

# **Kingdom People Produce Kingdom Fruit**

## **GATHERING**

### **PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

**God Most High, from everlasting to everlasting, we come to this worship this day with entreating hearts, thanking you for your greatness, your consideration, your love and generous benevolence. Thank you for loving us and for forgiving us, when sometimes we are afraid to confess and love ourselves. We gather this LWML Sunday, with different needs, wants, and experiences. Some of us coming celebrating healing, some of us are suffering deep losses. We yearn to do your will in our daily lives, and we have a deep desire to do the work of mission. We thank you for being a doctor in a sick room, a lawyer in a courtroom, and all-around loving guide and mentor for all who thirst. Help us model your love as we engage in missionary activities. Strengthen us and fit us for this journey as we go and invite others to "Come and See". May this Lutheran Woman Missionary Society Sunday celebration embodies all that is holy and gracious. Help us work with each other, not letting our differences hinders our capacity to grow, give, and serve. Help us grow stronger in faith, and shape our attitudes, our ways of being, and our hearts that we will be able to welcome others with sincerity from our congregations and local community. Bless us that we might be a blessing to others as we seek first Your kingdom. Make this time together a joyous one that honors you and fortifies us for the work ahead. For the gift of life and for all other blessings, we give thanks. Amen.**

### **WELCOME**

**Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church! From the very beginning of time, from Eve, the mother of all living, to the present day, women have played a significant role in the life of the church. Today we applaud the LWML Women of Bethel, without whom, it is safe to say, there would be no church! Proverb 31:10 states, "Who can find an virtuous Woman? For her price is far above rubies: It is in the name of these women, and all women, that we welcome you to this LWML Sunday. Welcome!**

**SELECTION**

Minister Terry Dale

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(adapted from LSB, Divine Service, Setting Two)*

- P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**
- P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not fully lived as Your kingdom people. We have not brought forth the fruits of righteousness as we ought. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will, walk in Your ways, and bear kingdom fruit to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all of your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Mrs. Elvina Peterson/Mrs. Valarie Montgomery

- L: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for steadfast love endures forever!
- L: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
- C: **This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**
- L: This is the day that the LORD has made;
- C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- ALL: **Glory be to the Father and to Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- L: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!
- SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Mrs. Elvina Peterson/  
Mrs. Valarie Montgomery

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**
- P: Let us pray.
- Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love and grant us the fullness of Your 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.**

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 5:1–7

Mrs. Molly Allen

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

## SECOND READING

Philippians 3:4b–14

Mrs. Linda Quaites

<sup>4</sup>If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup>But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup>Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — <sup>10</sup>that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA VERSE

L: Alleluia! The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

C: **This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 21:33–46**

**Mrs. Mattie Quaites**

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>33</sup>“Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. <sup>34</sup>When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. <sup>35</sup>And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. <sup>40</sup>When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. <sup>44</sup>And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

**CREED** *Nicene Creed*

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and as incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under

Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

**SELECTION**

**Minister Terry Dale**

**SERMON**

**“Kingdom People Produce Kingdom Fruit”**

*“The kingdom of God will be ... given to a people producing its fruits” (Matthew 21:43).*

**SELECTION**

**Minister Terry Dale**

**(We Bring Our Tithes and Offering To The Lord”**

**LWML PLEDGE**

**LWML LADIES**

**In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Mrs. Carolyn Bryant**

(Adapted from Evening Prayer, *LSB*)

**L:** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L:** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C:** **Lord, have mercy.**

- L: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C: Lord, have mercy.**
- L: For the mission of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world, and to support global missions through the gathering of mites and providing of mission grants, let us pray to the Lord:
- C: Lord, have mercy.**
- L: For all Your kingdom people that they may produce kingdom fruit to Your glory and for the expansion of Your kingdom on earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C: Lord, have mercy.**
- L: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C: Lord, have mercy.**
- L: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
- C: Lord, have mercy.**
- L: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
- C: Lord, have mercy.**
- L: For...*(additional bids for prayer may be added here)*...let us pray to the Lord:
- C: Lord, have mercy.**
- L: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your goodness and remembering with thankfulness Your mercies, which are new every morning; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.**

## **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **PREFACE**

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: 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.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has made us the people of His kingdom, freeing us from eternal death, and giving us everlasting life.

Therefore, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

**SANCTUS**

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

**TLH: 246 Sts. 1**

1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

#### 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.**

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."  
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

#### THE PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST AND THE PEACE

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION - MUSIC

*Families will come to the Lord's table, The Pastor will instruct them to "Take and eat, the Body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins.*

*Take and drink, the Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins.*

### DISMISSAL

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve us in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.  
C: **Amen.**

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P: Let us pray.  
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the kingdom feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us as Your kingdom people throughout our days that we may bear fruit in keeping with repentance till that day when we celebrate the feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C: **Amen.**

### BLESSING

- P: Let us bless the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**  
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 SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

**(We encourage all to give a special offering as you leave.  
The LWML Mite Box will be at the door. Thank you.)**



**The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942, the LWML has affirmed each woman’s identity as a child of God and her relationship with Jesus Christ. Lutheran Women in Mission are women of faith, empowered for active service in Jesus’ name and bold support of missions through Mite Box offerings. As Christians, we have been given the kingdom of God to bear its fruit.**

### **Acknowledgments**

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