



*I choose*

to give to this  
last worker the  
same as I give  
to you.

Matthew 20:14, ESV

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

October 1 / 4, 2020

## Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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### Welcome to God's House

*What is God like?* Over the next several weekends we will hear Jesus tell four parables which reveal certain characteristics of our God. Today's lessons cause us to ask: *Is God fair?* The answer is *No, he's not.* He doesn't give us what we deserve, and that's called mercy. In fact, he gives us what we don't deserve, and that's called grace. Our God is inconceivably gracious.

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### THE COMMON SERVICE

#### Opening Hymn

**Grace Has a Thrilling Sound CW #381:1, 2, 4**

Grace has a thrilling sound to each believer's ear;  
That peace with God through Christ is found is news I gladly hear.

Grace first inscribed my name in God's eternal book,  
And grace has brought me to the Lamb, who all my sorrows took.

Grace taught my soul to pray and made my eyes o'erflow;  
His grace has kept me to this day and will not let me go.

#### Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C:  Amen.

#### Confession of Sins

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us

forgiveness.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**C: ♪ Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.**

**M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.**

**C: ♪ Amen.**

**M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.**

**C: ♪ Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.**

**We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,**

**we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory,**

**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father almighty.**

**O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

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

**You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.**

**You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.**

**For you only are holy; you only are the Lord.**

**You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**M: Let us pray.**

**Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

C:     Amen.

## Scripture Lesson

Jonah 4:5-11

<sup>5</sup> Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. <sup>6</sup> Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. <sup>7</sup> But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. <sup>8</sup> When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live."

<sup>9</sup> But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?"

"It is," he said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were dead."

<sup>10</sup> But the Lord said, "You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. <sup>11</sup> And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?"

## Psalm 27

### *Refrain*



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion — of whom shall I



be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

M: Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;

C: **be merciful to me and answer me.**

M: Do not hide your face from me,

C: **do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper.**

M: Do not reject me or forsake me,

C: **O God my Savior.**

M: Though my father and mother forsake me,

C: **the LORD will receive me.**

M: I am still confident of this:

C: **I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.**

M: Wait for the LORD;

C: **be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.**

*Refrain*

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion — of whom shall I  
be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

## Gospel

**Matthew 20:1-16**

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

C: **♪ Glory be to you, O Lord!**

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

<sup>3</sup> “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. <sup>4</sup> He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ <sup>5</sup> So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup> About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

<sup>7</sup> “‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

<sup>8</sup> “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

<sup>9</sup> “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup> When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. <sup>12</sup> ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

<sup>13</sup> “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? <sup>14</sup> Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. <sup>15</sup> Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

<sup>16</sup> “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

**C:   🎵 Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## **Apostles’ Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Hymn**

**By Grace I’m Saved CW #384**

By grace I’m saved, grace free and boundless; my soul, believe and doubt it not.

Why waver at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
So then this word must true remain: by grace you, too, shall heav'n obtain.

By grace God's Son, our only Savior, came down to earth to bear our sin.  
Was it because of your own merit that Jesus died your soul to win?  
No, it was grace, and grace alone, that brought him from his heav'nly throne.

By grace! Oh, mark this word of promise when you are by your sins oppressed,  
When Satan plagues your troubled conscience, and when your heart is seeking rest.  
What reason cannot comprehend God by his grace to you did send.

## Sermon

**Matthew 20:1-16**

*After the sermon, the congregation sings:*

**C: 🎵 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free  
Spirit. Amen.**

## Offering

*located near the exit door*

*The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community  
and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate  
in this offering which supports our ministry.*

## Prayer of the Church

**M:** Eternal Lord, you speak to us in words of love and light and power. Fill us with peace today as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Guide our lives today as we see clearly the path you have laid out for us. Work in us today through your Spirit that our thoughts, words, and actions may glorify you and serve our neighbor.

**C:** **Fill us with the Word we have heard today and move us to believe it and live it.**

- M: Provide courage and compassion to all who share your Word. Take away their fear of criticism and contention and make them bold to say what you say. Fill them with a love like yours and lead them to announce the forgiveness of sins as your free gift to all.
- C: Move us to a greater love for all people and give us an urgency to share your Word.**
- M: Forgive us for the times we hear your Word but fail to live it in our lives. Break down the apathy that lurks in us and leads us to ignore eternal realities. Convict us with your law and then fill us so full of your gospel that we overflow with zeal to do your will.
- C: Give us thankful hearts to live and love with joy.**
- M: Guard and guide us as we live in a society that despises what you say about marriage. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Move parents to appreciate the need of teaching their children God's Word.
- C: Protect us from the evil that surrounds us; give us pure hearts and minds.**
- M: Provide your divine compass for those who govern us by making laws and setting policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime and aggression. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to care for those who cannot care for themselves.
- C: Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.**
- M: Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven to them.
- C: Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in your grace.**
- M: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. (*special intercessions*) Fill eager minds with wisdom to discover new ways to treat disease and illness. Give patience and compassion to those who care for the sick and dying.



**C: Lift the eyes of the dying to your love in Christ.**

M: Eternal Lord, you guide the world with your mighty power and love all people because your Son lived and died and rose again. We pray in your name and as you taught...

### **Lord's Prayer**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**C: ♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn**

**Lord of the Living Harvest CW #559:1-2**

Lord of the living harvest that ripens o'er the plain,  
Where angels soon will gather their sheaves of golden grain,  
Accept our hands to labor, our hearts to trust and love,  
And be with us to hasten your kingdom from above.

As lab'ers in your vineyard, Lord, give us work to do,  
Content to bear the burden of weary days for you,  
To ask no other wages when you will call us home  
Than to have shared the labor that makes your kingdom come.

## **This Week at Zion**

<b>Today:</b>	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:45 a.m.	Bible Study
<b>Mon:</b>	6:30 p.m.	Evangelism committee
<b>Tue:</b>	12:30 p.m.	Pastors' Circuit meeting at KML
<b>Wed:</b>	6:00 p.m.	Catechism instructions
<b>Thu:</b>	7:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
<b>Sun:</b>	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	8:40 a.m.	Bible study
	2:30 p.m.	Fall Band Concert at KML
	4:00 p.m.	KML Fall Choir Concert

**Hymns next week:** 337, 306, 385, 368    **Psalm:** 25

**Transferred to the Church Triumphant** Our gracious God brought the soul of Jayne Griepentrog home to heaven this past Monday morning (September 28). Her funeral will take place this Wednesday evening, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. preceded by a visitation from 6 – 8 p.m. It will take place at Myhrum – Patten Funeral Home in West Bend.

**In Our Prayers** Tina Uelmen, rehabbing in Sheboygan after surgery to repair a broken leg; Theresa Ehlers, recovering at home after surgery; Joanie German, recovering at home from hip replacement surgery.

**The flowers on the altar** today were placed to God's glory by Ryan and Shannon Allison on the occasion of their son Damien's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**We thank** Liz Dettmann (Thursday) and Barb Olsen (Sunday) for serving as our accompanists this weekend.

**Virtual Sunday School** If you haven't started yet, it isn't too late! Take an active part in your children's spiritual instruction at home by picking up the printed materials from church in the conference room and then pairing them with the free

Sunday school Lesson Videos for grades PreK-K, 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6. Instructions and the web site link can be found in the conference room.

**Thank you to all** who cleaned up the basement and put the primer coat on the drywall this past week. It looks and smells great. There will be more opportunities to volunteer your time and your talents to finish the project coming up soon. If you want to take a look at the progress, you're welcome to go through the back of the church and down the stairs.

**Please pick up** a new church calendar for October, church newsletter and *Forward in Christ* from the table next to the kitchen.

**KML Concerts** Kettle Moraine Lutheran will present its Fall band and choir concerts next Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 & 4 p.m., respectively. Because of present restrictions, you can view the KML concerts live online at [www.kmlhs.org/stream](http://www.kmlhs.org/stream).