen Weiner; Mary Ellen Carl.



**PRAYER:** Almighty, eternal God, we recognize that we are sinners and stand convicted before You. But we thank You from our hearts that You took this guilt from us and laid it on Your dear Son, Christ Jesus, and had Him pay the penalty for it for us. We also pray that You would graciously preserve us in this faith and direct and lead us here on earth by Your Holy Spirit so that we live according to Your will and gladly show every love, service and help to our neighbors. Let all wrath, impatience and revenge depart from us, so that we do not stir up Your wrath against us but always have in You a gracious Father through Christ Jesus, Who eternally lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**I always sin, therefore I always go to Communion. –St. Ambrose**

*[De sacramentis, IV, 6, 28]*

**PRAYER OF THE COMMUNICANTS:** O Lord, look down in pity upon me, Your unworthy servant. I can never of myself, except through the merits of my Savior, be worthy of the benefits of His passion. Pity my infirmities. Cast the veil of Your mercy over my imperfections and do not reject me from Your table. I am enquiring into my sins, and searching into the recesses of my heart, to find out how I have offended You. Upon the examination of my soul, I find so much unworthiness it frightens me. My garments are polluted with sin, that they can never be fit to appear in Your presence or to sit down at Your table. But, O Lord, let my repentant tears wash over their defilements, and let Your blood make them as white as snow. I will not presume to come to Your table trusting in my own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the same Lord, whose way is always to have mercy. Have mercy therefore upon me, O Lord, and accept my repentance, accept me for Your mercies sake, and so prepare my soul here, for the reception of Your body and blood, that my soul may be prepared to live with You hereafter in Your glorious and everlasting kingdom. Amen [Johann Gerhard 1582-1637]



**OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE: CLOSED COMMUNION—** At Faith we offer Holy Communion to members in a separate brief service following Sunday morning services of Matins or Morning Prayer. Holy Scripture [1 Corinthians 11.27-29; 1 Corinthians 10. 16,17] admonishes us to be fully prepared to receive the Lord's Supper: to **recognize** the *Real Presence* of the body and blood of the Lord, to **examine ourselves**, and to **join together** as *one body* united in *all points* in the public confession of faith. On that basis, we practice **closed communion**. Closed Communion in no way means we judge anyone's faith but is an expression of the unity of doctrine confessed by all communing. Therefore we invite to the holy Sacrament our own members and members of other congregations in fellowship with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

**Gospel:** Matthew 18. 21-35 It is a fine, comforting Gospel, and sweet for the saddened consciences, since it has nothing but forgiveness of sins. But on the other hand, to the hard heads and to the stubborn it is a terrible judgment, and especially, since the servant is not a heathen, but belongs under the Gospel and had faith. For since the lord has mercy upon him and forgives what he has done, he must undoubtedly be a Christian. Therefore this is not a punishment for the heathen, nor for the great mass that do not hear the Word of God, but for those that hear the Gospel with the ears and have it on the tongue, but will not live in harmony with it. (Luther)



The 22<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
After Trinity  
The Sunday of the  
Wicked Servant  
“Resisting the  
Unforgiving Flesh”  
12 November 2017  
[St. Michael’s Tide]



[Top of onion dome  
of St. Isaac’s, St.  
Petersburg, Russia,  
seemingly depicting  
the cross  
triumphing over the  
crescent of Islam]