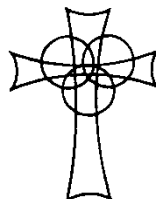


MIDWEEK DEVOTIONS & STUDY

*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
30th Street and Bunker Hill Road
Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712*



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*A Member Congregation of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

Midweek Devotions and Bible Study
Wednesday in the Eighteenth Week after Pentecost
October 7, 2020



Service of the Word in Ordinary Time

✠ In the Name of Jesus! ✠

The Opening Versicles:

Psalms 51:15, 70:1 and 25:3

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
- P** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord;
C teach me Your paths.
- C** 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** ¹Blessèd is everyone who fears the LORD,
who walks in his ways!
- C** ²**You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.**
- P** ³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
- C** **your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.**
- P** ⁴Behold, thus shall the man be blessed
who fears the LORD.
- C** ⁵**The LORD bless you from Zion!
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life!**
- P** ⁶May you see your children's children!
Peace be upon Israel!
- C** **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.**

¹I said in my heart, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself." But behold, this also was vanity. ²I said of laughter, "It is mad," and of pleasure, "What use is it?" ³I searched with my heart how to cheer my body with wine—my heart still guiding me with wisdom—and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the children of man to do under heaven during the few days of their life. ⁴I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. ⁵I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. ⁶I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. ⁷I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house. I had also great possessions of herds and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. ⁸I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, the delight of the children of man.

⁹So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. ¹⁰And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. ¹¹Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

The Scripture Study for the Day:

Questions to guide our study...

1. What were the pleasures which Solomon pursued? (verses 2 & 3)
2. What was the reason that Solomon gave for engaging in these pleasures?
3. What also did Solomon seek pleasure in and through? (verses 4-10)
4. With all of the pleasures Solomon gained and enjoyed, Solomon said that wisdom stayed with him, as well as his laying hold on folly (see verse 3). What did he mean by this?
5. In verses 10 and 11, Solomon came to a conclusion he has repeated through his writing of Ecclesiastes. What two things did he conclude about all his activities?
6. Is it wrong to enjoy things? Is it wrong to have ambition and pursue goals and plans?

The Prayers:

P Let us pray to God the Father, who has reconciled all things to Himself in Christ:

Let us pray for peace among the nations, that God may rid the world of violence and let peoples grow in justice and harmony;

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us pray for those who serve in public office among us, that they may work for the common good:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us pray for Christian people everywhere, that we may joyfully proclaim and live our faith in Jesus Christ:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us pray for those who suffer from hunger, sickness, or loneliness, that the presence of Christ may bring them health and wholeness:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us rejoice in the lives of all of God's saints, and let us pray that in the undying love of Christ we may be at last united with all who have died in the faith of Christ in the joys of God's eternal kingdom:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

Open prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer:

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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 Collect of the Day:

- 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.

The Collect for Peace:

- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

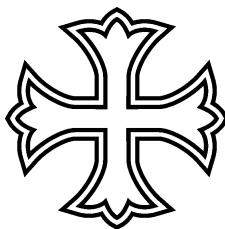
The Closing Prayer:

from the *Sarum Primer* (1527)

- P** We pray:
C **God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and in my departing.
Amen.**

The Benediction:

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C** Amen.



If you were unable to send questions to Pastor Schiebel via messaging during the Facebook Live video, you can email your questions to him at trinity-elc-pastor@verizon.net.

Acknowledgments

Brief Service of the Word from Lutheran Service Book Agenda and from Common Worship: Daily Prayer.

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