

# PETERSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 18, 2020



Our mission is “to Know Christ,  
to Grow in Christ,  
and to Show the Love of Christ.”

**Welcome to Petersburg Lutheran Church**  
**Our mission is “To Know Christ, to Grow in Christ,**  
**and to Show the Love of Christ”**  
*We are glad you are here!*

**Prelude Music**

**Pianist:** Sue Paulsen

**Welcome**

Pastor Eric Olsen

**Invocation**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*Presider:* Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Presider:* If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**Most Merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**

*Presider:* In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,  
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000  
 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991  
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 Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**Greeting:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**



# \*Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*Prayer of the Day: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord . Amen.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7**

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed:

<sup>2</sup>I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,

<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. <sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. <sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]**

<sup>1</sup>O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the Lord, bless his name;  
tell of his salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

**<sup>4</sup> For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
he is to be feared above all gods.**

<sup>5</sup> For all the gods of the peoples are idols;  
but the Lord made the heavens.

**<sup>6</sup> Honor and majesty are before him;  
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!

**<sup>8</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

<sup>9</sup> Worship the Lord in holy array; tremble before him, all the earth!

<sup>11</sup> Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

**<sup>12</sup> let the field exult, and everything in it!**

**Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy**

<sup>13</sup> before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with  
his truth.

## **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

*Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" <sup>21</sup>They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Pastor Eric Olsen

Hymn

*"We Give Thee But Thine Own"*

ELW # 686

1 We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun-ties thus as stew-ards true re-ceive,  
3 The cap-tive to re-lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be-lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:

all that we have is thine a-lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad-ly, as thou bless-est us, to thee our first-fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.  
what-e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un-to thee.

## **Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Prayers Of The People**

### **Offering**

#### **Offertory Prayer**

**Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them and throughout this week we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption off all that you have made, for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## **Communion Prayer**

## Words of Institution

**P:** In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**P:** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:  
**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.**

## *Musical Selection*

*(If you are communing in your home, the person sharing the bread  
and the wine may use these words)*

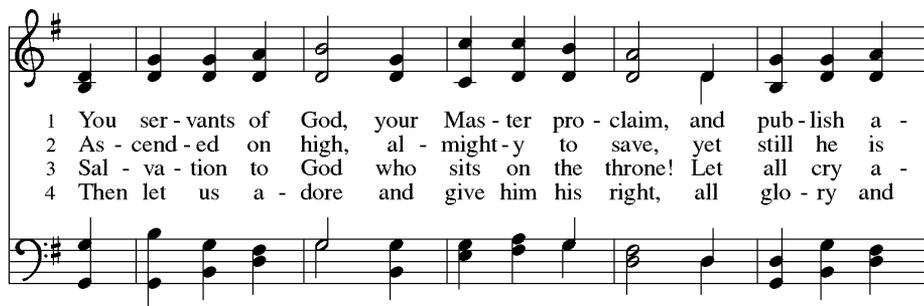
**The body of Christ given for you  
The blood of Christ shed for you**

## **P: Post Communion Blessing**

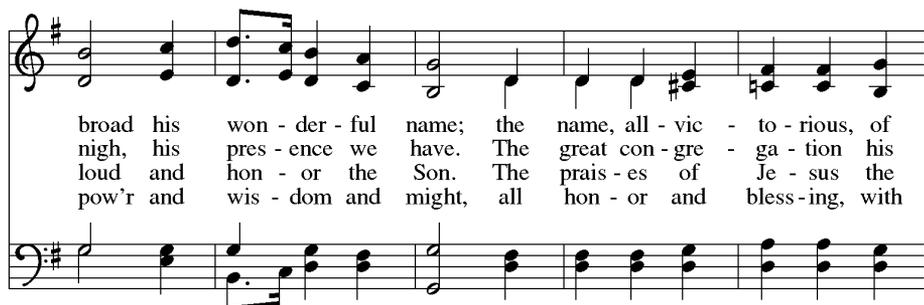
### **Announcements**

### **Benediction**

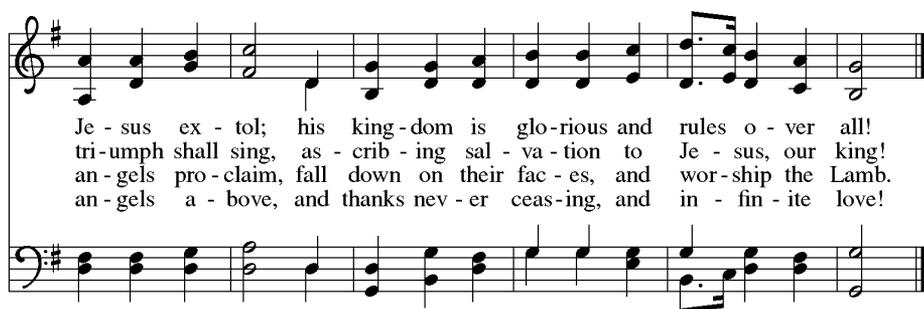
The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen**



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -  
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is  
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -  
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of  
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his  
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the  
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!  
 tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!  
 an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.  
 an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

## Sending Response

We are welcomed into God's love,

**Just as we are**

We are sent into God's world,

**To be a reflection of Christ.**

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

## **ZOOM FELLOWSHIP TIME**

Join us Today (October 18th) for Worship and Fellowship time on ZOOM. Please log in using the information below. You can join online by [Clicking Here](#) Password: 874950 or Call: 1 253-215-8782 ~if busy call 1 669-900-9128 At prompt enter Meeting ID: 846 0569 4721

### **Birthdays This Week**

Tues. Oct. 20: Roxy Lee, Logan Tow, Naomi Welde

Fri. Oct. 23: Lexie Tow

Sat. Oct. 24: Vint Woodyard, Leesa Murph

### **October Prayer Partner**

River of Life Lutheran Church, Chugiak, Alaska.

Chugiak was first heavily settled in the 1950s, primarily by former military personnel who had served in Alaska during World War II. It is currently one of the main sites of suburban expansion near Anchorage. In October 1982 the Lutheran Mission held services at a strip mall in Chugiak. In the summer of 2002 the congregation changed its name to River of Life Lutheran Church. In the spring of 2005 the congregation broke ground for the present day facility and had their first service on Christmas Eve 2005. Pastor Bill Ottum is the pastor.

### **3% Monthly Missionary Support**

Each month Petersburg Lutheran gives 3% of the offerings received to a special ministry identified by the Church Council and approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting. The October offering goes to Petersburg Mental Health.

### **Good Beginnings Preschool Wreath Fundraiser**

It's time for the annual preschool fundraiser! You can place an order with any Good Beginnings Board Member or contact Bradee Axmaker at (907) 518-0575.

In town wreath price is: \$65. Drop ship wreath price is: \$85.

**All orders must be in by Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.**

Wreaths will be available for pick-up the week of Thanksgiving.

Thank you for supporting our preschool!

## **Prayers for Health & Healing**

Tom Parker                      Tim Fisk                      Marcy Gelhaus  
Roald Norheim                Laura Lynn                Lee Ribich  
Sammie Lester

## **Prayers for those Serving our Country**

Jesse Anderson                serving in Bangor, WI  
Ryan Beale                      US Marine, serving in San Diego, CA  
Dave Chapman                serving in Honolulu, HI  
Shania Dahlberg              serving at Camp Pendleton, CA  
Jon Floyd                        serving in San Diego, CA  
Trinity Dunham Parker      serving in Bangor, WA  
Michael Gardner              serving in Fort Meade, MD  
Alan McCay                      USCG, serving in Port Angeles, WA  
Erik Paulson                    US Marines, serving in Pensacola, FL  
Michael Serafini              serving at Ft Irwin, CA  
Shane Small                    US Army Ranger, Ft Richardson. AK  
Kevin Thynes                  serving in South Korea  
Peter Vermeer                 USCG, serving in Connecticut

## **Prayers for Our Church Council**

Church Council: Desi Burrell, Ginger Evens, Secretary;  
Susan Holmes, President; Leesa Murph, Youth; Tom Parker,  
Liv Perschon, Vice President; John Small; John Swanson;  
Chris Van Ettinger, Treasurer

## **Your Offering**

Thank you for continuing to bring your offering to church and mailing it in. Some have started to contribute electronically by giving from their checking account or a credit card. You can access the secure giving site through our web page click [HERE](#) and clicking the words GIVING along the top of the web page. You can also go directly to the secure site by clicking [HERE](#) .

## **Your Offerings**

Offering Month to Date \$15,761  
Offering Year to Date \$159,634  
Monthly General Budget \$20, 162

**October Prayer Partner:** River of Life Lutheran Church, Chugiak  
**October Mission Support:** Petersburg Mental Health  
**Salvation Army Pantry:** Soups and Stews

# Holy Communion



*The church is anywhere people gather in Jesus' name whether that happens in the Church Sanctuary or in your homes.*

**This Sunday, and subsequent 1st and 3rd Sunday's of the month, we will celebrate Holy Communion during worship.**

If you are not comfortable worshipping in-person, you are invited to join in celebrating this meal in your home. In order to be prepared, please have bread, wine or grape juice available. It is part of our tradition that Christ is fully present in the wine and in the bread, so if you do not have access to wine or grape juice you can commune using the bread alone.

As you set your table for Holy Communion take the time to prepare a place at the table. Consider using your best dishes because this is the most special meal we share. The use of unleavened bread recalls the Israelites hurried exodus from Egypt, however regular bread will do. Retelling or reading the story of the Exodus 12-14, as you make your own Communion Bread would be one way to prepare. Consider lighting a candle to complete your table and remind you that "Christ is the Light of the World" in whose name we gather.

Holy Communion is a special meal we normally celebrate when we worship. We believe that in the eating of the bread and the drinking of the wine (grape juice), together with Christ's words and by Christ's command, Jesus is present for you, offering you the forgiveness of sin and uniting you with all the saints for the journey of faith.

## **Sermon audio/video:**

<https://www.petersburglutheran.com/sermons-2/>

Service is broadcast on 88.5 FM Radio

Follow us on Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

## **This Week at Petersburg Lutheran Church**

**Sunday, October 18th**

8:30 am... Adult Bible Class, Fellowship Hall

9:00 am... "Sing for Joy" St. Olaf Choir, Northfield, MN

10 am... Worship Service 88.5 FM

Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

9:30 am and 2 pm ... 'The Lutheran Hour' on 88.5 FM

**Wednesday**

6:30 pm... Church Council Meeting

**Thursday**

10 am... Lectionary Bible Study

**Sunday, October 25th**

10 am~ Worship Service 88.5 FM

Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

9:30 am and 2 pm ... 'The Lutheran Hour' on 88.5 FM

### **Petersburg Lutheran Church**

Pastor Eric Olsen ~ [plcakpastor@gmail.com](mailto:plcakpastor@gmail.com)

406 Excel Street PO Box 709 ~Office: 772-3144

### **Lectionary Bible Study on ZOOM**

Join us for the Lectionary Bible Study on ZOOM at 10:00 am Thursday Morning. [Click HERE](#) to join us on ZOOM. Your audio and video will be muted automatically when you join. To dial in by phone call 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 414 101 024

### **Alaska Synod News**

The Alaska Synod is creating a synod-wide Advent devotional. They are looking for writers for these daily devotionals. Writers can get an assigned text or choose their own. The writing can be a devotional style or a faith reflection on the text assigned/chosen. The goal is to create a space for faith reflection and to connect across the synod. The devotional theme "Overflowing with Hope" could not be more timely or needed now.

If you are interested please contact Pastor Tim Christensen [pastor-timchristensen@gmail.com](mailto:pastor-timchristensen@gmail.com) and copy Pastor Lisa Smith Fiegel at [pastorlisawrites@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisawrites@gmail.com).

## GOSPEL MESSAGE

October 18, 2020

20th Sunday after Pentecost

### **The Image of God**

The Pharisees and Herodians come to Jesus with a seemingly simple question: “Is it lawful to pay taxes or not?” In a deft move characteristic of his ministry, Jesus refuses to pick a side. He doesn’t debate them, but reframes the whole question. In doing so, he creates space in which they are open to hear a new possibility and be amazed.

The imperial coin bears the image of the emperor, just as our currency bears the image of our nation’s favored leaders. What bears God’s image? You! In the first chapter of Genesis we learn that all of humankind is created in the image of God, blessed, and entrusted with caring for every living creature.

When Jesus says, “Give . . . to God the things that are God’s” (Matt. 22:21), we are reminded that there is nothing in this world and nothing in ourselves that is beyond the scope of God’s care. Like the money stamped with the ruler’s image, we see what God treasures in the face of every person on the planet: ourselves and our neighbors, those we love and those we fear. God’s own image is in every race, every age, every gender identity, every ability. Each of us shines forth a unique facet of who God is. All that we have and all that we are is from God and for the sake of the whole world.

The sacred image in us is reinforced every week when we take part in the celebration of Holy Communion. As we are fed with the body of Christ, we pray that we too might “give ourselves away as bread for the hungry” (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 114). Nothing is ours to keep. All is gift from God, freely given and constantly renewed. Set free by the promises of God’s steadfast presence and generosity, we may live with open hands and open hearts.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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Next week’s readings; Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46