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**

Prelude on “Thaxted”

Robert Buckley Farlee (b. 1950)

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

*The assembly kneels as they are able. Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

God of mercy and forgiveness,

we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

We have failed to do justice,

love kindness,

and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven ✝ and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God’s abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**
Let Streams of Living Justice

1. Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth;
   The hungry's hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights,
   Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron pow'r;
   a-bolish ancient vengeance; proclaim your people's hour.

2. For healing of the nations, for peace that will not end,
   Weave our varied gifts together; knit our lives as they are spun;
   O great weaver of our fabric, bind church and world in one;
   dye our texture with your radiance, light our colors with your sun.

3. Your city's built to music; we are the stones you seek,
   Our faith we find in service, our hope in others' dreams,
   Inscribe our hearts with justice; your way—the path untried;
   your truth—the heart of stranger, your life—the Crucified.

Text: William Whitt, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holtz, 1874–1934
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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.
CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory to God

1 Lord God, heav’n-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we
worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

2 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of
God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

3 For you a- lone are the Ho-ly One, you a- lone are the
Lord, you a- lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.

A-men, a-men.

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

7The 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

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

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.

1First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone,  
2for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.  
3This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,  
4who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.  
5For  
there is one God;  
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
Christ Jesus, himself human,
6who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time. 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

Alleluia

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

1Then 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. 2So 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 manager any longer.’ 3Then 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. 4I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ 5So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ 6He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ 7Then 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.’ 8And 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. 9And 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.

SERMON

Pastor Strasser
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

You may share your intercessions by posting online.

People with long term prayer needs are:

Girma, Jimmy, John, Clement, Katie J., Everett, 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.*

**MEAL** sit

*God gives us a foretaste of the feast to come*

**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.

**ANTHEM** By Gracious Powers William Bradley Roberts (b. 1947)

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered, and confidently waiting come what may, we know that God is with us night and morning, and never fails to greet us each new day. Yet is this heart by its old foe tormented, and evil days bring burdens hard to bear; Oh, give our frightened souls the sure salvation, for which, O Lord, you taught us to prepare. And when this cup you give is filled to brimming with bitter suffering, hard to understand, we take it thankfully and without trembling out of so good and so beloved a hand.

Yet when again in this same world you give us the joy we had, the brightness of your sun, we shall remember all the days we lived through and our whole life shall then be yours alone.  

> Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

*Bread and wine are placed on the altar.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** stand

Gracious God, **in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**
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:

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.
We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

OUR FATHER
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
LAMB OF GOD

COMMUNION

We confess joyfully that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the Sacrament under the forms of bread and wine. We invite all baptized and communing Christians to join us. Anyone not receiving communion is welcome to come and receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest when you reach the pastor. After receiving communion return to your seats by the side aisles.

Although those worshipping at home cannot receive communion with us now, we invite you into a moment of closeness with Christ. By desiring the sacrament, it is your faith expressing itself. Allow Christ’s love to surround you. Feel his grace, giving you hope. Today you are united with us, and to Christ.
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION  stand

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

BLESSING

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace.

And may the holy Trinity, one God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS  sit
SENDING SONG  stand  Let Justice Flow Like Streams  ST. THOMAS

1 Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
2 Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,

enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure,
an ever-flowing stream of faith, translated into deed,
and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Hieber, b. 1926
Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776
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DISMISSAL
Go in peace, with Christ beside you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE  Meditation on “St. Thomas”  Gerhard Krapf (1924-2008)
Please leave in silence for those who remain to enjoy the Postlude

Presiding and Preaching:  Assisting Minister:
Pastor Arden C. Strasser  Mike Brouwer
Organist/Choirmaster: Cantor Pedro d’Aquino  Choir of Saint Luke’s Church
Lector: Dianna Blaylock  Ushers: Richard Sterne, Volunteers
Videographer: Volunteer

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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)
 The flowers on the altar today are in Loving Memory of John O’Donnell whose funeral was yesterday.
 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

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<td>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</td>
<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am Service of the Word</td>
<td>8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live</td>
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<td>11:00 am Sung Eucharist</td>
<td>12:00 Noon Holy Communion</td>
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<td>12:15 pm Fellowship Hour</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday – delivering bag lunches to those in need</td>
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| 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 | |

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 Wechtenhis, 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