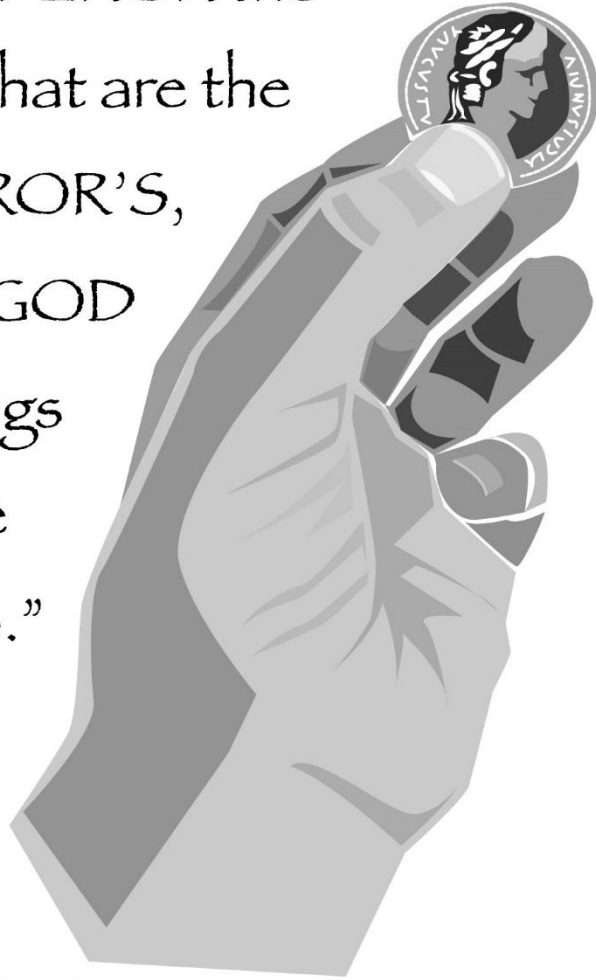


“Give therefore to  
the EMPEROR the  
things that are the  
EMPEROR’S,  
and to GOD  
the things  
that are  
GOD’S.”



Matthew 22:21, NRSV

St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
**Sunday, October 18, 2020**  
20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Communion  
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM  
ELW Setting 8  
Pastor: The Reverend Faron H. Johnson  
Guest Pastor: Bishop Emeritus Gregory Pile  
Minister of Music: Michael Busija  
Church: 479-4110; Fax: 479-2994  
[www.stdavidslutheran.org](http://www.stdavidslutheran.org)

## ***Welcome to St. David's Lutheran Church!***

We are blessed by your presence and honored that you have chosen to worship with us today.

**For your safety** please maintain social distancing from anyone who does not reside with you. Singing is discouraged due to the nature of breathing to do so during the pandemic. Please refrain from shaking hands or touching anyone while greetings are shared. Also, please wear your mask to show your love for your neighbor's health that all may be well.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is offered to all in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Children are also welcomed to receive the elements at the Lord's table at St. David's with the guidance and consent of their parents or guardians. During this time of pandemic, we will practice the teaching of concomitance recognizing that the presence of Christ is in both elements as we will be receiving the host. Persons, who may not wish to receive the bread and wine of the communion, are still welcome to come to the table to receive a blessing. To do so please fold your hands and bow your head. Distribution of the elements will take place at the conclusion of the service at the door as you exit to go in peace.

**Prayer Requests** will be spoken or held within our hearts during a time in the prayers of the congregation. Listen for the pastor to bid for you to share the names of those you wish to pray for.

**For your comfort** there is a restroom, equipped with a changing table located upstairs. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex. The restroom is straight ahead in the parlor, beside the grandfather clock.

**Devotional** – The worship folder you are holding is also a weekly devotional booklet. The prayers and Scripture readings are appropriate for use at any time during the week. The liturgy itself is a Scripturally based order for daily prayer and devotion with Scriptural references noted where they apply. Even the hymns are appropriate tools for prayer and praise. Finally, there is a daily lectionary of Scripture readings for the rest of the week on the last printed page.

## **INTRODUCTION**

*In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.*

## **WELCOME**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **PRELUDE**

*The assembly stands.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

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.**

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

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.*

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

## **GATHERING HYMN** *“The God of Abraham Praise”*

*You may hum instead of sing.*

**(Instrumental)**

## **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. . . .

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7**

A reading from Isaiah the 45<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*{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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 96:1-13 (read responsively)**

*Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)*

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory among the nations  
and God's wonders among all peoples.

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,  
more to be feared than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!  
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will  
judge the peoples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is  
therein.

<sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming,  
O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with your truth.

*All: Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)*

## **SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

A reading from 1 Thessalonians the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

*{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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *(Spoken)*

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22**

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*{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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**HOMILY**

*Silence for reflection may follow.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *"Earth and All Stars!"*

*You may hum instead of sing.*

**(Instrumental)**



Together we confess our faith:

## **APOSTLE'S 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 INTERCESSION**

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you call us by name and invite us to share your good news. Send your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries, and evangelists. We give thanks for the witness of your servant Luke, the evangelist, whom the church commemorates today. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare your salvation. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may the whole universe show forth your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all, may your word of justice sound forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt (*especially*). Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of truth, you show no partiality. May your spirit guide the work of justices, magistrates, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that your promise of restoration may be known. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Living God, as you raised Jesus from the dead, so raise up those who have died in you (*especially*). We give thanks for their witness, confident of your rescuing welcome for all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**PEACE** (PEACE IS OFFERED WITHOUT TOUCHING OUR NEIGHBORS)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Peace be with you.

**Peace be with you.**

*Please be seated after the Peace is shared.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting  
life. And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SPOKEN)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the**

**Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk  
and honey.  
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim  
the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of  
Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its  
creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.**

## **LAMB OF GOD (SPOKEN)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to  
you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you  
peace.

**Amen.**

## **QUIET MEDITATION**

### **SENDING HYMN “*You Servants of God*”**

*You may hum instead of sing.*

**(Instrumental)**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**October 18, 2020**

### **LECTIONARY 29**

#### **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.

## ***Daily Readings for the Week October 18-24***

<b>Sunday:</b>	Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13] 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22
<b>Monday:</b>	Psalm 98 Daniel 3:1-18 Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Psalm 98 Daniel 3:19-30 Revelation 18:21-24
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Psalm 98 Daniel 6:1-28 Matthew 17:22-27
<b>Thursday:</b>	Psalm 1 Numbers 5:5-10 Titus 1:5-16
<b>Friday:</b>	Psalm 1 Deuteronomy 9:25—10:5 Titus 2:7-8, 11-15
<b>Saturday:</b>	Psalm 1 Proverbs 24:23-34 John 5:39-47