

# Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

## Lectionary 26

### October 1, 2017



Samantha Grace Westhoff - Baptism  
Sunday School - Go-To-Church

Gathering Song *O Master, Let Me Walk with You* Hymn # 818  
Hymn of the Day *Our Father, We Have Wandered* Hymn # 606  
The Order for Baptism  
Sending Song *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* Hymn # 623

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

C:

*The assembly is seated.*

#### FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

*Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot turn from their wicked ways. God insistently invites people to turn and live.*

A: A reading from Ezekiel

The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>Yet you say, "The way of the LORD is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit

iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the LORD is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

*The word of God, word of life.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### CHILDREN'S CHOIR

**Psalm: Psalm 25:1–9**

**Read Responsively by whole verse (bold type)**

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

## SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1–13

*As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.*

A: A reading from Philippians

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death —  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

*The word of God, word of life.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



**P:** *The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.*

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23–32**

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*The gospel of the Lord.*

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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P. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**C. We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

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### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

(Petition Response to Hear us, O God: **Your mercy is great.**)

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**We Welcome all visitors** to our services. Please introduce yourself and sign our guest book on the desk in the Sanctuary. On Sunday mornings we invite you to join us for Coffee Hour in Room 2000 immediately following the 9:00 am worship service.

**Parents with Restless Children** may wish to move to the Library where a loudspeaker has been installed so that they may continue to follow the service in more comfortable surroundings.

**The Altar Flowers** are given by **Lillian and John Eastlund** in celebration of **Jan Eastlund's** birthday

## **Serving Today**

Deacon: 9:00-Roxanne Toomey  
Lector: 9:00-Roxanne Toomey  
Comm.Assists: 9:00-Julie Fisher, Barbara Stone  
Acolyte: 9:00-Timothy Hennig  
Crucifer: 9:00-  
Ushers: 9:00-Craig Spark, Michael Soethout, Bob Ahearn, Bill Carman  
Altar Guild: Kay Riese, Emmy Grenzic, June Fahey, Ann Reimer  
Counters: Hans Vogel, Michael Soethout, John Gross  
Greeters: Lois Fogal  
Flower Delivery: Nancy Pisani  
Coffee Hour Hosts: 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class - Fund Raiser Brunch

## **Announcements for the Week of October 1, 2017**

**We welcome Matthew and Melissa Westhoff** and the family, sponsors and friends of their daughter, **Samantha Grace Westhoff**, who will be baptized at the 9:00 am service. Congratulations and best wishes to all!

**Our best wishes to Jan Eastlund on her birthday!**

**We welcome our Sunday School Class children, their families and teachers to the 9:00 am Worship Service.** The 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grades will read the lessons and prayers and the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades will help the ushers. Thanks to all who are participating!

**The Children's Choir** will be singing a special song for us this morning. The Choir is looking for more enthusiastic singers to join them. Currently they meet on Thursdays at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. If you are interested, please contact **Jeri - 826-3330, Judy, Maryellen.**

**The Confirmation Pancake Breakfast Fund Raiser is today - 10:00 - 11:00 am.** Cost: \$10.00 per person or \$25.00 for family of 3 or more. **Please note - if you missed the reservation deadline for the breakfast, walk-ins are welcome - you can pay at the door!** Reservation forms are in Steinbicker Hall, Room 2000 and on desk in back of the Sanctuary. All proceeds from the breakfast will go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Thank you for your support!

**Lutheran Disaster Relief Program** envelopes are on the desk in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to contribute to help those affected by the hurricanes. Please return your donation to the Church office. Thank you!

**Reminder** – The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class will be meeting on Sundays - October 8, 15 & 22 at 11:15 am instead of Thursday nights. The Rite of Confirmation is on Sunday, October 29 at 1:00 pm.

## Spire Deadline ~ Friday October 6.

Again we are providing a unique opportunity to show your remembrance of a family member or friend on All Saints Sunday through the “**Lights of Love**” program. Please see bulletin insert for additional information.

The following people are on our prayer list ~ we especially remember them in our prayers ~

**Jose Alves, Nancy Balland, Carole Brodman, William Callanan, Donna Chillemi, Timothy Coffey, Dennis Colton, Zena Contreas, Frank DiBella, Gerald & Gladys Dougherty, Lillian Eastlund, Michael Florio, Lynn Franz, Carol Gallagher, Doris Gannon, Barbara Grieser, Jessica Grimes, Carl Gscheidle, Regina Hutter, Ed Kazemarcyk, Florence Kirch, Carly Mantay, Maritza Mazza, Joe McCarthy, Janet McShea, William McShea, Susan Mulder, Tara Nappo, Gary Proce, George & Marylou Steele, Angela Ucci, Justin**

We would appreciate your keeping us updated and let us know of any changes. If you have any changes or if you would like to add someone to the list who is in need of prayers, please let Pastor know or call Elaine at 221-3286.

### **REMINDER ~ THRIFT SHOP HOURS:**

Fridays ~ 9am - 3pm  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of month ~ 10am - 2pm

### **ST. JOHN'S FOOD PANTRY**

egg noodles, chicken broth, laundry soap, cereal (hot), peanut butter, toilet tissue, mayonnaise, salad dressing, shampoo, ketchup, cookies, coffee, toothpaste, jello, chili, pork and beans, mac and cheese, canned peas, canned green beans, pasta sauce, spaghetti, mustard, hot chocolate, toothpaste, evaporated milk, pancake mix

Please check the expiration dates on the packaged foods before you donate the item! **Your donations are appreciated. Thank you!**

## Weekly Calendar

Sun.	9:00am	<b>Time after Pentecost - Lectionary 26 ~ Worship Service – Samantha Westhoff Baptism – Sunday School - Go-to-Church</b>
	10:00am	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class - Pancake Breakfast Fund Raiser -Steinbicker Hall &amp; Room 2000</b>
Tues.	1:00pm	<b>WELCA Meeting - Room 2000</b>
Fri.		<b>9am - 3pm Thrift Shop SPIRE DEADLINE</b>
Sat.	10am-2pm	<b>Thrift Shop</b>
Sun.	9:00am	<b>Time after Pentecost - Lectionary 27 ~ Worship Service</b>
	10:00am	Coffee Hour
	10:15am	<b>Time after Pentecost - Lectionary 27 ~ Worship Service</b>
	10:15am	Sunday School & Confirmation Classes
	11:15am	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class