



As We Gather 15th Sunday after Pentecost Sept. 18, 2022

God's people are sometimes called "the people of the Book." The written Word is central to our lives of worship. As John concluded his Gospel account of the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, he states that he could have written much more extensively than he had done. But as he reflects on what he has shared in his Gospel, he says, "but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31). The writings of John the Evangelist and of all the other biblical writers are there for us to read and reread and savor and share both as part of our worship and in our individual lives of faith. The written Word of the Lord is an essential part of our great and blessed heritage!

Mesquite Lutheran Church & Childcare Center

450 Turtleback Road Mesquite, NV 89027

Church **702.346.5811** Childcare 702.346.3954

Rev. David Constien

Email: pastor@mesquitelutheran.org Cell: 815.409.1156

www.facebook.com/mesquitelcc



**Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.
Ask us about Associate Memberships for Lutherans who are part-time residents.**

A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones. Thank You.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- *Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- *Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- *Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

Please Note

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church can come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer,
Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.
Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

**PRELUDE
WELCOME**

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN #908 “Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear”

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES Deuteronomy 6:4–5; Proverbs 3:3–6

- P** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.
- C** You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
- P** Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.
- C** So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.
- P** Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
- C** In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and ask His gracious forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** We now confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and before one another, that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not always put God first. We have used His holy name in ways that do not honor Him. We have not always been devoted to the Lord and have not fully cherished the sacred writings of our faith. We have failed in ways of keeping our thoughts, words, and deeds pure and honorable. At times we have taken what is not ours and have spoken that which is not helpful or true. We have broken the law of God by coveting that which is not rightfully ours and have not put the best construction on all things and spoken the best of all people. We pray our God to have mercy on us, to forgive us all our sins, and to bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

P The almighty and merciful Lord grants us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained 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.

WORD

INTROIT *Psalm 119:137–140, 142; antiphon: v. 144*

P Your testimonies are righteous forever;

C **give me understanding that I may live.**

P Righteous are you, O LORD,

C **and right are your just decrees.**

P You have appointed your testimonies in righteousness

C **and in all faithfulness.**

P My zeal consumes me,

C **because my foes forget your words.**

P Your promise is well tried,

C **and your servant loves it.**

P Your righteousness is righteous forever,

C **and your law is true.**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Your testimonies are righteous forever;

C **give me understanding that I may live.**

KYRIE

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE LSB 950 “Splendor and Honor”

**1 Splendor and honor, majesty and power
Are Yours, O Lord God, fount of ev’ry blessing,
For by Your bidding was the whole creation
Called into being.**

**2 Praised be the true Lamb, slain for our redemption,
By whose self-off’ring we are made God’s people:
A priestly kingdom, from all tongues and nations,
Called to God’s service.**

**3 To the Almighty, throned in heav’nly splendor,
And to the Savior, Christ our Lamb and Shepherd,
Be adoration, praise, and glory given,**

Now and forever. (Text: © 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018714)

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Amos 8:4–7

⁴Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, ⁵saying, “When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, ⁶that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?” ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: “Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING 1 Timothy 2:1–15

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it

is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. ⁷For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. ⁸I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; ⁹likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, ¹⁰but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. ¹¹Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. ¹²I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. ¹³For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. ¹⁵Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

LSB 156

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 16:1–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ²And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ ³And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management 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 removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ ⁵So,

summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' ⁷Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' ⁸The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. ¹⁰"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." ¹⁴The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY # 730 "What Is the World to Me"

SERMON "Living Shrewdly" Luke 16:1-15

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P The apostle Paul instructs us: “First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.” Rejoicing in Christ’s salvation offered to all, let us call upon God our Father for ourselves and for all people.

Kind Father, Your Son declared to us that we cannot serve You and also be devoted to money. Free all Your baptized children from obsession with the goods of this world, that they may set their hearts on the joys of the kingdom and the inheritance that never fades. Lord, in Your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

P [*Petitions...*] Lord, in Your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

P We give thanks to You, O Lord, for You have forgiven our debt of sin for the sake of Jesus. Preserve us in His grace and life until that day when You gather us to be among the saints in glory around Your throne; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

OFFERING Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet

OFFERTORY LSB 782 “Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings” St.1

1 **Gracious God, You send great blessings**

New each morning all our days.

For Your mercies never ending,

For Your love we offer praise.

Lord, we pray that we, Your people

Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,

Through the sharing of Your blessings

May bring glory to Your name.

(Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946 Text: © 2004 Gregory J. Wismar. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018714)

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

- P** Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks and praise to You, O Lord, for in Jesus Christ, the Servant of all, You have shown Your saving love and rescued us from sin, death, and the power of the devil. Grant that, in response to our salvation, we may live to Your glory, awaiting that time when Jesus, who is our Host at this Holy Meal, prepares for us and all the faithful the eternal heavenly banquet. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us that we may rejoice in the gifts before us and thank You with songs of praise and hearts filled with love.

SANCTUS LSB 178

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- C** 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.

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Tune: LSB “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”)

**O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away—
Our faith increase. Have mercy on us all,
Strengthen us when we fall, answer our fervent call
And grant us peace.**

(Text: Dorothy Schultz Text: © 1991 Concordia Publishing House.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

**#547 The Lamb #806 Give Thanks #523 O Word of God Incarnate
#588 Jesus Loves Me #584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Grant that Your Son’s body and blood, O Lord, which You have given us to eat and to drink, may abide in us, and let no stain of sin remain in us, whom this pure and holy Sacrament has refreshed; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P 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.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Shine On Us” Michael & Deborah Smith

Pastor:(sung) “Lord, let Your light, light of Your face, shine on us....
Let Your grace, grace from Your hand, fall on us.”

Cong:(sung) **“Lord, let Your love, love without end come over us.
Lord, let Your love, love without end come over us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life to find our way
In the darkest night. Let Your love come over us.”**

Pastor only: Let Your light shine on us.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

+ + + + +

Reader Today: Jan Aslin

PRAYER LIST: Harold Holtz, cancer treatment; Deedee Halterman, lung cancer, sister-in-law of Maggie Halterman; Tom Stettler, Southern Utah Veterans Home; the homebound.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

| | | | |
|-------------|----|------------|----------------------------|
| Mon. Sept. | 19 | 2:00 p.m. | Church Council |
| Tues. Sept. | 20 | 2:00 p.m. | Outreach Planning Team |
| Wed. Sept. | 21 | 11:00 a.m. | Childcare Chapel |
| Thur. Sept. | 22 | 10:30 a.m. | Grief Support Group |
| Thur. Sept. | 22 | 11:00 a.m. | Jesus Time (Childcare Ctr) |

BIRTHDAYS

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 9-20 Bonnie Gloe | 9-23 Bob Sennett | 9-26 James Liebsack |
| 9-27 Georgia Townsend | 9-28 Den Hood | 9-29 Ila Larson |

ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 9-20 Steve & Pam Bruehl | 9-20 Harold & Bonnie Holtz |
| 9-22 Paul & Claudia Havens | 9-24 Marvin & Judy Ferdina |
| 9-30 Kenneth & Nancy Schleiger | |

Hello Ladies!!! I am so excited to announce a new year of **Women's Bible Study!** The friendships we've made over the last few years have been so encouraging to me and I am looking forward to another wonderful year. We will be starting up our weekly Bible study for women on **Wednesday, October 5th, 2022**. The time this year will be **9:30 am-11:00am**. (So we can finish before Preschool Chapel starts). I have selected a study by Sarah Young, the author of the Jesus Calling devotionals. I have used her devotionals and I know many of you are familiar with her as well. This study is called, "**Jesus Calling-Putting Jesus First.**" The **book is \$7.00** and I currently have 19 available copies, so **if you plan on coming let me know as soon as possible so I can order enough for all of us**. If you are a snowbird and reading this from somewhere cool, let me know **by phone or email** you will be joining us.

I would also like to encourage anyone who has never been to a Women's bible study to give us a try. These are discussion-driven lessons will help you in so many ways and I know you will find them a blessing! Can't wait to see you there! In Christ, Christine Constien constien.christine@gmail.com 815-409-2035.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY begins **Thursday, Oct. 6th at 1:00-2:30 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. We will undertake a **LifeLight study of Prophecy!** Prophecy examines Old Testament promises and the fulfillment of those promises in the New Testament, the School of Prophets, the end of the world, and much more. LifeLight is an in-depth Bible study that includes: **individual daily home study** (15-30 min. for each of 5 days prior to meeting), **discussion** as a small group, a **lecture** presentation on the Scripture, and an enhancement of the week's material through articles in an **enrichment magazine**. No special knowledge, experience, or skills in Bible study needed, only a level of **commitment in attendance and readings for 9 weeks**. To have materials available for advance preparation, please let Pastor know by email: pastor@mesquitelutheran.org or call 815-409-1156 to register for the study.

HELPING HANDS AVAILABLE Do you need a little help with a household chore, need a high light bulb changed or smoke detector battery changed? Need a ride to the doctor or an errand run? Do you need help with some light maintenance, light landscape work or work around the house? We'll help! A number of members of MLC have organized to help fellow members with these things and more! Some of us will even climb ladders! **Just let us know you have a need by writing your name and phone number on a little card in the clear box (card and pen inside) on the narthex table and we'll give you a call** and make arrangements! Spread the word – let your fellow members know!

10 a.m. service available online at our Facebook page (live and recorded - @MesquiteLCC). You do not need a Facebook account to view. Go to facebook.com/MesquiteLCC/live or visit our website mesquitelutheran.org/Online-Services.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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