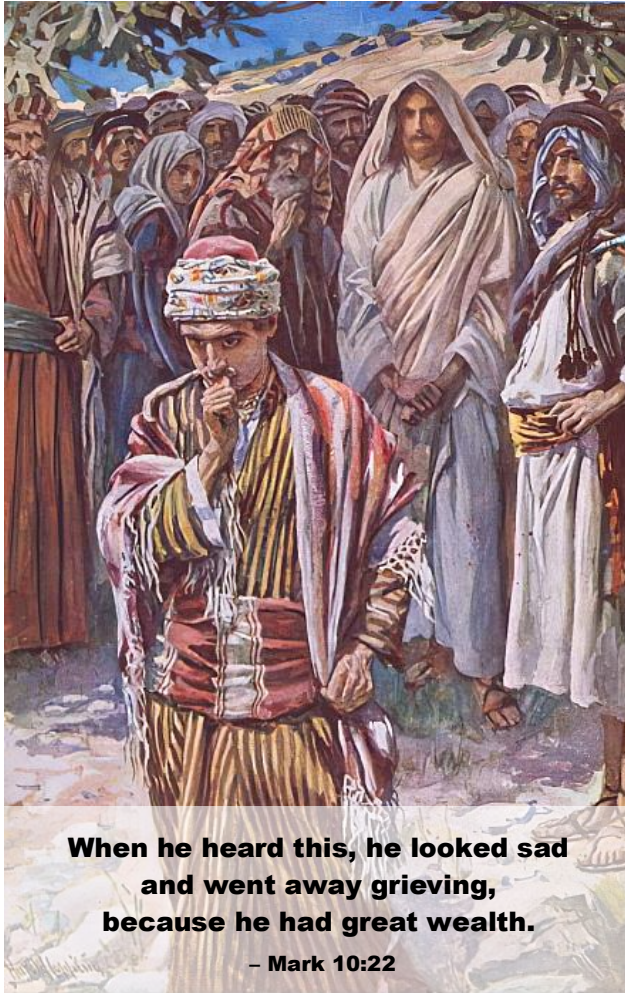


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



**When he heard this, he looked sad
and went away grieving,
because he had great wealth.**

- Mark 10:22

THE NEED FOR FOLLOWERSHIP:
Christ's Followers Maintain Proper Priorities
Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

October 13, 2024



Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

Service Notes For This Service

People think that establishing priorities is about ranking things in order of importance. But it is more than that. We do not have unlimited time and energy. So, establishing priorities enables us to say "no" to things which might be good yet not truly important. Without proper priorities, one inevitably will pursue that which is nice while downplaying that which is needed.

Throughout Scripture believers are urged to prioritize. It is the heart of the First Commandment: "You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3). Jesus calls for prioritization when he says, "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). Good news: followers of Christ maintain proper priorities. Even better news: followers of Christ receive his forgiveness for all the times their priorities have been improper.

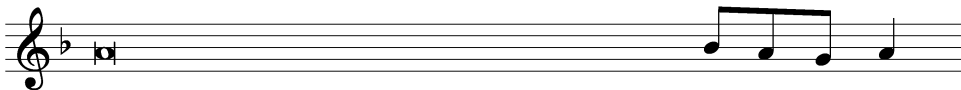


Those Serving in Worship

Pastor Peter Plagenz; Accompanist Destinee Fiecko

Acknowledgements

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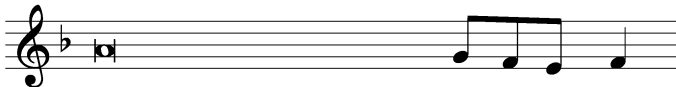
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

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Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,
God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.
You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.
For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, whose grace always precedes and follows us, help us forsake all trust in earthly gain and find in you our heavenly treasure; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

2 Kings 5:14–27

The prophet Elisha's servant, Gehazi, prioritized riches over his walk with God.

¹⁴So he went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. Then his flesh was restored like the flesh of a small child, and he was clean. ¹⁵Then he and his whole escort went back to the man of God. He stood in front of Elisha and said, "To be sure, now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now accept a gift from your servant."

¹⁶But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives, in whose presence I stand, I will not take anything." Even though Na'aman urged him to accept something, he refused.

¹⁷Then Na'aman said, "If you do not want anything, please give me, your servant, as much dirt as two donkeys can carry, for your servant will never again burn incense or sacrifice to other gods, but only to the LORD. ¹⁸But may the LORD forgive your servant this one thing: When my master goes into the house of Rimmon to bow down there and he supports himself on my arm, then I too have to bow down in the house of Rimmon. When I bow down in the house of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant this one thing."

¹⁹Then Elisha said to him, "Go in peace."

When Na'aman had gone some distance from him, ²⁰Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, "My master was too easy on this Aramean, Na'aman, when he did not accept anything that he brought. As surely as the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him."

²¹So Gehazi chased after Na'aman. When Na'aman saw him running after him, he got down from his chariot to meet him. He said, "Is everything all right?"

²²Then Gehazi said, "Yes, everything is all right. My master sent me to say, 'Look, just now two young men from the hill country of Ephraim, from the sons of the prophets, have come to me. Please give them a talent of silver and two sets of clothing.'"

²³Na'aman said, "Certainly! Take two talents!" He urged Gehazi and tied up the two talents of silver in two bags with the two sets of clothing. Then Na'aman gave them to his two servants, and they carried them ahead of Gehazi. ²⁴When he came to the hill, he took the gifts from them. Then he hid them in the house and sent the men back, so they left. ²⁵Then he went in and attended his master.

Elisha said to him, "Where were you, Gehazi?"

Gehazi said, “Your servant didn't go anywhere.”

²⁶Then Elisha said to him, “Didn't my heart go along when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take silver, or to accept clothes or olive groves or vineyards or sheep or cattle or male and female servants? ²⁷Na'aman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever.” Then Gehazi went out from his presence, leprous like snow. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

90B Lord, Give Success to the Work of Our Hands

Refrain

Lord, give suc - cess to the work of our hands.

Tone

Lord, you have been our / dwelling place
throughout all gener- / ations.

A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has / just gone by,
or like a watch / in the night.

**Yet you sweep people away in the / sleep of death—
they are like the new grass of the / morning:**

**In the morning it / springs up new,
but by evening it is dry and / withered. *Refrain***

Our days may come to / sev'nty years,
or eighty, if our / strength endures;
yet the best of them are but trouble and / sorrow,
for they quickly pass, and we / fly away.

**Teach us to number / our days,
that we may gain a heart of / wisdom.**

**Satisfy us in the morning with your un- / failing love,
that we may sing for joy and be glad / all our days.**

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

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Second Reading

Hebrews 4:12-13

God's Word is like a sword. It cuts through our pretensions and pride and exposes our true priorities.

¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It penetrates even to the point of dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow, even being able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart. ¹³And there is no creature hidden from him, but everything is uncovered and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we will give an account. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

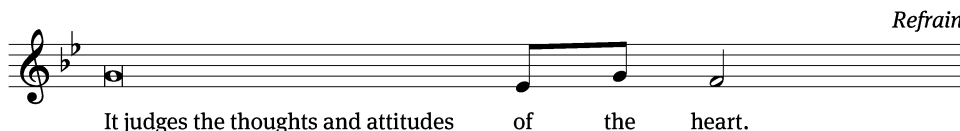
Hebrews 4:12



Refrain



Tone



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Gospel

Mark 10:17–27

Jesus helps a young man see a problem deeper than his failure to keep God’s law perfectly—that he prioritized his wealth above the call to follow Christ.

¹⁷As Jesus was setting out on a journey, one man ran up to him and knelt in front of him. He asked, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except one—God. ¹⁹You know the commandments. ‘You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.’”

²⁰The man replied, “Teacher, I have kept all these since I was a child.”

²¹Jesus looked at him, loved him, and said to him, “One thing you lack. Go, sell whatever you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²²When he heard this, he looked sad and went away grieving, because he had great wealth.

²³Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!”

²⁴The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus told them again, “Children, how hard it is for those who trust in their riches to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶They were even more astonished and said to one another, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “For people, it is impossible, but not for God, because all things are possible for God.” (EHV®)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

717 What Is the World to Me

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.
Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Special Prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Special Prayers This Week

- † For Jon Engel, who is having knee surgery on Oct. 17.
- † For John Batzer who is recovering from a broken hip.
- † For Sara Batzer who continues to suffer from dementia and is now in hospice.
- † For Diane Kazmierczak, the sister of Linda Jones, who is recovering from a severe stroke
- † For those affected by the recent hurricanes
- †
- †

Connect Card and Offering

Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card. After a few moments, the ushers will come forward to collect the offering. You may place your Connect Card and any offering you brought in the plate as it is passed. Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



WELS Connection

The Impact of World Missions

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

828 *Where Your Treasure Is*



Join us for the

Fall Bake & Craft Sale

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Pies • Pickles • Soup
Chicken Lasagna
Canned Goods
Breads • Jams
Cookies • Bars
And Much more

Shop Sunday, Oct. 20 after worship

Take Home Questions

2 Kings 5:14-27

1. Discuss the beginning of the Naaman account. In what ways does this color the account in our reading today?
2. Compare Naaman and Gehazi in these verses. In what ways do you see proper and improper priorities in each of their actions?

Hebrews 4:12,13

3. Verse 12 reminds us that God knows all the hidden thoughts and ideas of our hearts. Many people would shudder at that. For what reasons is that appropriate?
4. In what ways is that truth from verse 12 a comfort for us in light of the gospel?

Mark 10:17-27

5. At the end of this interaction with Jesus, we're told the young man left grieving. Yet we're also told that in this interaction "Jesus... loved him" (v. 21). In what ways were Jesus' difficult words loving?
6. Reflect on your own life and complete the following sentence. "Leaving all of _____ behind would leave me grieving like this young man." Share your answer with your group.
7. In what ways would following Jesus over and above _____ actually bring more joy and satisfaction?

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study Hour: Foundations of the Christian Faith

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM

Drop off You Bake Sale Items

Oct. 18

Our Fall Bake & Craft Sale is on Saturday from 9:00-noon. We would appreciate your donations of baked goods, crafts, and other homemade items. Please bring those to the church by Friday afternoon. Then come shop the sale and see what others have made - either on Saturday or after worship on Sunday. (The best selection will be found early on Saturday.) Profits from the sale will be used to purchase water bottle filling stations for the school.

Teen Events This Week

Oct. 15 & 20 | 4:30 PM

Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 4:30 pm – for grades 6-12. Meet the teens from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Feltz Dairy Store (5796 Porter Drive, Stevens Point) to explore the NFL Draft corn mazes. Afterwards, head over to Pizza Ranch for dinner. The cost is \$10 per student. If you have any questions, please call or text Mike Irwin of Good Shepherd at 715-459-7026.

Sunday, Oct. 20 at 4:30 pm – for grades 8-12. Meet area WELS teens at Wilke's Dairy Farm (T8417 CTH-W, Wausau) for their giant corn maze. Then everyone will head to the St. Peter Wausau Campus (transportation provided) for pizza, fellowship, pumpkin carving and painting. This event is free. Please sign up to make sure there is enough pizza and pumpkins for all; a sign-up can be found at mysaintpeter.org/wels-youth-night.



A Last Chance to Cheer on Our Team

St. Paul's School volleyball team will wrap their season this week with home games on Monday and a tournament at Northland on Saturday. The home games start at 4:30 pm.

Sign up for Advent by Candlelight

Women of our congregation are invited to join the ladies from Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church as they celebrate Advent by Candlelight on Sunday, Dec. 1 at Rembs Celebration Center in Marshfield. This is an afternoon event, starting at 2:00 pm, and carpooling options will be available. Please see the signup sheets on the Ministry Table. You must sign up by Nov. 10.

Be a Sister on a Mission

Oct. 14 | 6:30 pm

Our new women's group, Sisters on a Mission, is meeting on Monday at 6:30 pm in the Resource Center. All sisters in Christ are welcome! Come for fellowship and growth in God's Word.

Sunday	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School for grades 3K-5th
	10:30 AM	Worship
Monday	1:30 PM	Spiritual Health Group in the chapel at WR Health Services
	4:30 PM	Choir Practice in the Balcony
	4:30 PM	HOME Volleyball Game in the gym
	6:30 PM	Faith Group at the home of Todd & Kay Ferkey
	6:30 PM	Sisters on a Mission in the Resource Center
Tuesday	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
	4:30 PM	Teen Outing to Feltz Dairy Store Corn Maze
	6:30 PM	Leadership Council in the Resource Center
Wednesday	8:55 AM	School Chapel Service
	6:30 PM	Bible & Brews at B's Tap House
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Catechism Class
Thursday	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	1:30 pm	Newsletter Assembly in the Volunteer Workroom
Friday	7:00 PM	Fall Pops Concert at NLHS
Saturday	9:00 AM	Fall Bake & Craft Sale in the cafeteria
Sunday	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:00 AM	Fall Bake & Craft Sale in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School for grades 3K-5th
	10:30 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Fall Bake & Craft Sale in the cafeteria
	4:30 PM	WELS Youth Night in Wausau

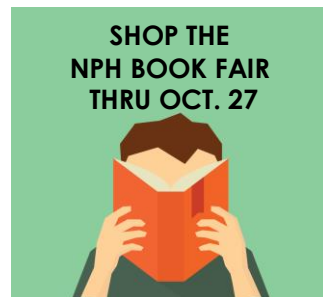
Attendance Report

Last Week's Attendance: 391

Next Sunday

Theme: The Need for Followership: Christ's Followers Make Selfless Sacrifices

Readings: Isaiah 53:10-12; 1 Corinthians 9:7-12,19-23; Mark 10:32-45





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