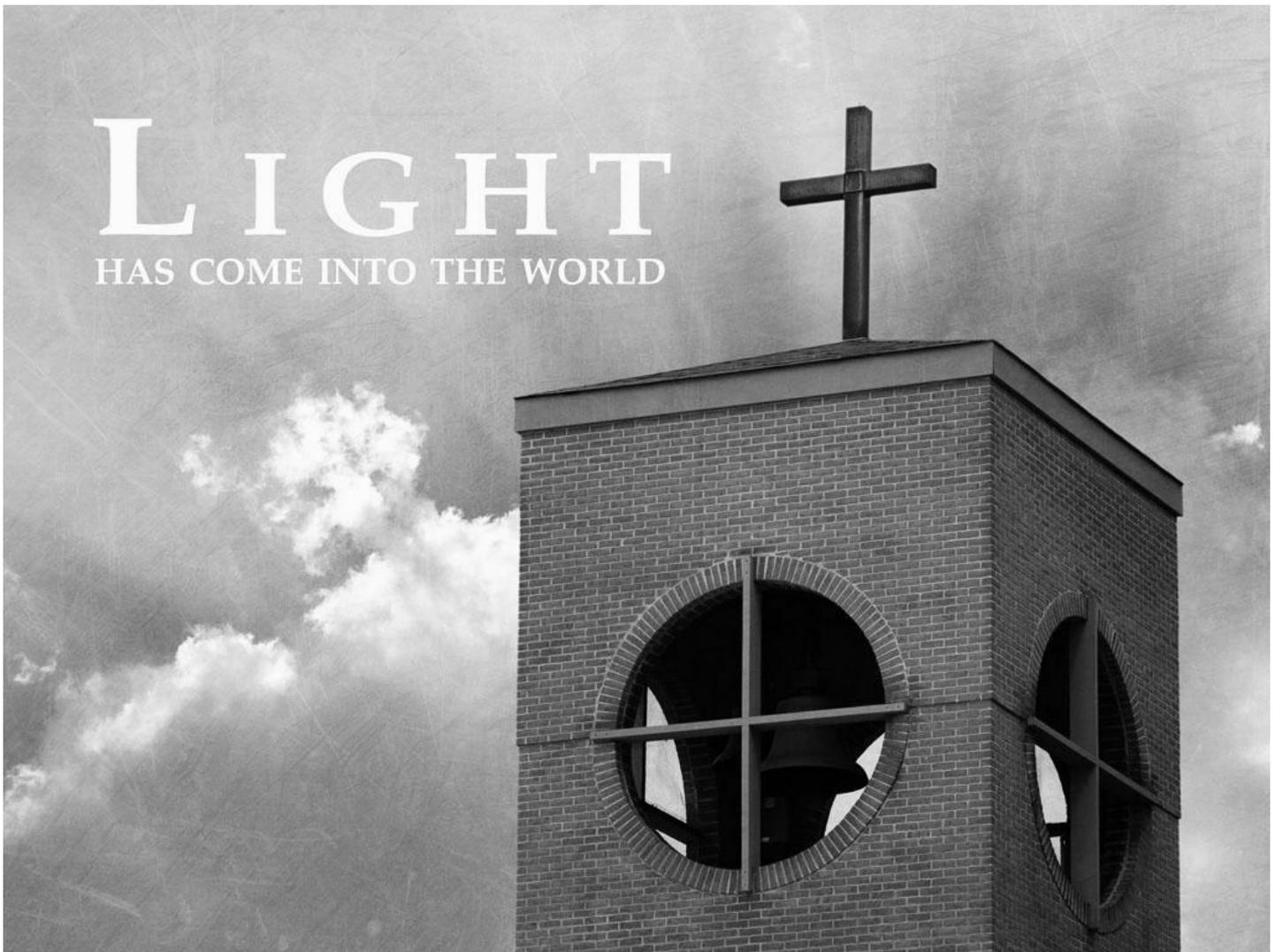


*An evening setting of Holy Communion*



St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Saturday, November 10, 2018

5:30 pm

Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Interims: The Reverend Larry Hoover and Bishop Emeritus Gregory Pile

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. Please take a moment to sign the friendship sheet that is located in the booklet at the end of each pew, near the center aisle. These sheets will be collected after the service.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is offered to all who are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and who recognize the Sacrament as the true body and blood of our Lord. Baptized children are also welcome to receive the elements at the Lord's table at St. David's with the guidance and consent of their parents or guardians. 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.

**Prayer Requests** may be made by placing the request in the small wooden box at the rear, near the doors through which you entered. The acolyte will collect the requests and they will be included during the prayers of the congregation.

**For your comfort** there is a restroom, equipped with a changing table and supplies and a water fountain located upstairs. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex. The restroom is straight ahead in the parlor, beside the grandfather clock, and the water fountain is to the right at the beginning of the hallway.

**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**

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

## **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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

*Kneel/Sit*

*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.**

*The minister stands and addresses the congregation.*

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

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

## **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.**

## **KYRIE**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy**

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

**Lord have mercy.**

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.

**Lord have mercy.**

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

**Lord have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16**

A reading from 1 Kings the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*{This chapter begins the story of Elijah. God sends a drought on Israel because of the sins of King Ahab. This passage depicts God's saving acts not only on behalf of Elijah, but also on behalf of those who are associated with the prophet, even a foreigner, the widow of Zarephath.}*

<sup>8</sup>The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, <sup>9</sup>“Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup>So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup>As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” <sup>12</sup>But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” <sup>13</sup>Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup>For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.” <sup>15</sup>She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup>The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 146 (read responsively)

*The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps. 146:8)*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

<sup>3</sup>Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

<sup>4</sup>**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,**

**and in that day their thoughts perish.**

<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,

whose hope is in the LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup>**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;**

**who keeps promises forever;**

<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the captive free.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;**

**the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD shall reign forever,**

**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

*All: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps. 146:8)*

## **SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:24-28**

A reading from Hebrews the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*{The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day.}*

<sup>24</sup>Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup>Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup>for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup>And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup>so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

## **GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44**

The holy gospel according to Mark the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*{After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.}*

<sup>38</sup>As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup>and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

<sup>41</sup>He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**

*The assembly stands.*

Together we confess our faith:

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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 the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

O God, preserve your church from empty piety. Stir up our will to act with mercy and compassion. Keep our bishops, pastors, teachers, and all who proclaim your good news strong in faith. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Provide all living things with sufficient food and clean water. Make us ever mindful of the farmers and laborers who supply us with food, and open our hands to share what we have received. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Awaken our nation to care for veterans and others who have experienced the stress and trauma of war or other military conflicts. Inspire us to promote the well-being of those who have put themselves in the service of others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bow down to meet those who are trampled. Greet them with mercy, and give new life to those who feel overwhelmed or broken by discrimination, grief, or illness (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the ministries in our community that reach out to people who are unnoticed or neglected. Give us a common vision of justice that eliminates hunger, greed, and self-righteousness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Bind us together with the saints of every time and place (*especially Martin, bishop of Tours, and Søren Kierkegaard*) until we join them around your throne. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

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

Peace be with you.

**Peace be with you.**

*Please be seated, while the table is set.*

*The assembly stands.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Merciful God,  
you open wide your hand  
and satisfy the need of every living thing.  
You have set this feast before us.  
Open our hands to receive it.  
Open our hearts to embrace it.  
Open our lives to live it.  
We pray this through Christ our 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 him thanks and praise.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

All glory to you, Almighty God, heavenly Father:  
    out of Your great love for us You gave Your only Son Jesus,  
    so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have  
    eternal life.

It was your Son Jesus  
    who freely surrendered Himself to suffer death  
    on the cross for us and for our salvation.

There, on that cross,  
    He willingly offered Himself up as a full,  
    perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

By that gift of love and grace  
    we are your people,  
    born of water and word,  
    served, fed, and forgiven at your Holy Table  
    and called together by Your Holy Spirit.

Therefore we offer ourselves  
as disciples who follow  
as witnesses to the world  
and as living memory of His gift of grace.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine,  
that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son our Lord.  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

On 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 many  
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.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us:  
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,  
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,  
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son our Lord.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church, both 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**

**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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*The Holy Communion is distributed with these or similar words:*

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

*Following the Holy Communion the congregation stands:*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in  
his grace.

**Amen.**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Jesus Christ, host of this meal,  
you have given us not only this bread and cup,  
but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.  
Filled again by these signs of your grace,  
may we hunger for your reign of justice,  
may we thirst for your way of peace,  
for you are Lord forevermore.

**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **CONGREGATION MEETING-PART TWO**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

### **Why This Widow?**

Being exhorted to give money to religious institutions—especially large religious ones—is an experience shared by many faithful people. And yes, those with means are often reasonably tasked with the responsibility for making sure salaries are paid, building repairs are made, and a community has what it needs. But it is upsetting to think how the message of Give! Give! Give! would have affected someone like the widow in today's gospel story. It just feels wrong. Her gift of two copper coins is striking for its testimony to both her devotion and her material desperation.

Jesus doesn't glorify this widow's poverty, and neither should we. But in praising her material sacrifice, Jesus shows us that the best teachers and exemplars of the faith are often people such as she, who give themselves fully to God despite crushing hardship. For having no choice but to utterly depend upon the Lord our God, the "least of these" may dwell in the wisdom of the cross in a way that those who are materially comfortable perhaps cannot.

Of course, even those who can write large checks to church capital campaigns know suffering and helplessness in the face of circumstances beyond their individual control. Serious illness, untimely deaths, accidents, betrayals, and random events all happen indiscriminately in this life. For followers of Jesus, confidence, power, and joy in spite of hardship comes from a deep dependence upon God that seeps into and permeates their lives. Be encouraged and strengthened by this widow's example today. Even more, be encouraged and strengthened by Jesus' compassion and love for her and for you.

## *Daily Readings for the Week November 11-17*

<b>Sunday:</b>	1 Kings 17:8-16 Psalm 146 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44
<b>Monday:</b>	Psalm 94 Ruth 1:1-22 1 Timothy 5:1-8
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Psalm 94 Ruth 3:14—4:6 1 Timothy 5:9-16
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Psalm 94 Ruth 4:7-22 Luke 4:16-30
<b>Thursday:</b>	Psalm 16 Daniel 4:4-18 1 Timothy 6:11-21
<b>Friday:</b>	Psalm 16 Daniel 4:19-27 Colossians 2:6-15
<b>Saturday:</b>	Psalm 16 Daniel 4:28-37 Mark 12:1-12

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