As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. “Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all.” Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God’s gracious favor we have everything we need.

GATHERING

GATHERING SONG  stand  Will You Come and Follow Me

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you quell the fear in my name. Let me turn and follow side and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be tract or scare? Will you let me answer this unseen, and admit to what I world around, through my sight and touch and footsteps show. Thus I’ll move and live and

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life at will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the In your company I’ll go where your love and
KYRIE

When we lose faith in the goodness of creation,
and in the father-like love of our Creator:

Lord, have mercy.

When we lose faith in Jesus as the true reflection
of your suffering, death-conquering, redeeming love;

Christ, have mercy.

Most loving God, for the Word of mercy made flesh in Jesus Christ,
unmistakable and uncompromising in strong compassion:

we give you thanks.

For every word of love and forgiveness,
in individual people, in fellowship, and in prayer and worship:

we give you thanks.

For that insight or understanding within us,
that allows us to accept forgiveness
and to live with the joy of the freedom of God:

we give you thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. sit

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

FIRST READING Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

4Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

5saying, “When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,

6buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals, 
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

7 The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: 
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The Word of the Lord.  Thanks be to God.

PSALM  Psalm 113

1 Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; 
praise the name of the LORD.
2 Let the name of the LORD be blessed, 
from this time forth forevermore.
3 From the rising of the sun to its going down 
let the name of the LORD be praised.
4 The LORD is high above all nations; 
God’s glory above the heavens.
5 Who is like the LORD our God, 
who sits enthroned on high,
6 but stoops to behold 
the heavens and the earth?
7 The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust 
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,
8 enthroning them with the rulers, 
with the rulers of the people.
9 The LORD makes the woman of a childless house 
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING  I Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church’s focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, 6 who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. 7 For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord.  Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION  stand  Celtic Alleluia

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.
GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-9

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

After the announcement:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my master any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

After the reading:

Praise to you, O Christ.

Pastor Strasser

SERMON SONG

Between the Times

Music: Fintan O’Carroll and Christopher Walker

© 1985 Fintan O’Carroll and Christopher Walker. admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-711633. All rights reserved.

SERMON song

Pastor Strasser
some-where from the east there come the mem-\'ries that
some-where from the north there come the mem-\'ries that
some-where from the south there come the mem-\'ries of a
weave the morn-ing sun-rise with the riv-er's sac-ri-fice. And
whis-\'\per on the breeze a-cross the lakes and through the pine. And
land with milk and hon-\'ey and the prom-\'ised rain-bow sign. And
those who trust the move-ment of the cen-tu\'ries can still
those who trust the move-ment of the cen-tu\'ries can still
those who trust the move-ment of the cen-tu\'ries can still
see the riv-er flow be-tween the times.
hear a song to sing be-tween the times.
walk a-long the road be-tween the times.
Refrain

Be-tween the times of plen-ty,
(1) when the
(2) when the
(4) when ...
wa-\'ter's just a trick-le in our lives,
song is just a whis-\'\per in our lives,
freedom is im-pris\'\oned in our lives,
time that we must grieve be-cause the words that we be-
lieve aren't com-ing true: What shall we do be-tween the
times?

Last time to coda

To stanza 2  D.S.  To stanza 3
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION  stand
You may share your intercessions by posting online. People with long term prayer needs are:

Girma, Jimmy, John, Clement, Katie J., Alan, Katie, Mickey, Robert L., John, Audrey, May May

Calm your hearts as we find our rest in God and pray for others.

Heavenly Father, Your Son declared to us that we cannot serve You and also be devoted to money. Free us from obsession with the goods of this world, that we may set their hearts on the joys of our risen life, with us now, and always. God of grace, hear our prayer.
Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your creation. **Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices.**

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Ruler of the nations, give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. **Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders and safeguard the dignity of each person.**

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed in body or spirit. Breathe hope and life into all who suffer, including ... Betty, Sylvia, Sue, Gordon, David, Sherry, the friends of Sue Marczak, Vanessa, Anita, Charlie, Paul and Mary, Elizabeth, Reda, Joyce, Brenda, for the family and friends of Lucille Baserman at her death, and for those we hold up in our hearts...

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Giver of life, we thank You for the ministries of word, sacrament, and service. **We lift up the women and men whom you call to be leaders in your church and for the seminary teachers who form them.**

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**PEACE**
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*All now greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace.*

**OFFERING for God’s work through our church**

*The offering plate is near the font for use before or after worship.*

*You may also make your offering online (www.stlukesnyc.org) using the “Offering” button, or mail to the church. Alternatively, open the camera on your phone and scan this code to make a donation electronically.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**sit**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD **stand**

Holy God, our Maker, our Healer, our Teacher, your magnificent creation springs forth from your Word. **All that has life and breath praises your name.**

**For your Word that sustains the earth, we thank you, O God.**

You sent us Jesus, your Word, to renew the world. **He healed the sick, fed the hungry, preached your mercy, and called us to faith.**

**For your Word in our Lord Christ, we praise you, O God.**

Nourish us with the Spirit of your Word, **that we may grow in grace, bearing the fruits of redemption, and sharing your strength and beauty with all the world.**

**For your Word in our lives, we entreat you, O God.**
Accept our thanksgiving and receive our prayer,  
for the sake of your living Word, Jesus our Savior.  
Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
  and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
  and the glory are yours,  
  now and forever. Amen.

SENDING  
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING  
May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.


SENDING SONG  
Rejoice in the Mission

1 Oh, the Lord came down from heav’n, tiny
2 As we ponder and we plan in this
baby, great physician, gave his body and his
age of great transition, we will keep the word of
blood to live out a holy mission.
God at the heart of each decision.

His disciples, they went out to full—
Praise the Father, Lord of love; praise the
fill the great commission; with a seed of faith so
Christ, in glory risen; praise the Spirit, by whose
small, learned a different kind of
pow'r we will share the gifts we're
fishin'.
given— Will we go?

Refrain
And we'll all share the vision, who in
Christ we all shall be. Come, rejoice in the
mission of a new community.
In this place where we gather, Jesus,
still our restless souls; to your Spirit we will

Text: Dan Bielenberg
Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME; Appalachian traditional, adapt. Doris Erwin Collins
Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-711633. All rights reserved.
DISMISSAL
  Go in peace. Love your neighbor. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE
  The Summer Knows
  Words by Marilyn & Alan Bergman
  Music by Michel Legrand

  Please leave in silence for those who remain to enjoy the Postlude.

  Preaching: Pastor Arden C. Strasser
  Lector: Rosemary Lebron
  Videographer: Volunteer
  LeeAnne Hutchison and Richard Sterne

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-711633. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome, visitors! Saint Luke’s pleased to welcome visitors from near and far. We pray that your worship with us will be a rich experience. Please fill out a Visitor Card located in the pews and give to an usher. You may also sign our Guest Registry located in the Narthex.

Restrooms:
  Ladies: use the restroom outside the Narthex near the elevator.
  Men: follow the signs to the 2nd Floor restroom.

Worship Protocols: Public health and safety is important. Wearing masks is recommended. The passing of the peace will be more flexible, allowing for hand shaking only for those who wish to.

- Birthdays and special Occasions this coming week: Jeff Garrett Safalow (9/19), Eva Rodriguez (9/20), Hudson Prather (9/21), Francisco Salas (9/21), Pastor Paul Schmiege (9/24)
- Our “God’s Work, Our Hands” service project is today following our worship service. Join us in assembling hygiene kits and distributing them with bag lunches to those in need in our neighborhood.
- Soup Kitchen Volunteers: We need volunteers to help us serve lunch on Thursdays especially. If you are available, please speak to Deacon Bob.
- “Blessing of the Animals” will be celebrated on Sunday, October 2. Mark your calendars. On the Sunday closest to the Day of St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Animals, we express our appreciation for our non-human companions with a Pet Blessing. You are welcome to bring your pet to the front steps of Saint Luke’s at 10:30 am. Pastor Strasser will lead a prayer service and blessings. Pets and their owners are welcome to stay for 11:00 am Regular Worship.
- Weekday Morning Prayer – 8:00 am. Our daily online Morning Prayer service, every weekday at 8 AM, will be live streamed (online only) at www.facebook.com/StLukesNewYork. A short 15 minutes with scripture and reflection to start your day right and strengthen your faith. You’re invited.
- Worship assistants are needed – you can help. Consider volunteering on a Sunday to serve in an altar leadership role. If you’ve never done it but have been thinking about it, speak to Bob or someone you’ve seen serve. They will gladly walk with you and introduce you to helping in our worship services. Try it sometime this year.

This Week at Saint Luke’s

TODAY — September 18th
  Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
  9:30 am Service of the Word
  11:00 am Sung Eucharist
  12:15 pm Fellowship Hour
  1:00 pm God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday – delivering bag lunches to those in need

MONDAY — September 19
  8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live

TUESDAY — September 20
  8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live
  1:00 – 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen

WEDNESDAY — September 21
  OFFICE CLOSED
  8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live
  12:00 Noon Holy Communion

THURSDAY — September 22
  8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live
  1:00 – 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen
  12:30 to 2:00 pm “Showers of Blessings Van

FRIDAY — September 23
  8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live
WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Service of the Word at 9:30 a.m.
Sung Eucharist at 11 a.m.

Story of poor Lazarus and the wealthy man

Saint Luke’s is a “Reconciling in Christ” congregation.
We welcome all who are seeking God’s love, regardless of race or culture, economic or life situation, sexual orientation or gender identity, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, spouses and partners are welcome. Your uniqueness enriches our community.

SAINT LUKE’S LUTHERAN CHURCH
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. Dr. Arden C. Strasser, Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Martha S. Jacobi, Pastoral Associate
Pedro d’Aquino, FAGO, ChM, Cantor
S. Dcn. Robert Wechtenhiser, Parish Administrator

2022 Council Members

Judy Barnett  Megan Cornelius  Rosemary Lebron
Mike Brouwer  Alyssa Erb  Richard Nesbit
Katie Luekens Chan Chee  David Lally  Chuck Ragsdale

e-mail: info@stlukesnyc.org  website: www.stlukesnyc.org

Saint Luke’s Lutheran Church
is on Facebook and Instagram! @StLukesNewYork