

WHAT LUTHERANS BELIEVE

THE BIBLE – We believe that EVERY word in the Bible is inspired by God, and therefore the whole Bible is the true, unalterable Word of God, clearly teaching the way of salvation. (2Ti. 3:15-17).

GOD – We believe that God is ONE (Dt. 6:4) and that He has revealed Himself in three distinct Persons (Mt. 3:13-17), the Father, our Creator and Preserver; the Son, Jesus, Who is both God and Man, and our only Saviour; the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts and enables us to live a God-pleasing life.

MAN – We believe that God created man with body and soul, in His image, but man of his own free will lost this image through sin. (Gn. 1:27; 2:7; 3.)

SIN – “Sin is the transgression of the Law.” (1Jn 3:4). There are two kinds of sin: original (inherited) sin (Ps. 51:5) and actual sin (sin in thought, word and deed) (Mt. 15:19). Man is subject to death and eternal damnation by reason of the guilt that attaches to sin.

REDEMPTION – We believe that God out of pure love and mercy redeemed mankind from sin through the all-sufficient sacrifice of His only Son, Jesus, and His resurrection shows that God was satisfied with the work of Christ. (Jn 3:16; 1Jn 2:2; Ro. 4:25).

FAITH – We believe that the sinner must personally receive the merits of Jesus for salvation and trust that, “Jesus died for me.” (Jn 17:3; Ja 1:21; Ps. 31:14).

THE CHURCH – We believe that the church, established by Christ is the whole number of believers in Christ, for only believers are members of the church. Jesus Christ is its one and only foundation (Ep. 2:19-22). The church is found wherever the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached and the Sacraments are administered according to Christ’s institution.

SACRAMENTS – We believe that Christ instituted two sacraments, and when Baptism is administered to infants and adults, according to the command of Christ, God offers His grace and forgiveness of sins (Acts 22:16). In the Lord’s Supper, believing communicants, with the bread and wine, also really receive Christ’s body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (1Co. 11:24-25).

SECOND COMING OF CHRIST – We believe that Christ will return visibly to earth (Acts 1:11) on the Last Day (Mk. 13:32) to judge the world (Acts 10:42). The believers will go to heaven, to be with God forever (1Th. 4:13-18). The unbelievers will go to hell, eternally separated from God (Mt. 25:32, 46).

RESURRECTION – We believe that on the Last Day believers in Christ will rise from the dead, their souls reunited with their earthly bodies and glorified by Christ (Jn 14:19; 17:24).

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 22)

October 2, 2022

INTROIT

Psalm 119: 162, 164, 165, 167; Antiphon: Psalm 119: 166

*I hope for your salvation, O LORD,
and I do your commandments.*

*I rejoice at your word
like one who finds great spoil.*

*Seven times a day I praise you
for your righteous decrees.*

*Great peace have those who love your law;
nothing can make them stumble.*

*My soul keeps your testimonies;
I love them exceedingly.*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*I hope for your salvation, O LORD,
and I do your commandments.*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P *O God, our refuge and strength,
by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church.
Grant that those things which we ask in faith
we may receive through Your bountiful mercy;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

GRADUAL

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

*He will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.*

*Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!*

RESPONSE FOR PRAYERS

After each petition:

P Lord, in your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 (ESV)

The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear?

Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save?

³ Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong?

Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

⁴ So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth.

For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.

^{2:1} I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

² And the LORD answered me:

“Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

³ For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie.

If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴ “Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.

2 Timothy 1:1-14 (ESV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ As I remember

your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹² which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³ Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

Luke 17:1-10 (ESV)

[Jesus] said to his disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ² It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and

planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table’? ⁸ Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink’? ⁹ Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’”

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4

2 Timothy 1:1–14

Luke 17:1–10

We Walk by Faith, and Not by Sight, in the Peace of Christ’s Forgiveness

We are surrounded by “*destruction and violence*” (Hab. 1:3), because the Law “*is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth*” (Hab. 1:4). In fact, the Law cannot rescue us from our enemies; it is our fiercest enemy of all. Therefore, not by sight, experience or feeling, nor by works, but “*the righteous shall live by his faith*” (Hab. 2:4). “*Temptations to sin are sure to come*” (Luke 17:1), but, as often as we sin, the Lord rebukes us, turns us to repentance and forgives us. We pray that He would thus “*increase our faith*” (Luke 17:5). And indeed, He does! Though we are His “*unworthy servants*” (Luke 17:10), He prepares His Supper for us, dresses us properly, and gives us His body and blood to eat and drink. He appoints pastors for us, “*by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus*” (2 Tim. 1:1). For the Gospel brings “*life and immortality to light*” (2 Tim. 1:10). This we believe. Therefore, “*follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard,*” by which He guards you “*in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus*” (2 Tim. 1:13).

Next Week’s Readings from God’s Word:

October 9 (Proper 23): Pentecost 18 (Series C):

Ruth 1:1-19a; 2 Timothy 2:1-13, Luke 17:11-19