

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church – New Ulm, Mn**  
**Song Service – September 29 - October 1, 2018**  
**Have A Heart – for Godly Contentment and Trust**

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**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**WELCOME**

**GREET & MEET**

**INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

**Psalm 100**

**(Pastor)**

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. <sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. <sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

**HYMN**

**Praise to the Lord ..."**

**CW 234 v. 1-3**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
 O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
 Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near, Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
 And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen  
 All that is needful has been Sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
 Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
 What need or grief Ever has failed of relief? Wings of his mercy did shade you.

**OUR FAITH**

**Apostles' Creed**

*Pastor: We worship the one true God who is three distinct persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We worship God the Father.*

**People: I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

*Pastor: We worship God the Son.*

**People: 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.**

*Pastor: We worship God the Holy Spirit.*

**People: 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.**

**(Children Come Forward)**

**HYMN****Praise to the Lord ..."****CW 234 v. 4-5**

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
 Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
 Ponder anew What the Almighty can do As with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!  
 All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
 Let the Amen Sound from his people again; Gladly forever adore him!

**SONG - GRADES 1-4 (11 am Only)****CHILDREN'S DEVOTION****Everything Is God's****Psalm 24:1**

Good evening/morning. I hope today is a two-thumbs-up day. Let me ask you this: Do you own anything? You probably have some toys; maybe some books. How about a bike or trike? Perhaps you have some other things that even have your name on them. But do you know what! Everything belongs to God. In the Bible in a book called Psalms, Psalm 24:1 says, **"The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."** See these labels? They say, "God's." We could put these on everything we have. God is letting us use those things. We could put these on us. God made us. God the Son, Jesus, bought us and made us his by dying on the cross. The Holy Spirit made us his by bringing us to faith. We are God's, forgiven and loved forever. So we want to take good care of the things God is letting us have and use them wisely. We want to take good care of ourselves because we belong to God. Let's pray. Dear Lord, Thanks for making us and making us yours. Help us to take good care of ourselves and the things you give us to use in this life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**HYMN****"Lord of Glory ..."****CW 486 v. 1&5**

Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,  
 Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice,  
 And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand  
 To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.

Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,  
 Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.  
 Give us faith to trust you boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on you;  
 But, oh, best of all your graces, With your love our love renew.

**DEVOTION****Heart Troubles****Mark 7:20-22**

Services the past two weekends and this weekend have been entitled, "Have a heart." We all have one. I've never seen mine. But I guess it looks like this (picture of a heart.) Did you know that every day on the average your heart beats 100,000 times pumping 5-6 quarts of blood per minute or 2000 gallons per day through a system of 60,000 miles of arteries, veins, and capillaries? Weighing on the average less than a pound the heart is a workhorse and an amazing organ.

But for a lot of people the heart is a source of trouble – angina, valve problems, congenital heart failure, coronary artery disease, and heart attacks. Each year 700,000 to 1.5 million have heart-attacks. I suppose if you compare these figures with the over 300 million people in the USA, they're not very big. But in reality, 100% of people living in the USA and in the world have heart problems. Jesus said in Mark 7:20ff: **"What comes out of a person is what defiles them. <sup>21</sup> For it is from within, out of a person's**

**heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder,<sup>22</sup> adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.”** We have spiritual heart problems.

So rather than putting God first in our lives; our families, second; others, third; and then ourselves; we may at times put ourselves first. We may be lavish ourselves with enjoyable things and be stingy when it comes to our offerings to God who says, **“Honor me with your wealth.”** We may accept God’s blessings but not give thanks. We may neglect things that are important when it comes to our family. We may turn our backs on the legitimate needs of others. We may buy too big, borrow too much, and spend on what is not at all important and of lasting value. We may get sucked into the thinking that we have to have bigger, better, newer, nicer, not thinking about the consequences. Then we find ourselves in over our heads in debt or in struggling to manage all the things we have acquired.

We see that what Jesus says is true. We have heart problems caused by sin. It infects the heart or our soul and gets in the way of our glorifying God. So while physically only a part of the human race suffers from heart problems – spiritually we all have them. So ... **(Confession of Sins.)**

## **CONFESSION**

*P: Let us now confess our sins to almighty God.*

**C: Holy and merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have failed to love you as you command or to love my neighbor as myself. I deserve your punishment now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins. I trust in Jesus as my Savior. Because of Him, have mercy on me.**

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**(Pastor)**

*“Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures...he was buried ...he was raised again on the third day (1Co15:3,4).” “Therefore, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you (Acts 13:38).” “God does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us (Ps 103:10-12).” (NIV)*

## **HYMN**

**“Lord of Glory ...”**

**CW 486 v. 2&3**

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Gladly, freely, of your own.  
With the sunshine of your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by you, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor you have given to our humblest charity  
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it unto me."  
Can it be, O gracious Master, That you need what we can do,  
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?

## **DEVOTION**

**Have a Heart ... for Contentment**

**Hebrew 13:5**

**Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”**

**Keep yourselves free from the Lord of money...** “No problem,” we say. “I am a Christian and I would never love money. That’s idolatry!” But if God gives this prohibition there must be the possibility that a Christian might be tempted to love money and material things. While it could happen suddenly and dramatically I suspect that when it happens among Christians, it most likely happens so subtly that we don’t even realize it.

A lot of families probably wish they had more money because it seems like incomes do not always meet expenses. The distance from wishing for more dollars to loving them is not great. Many students probably wish they had more money to cover tuition, debts and other costs. Farmers and business people look at their profit-to- debt ratio and may wish the same. In every case there’s a fine line between seeing the need for more money and falling in love with it. Or, we look at others around us and see what we have, so in jealousy we yearn for more and for the money to make it happen, and the love of money can easily sneak in. With those who have it, the danger is that they start to fear losing it and love it, or seeing the power and possessions money can bring, so they love it.

So God says, “Don’t go there!” Why does God give us such a prohibition? First of all, God is not glorified as the First Commandment reminds us. Then there is the fact that those who love money never have enough. There is also the trouble that the love of money causes. This ruin may be loss of health, loss of freedom, loss of family, loss faith and loss of forever with Jesus. The final reason for God’s telling us to not love money and material things is their fleeting nature – they are treasures that moth and rust destroy and that thieves can break in and steal (Matt 6).

So God, out of zeal to be the only God in our lives and love that does not want to see us lost God gives us this prohibition, “Don’t love money!” At the same time God prescribes, **“Be content with what you have.”** To be content is to be satisfied. It’s having the attitude, “I have enough.” It’s being content to be content.

However, the problem is that contentment is not part of human DNA. So how do we get contentment?

Just a few verses later in Hebrews 13 God says, **“May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, <sup>21</sup> equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever... (v. 20, 21).”** What God prescribes – contentment – he produces with the power of his peace in Jesus. Jesus removed the curse of our sin with his suffering and death, and provided the holiness we need to be at peace with God. When we focus on this love of God and what it means – God loved me so much he gave his son, gave himself to save me, living, dying and rising again for my forgiveness and eternal life – it gives power to cope with the trials of life and to be content. We know God loves us, has forgiven us, is with us and provides for us in the way and amount that’s best.

St. Paul wrote, **“I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. <sup>13</sup> I can do everything through him who gives me strength (Phil. 4).”**

So, this love of God leaves me to conclude, “If he so loves me, will he not care for me? Does he not know the level of blessing best for me? Does he not set the standard of living best suited for me?” Such conclusions bring contentment. So God prescribes and provides contentment.

What he prescribes and provides, he reinforces with his promises in our text.

The first is God's promise, **"Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you."** This was a promise made originally to Joshua when he was about to succeed Moses as the human leader of the nation of Israel – 600,000 fighting men plus elderly men, women and children – several million total. God promised to be with and bless Joshua. He promises the same to you – **"never will I leave you, never will I forsake you."**

**HYMN****"Take the World but Give Me Jesus"****CW 355 v. 1 - 3**

Take the world, but give me Jesus! All its joys are but a name.  
But his love abides forever, Through eternal years the same.

*[Refrain]* Oh, the height and depth of mercy; Oh, the length and breadth of love!  
Oh, the fullness of redemption, Pledge of endless life above!

Take the world, but give me Jesus, Sweetest comfort of my soul.  
With the Savior watching o'er me, I can sing, though thunders roll. *[Refrain]*

Take the world, but give me Jesus! In his cross my trust shall be  
Till with clearer, brighter vision Face to face my Lord I see. *[Refrain]*

**DEVOTION****Have a Heart ... for Trust****Matthew 6:24-33**

<sup>24</sup> **"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."** <sup>25</sup> **"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"** <sup>26</sup> **Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"** <sup>27</sup> **Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"** <sup>28</sup> **"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. <sup>29</sup> Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?"** <sup>31</sup> **So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'** <sup>32</sup> **For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.**

As Jesus taught his disciples the Sermon on the Mount, he knew that one of the temptations they faced was to worry. What are we going to eat, drink, wear, sleep? Aren't we tempted to do the same? How are we going to pay the mortgage; the car payments; tuition; insurance; medical bills?

Jesus, directed his disciples and directs us to look at nature. Look at the birds. God takes care of them. You are more valuable than they are. Look at the flowers of the field. Think about how beautiful they are. They dress the grass and weeds that are here today and gone tomorrow. Solomon couldn't match the fashion of the flowers. So don't worry. Trust. Trust that God will take care of you.

Make your relationship with God the most important thing in life. Strive to grow in faith and to live God-glorifying lives. Receive God's blessings with thanksgiving. Manage your material things well. Manage your money well. Use it for offerings. Use it for your family. Use it to help others. Save for emergencies. Then trust that God will take care of you. Food, clothes, a place to live – **"... Your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."** Have a heart for godly trust.

**HYMN****“Oh, For A Faith ... “****CW 405 v. 1,2,6**

Oh, for a faith that will not shrink Though pressed by many a foe,  
That will not tremble on the brink Of poverty or woe.

That will not murmur nor complain Beneath the chast'ning rod,  
But in the hour of grief or pain Can lean upon its God.

Lord, give us such a faith as this, And then, whate'er may come,  
We'll taste e'en now the hallowed bliss Of an eternal home.

**OFFERING / HANDBELLS (8 & 9:30 am)****SPECIAL PRAYERS****COMMUNION (6:30 PM – Only)****LORD’S PRAYER**

*Pastor: The Address to the Lord’s Prayer ...*

**People: Our Father in heaven ...**

*Pastor: God is not a distant, cold, and uncaring spirit. He is our Creator, Preserver, and loving Father in heaven. ...The First Petition ...*

**People: Hallowed be your name ...**

*Pastor: We keep God’s name holy by leading a godly life. This includes receiving his gifts with thanksgiving and managing them well. ... The Second Petition ...*

**People: Your kingdom come ...**

*Pastor: We pray that God preserves us and our families in faith, and brings many others to saving faith. We also pray that God uses our offerings to touch the hearts and bless the lives of many with faith in Jesus.*

**People: Sing CWS 765 v. 1**

**Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, Bringing comfort to my anxious soul.  
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me Draw me nearer to my heav’nly goal.  
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure, Brings to naught the burdens of my quest;  
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, Where, at last, I’ll find eternal rest.**

*Pastor: The Third Petition ...*

**People: Your will be done on earth as in heaven ...**

*Pastor: We submit ourselves to God’s will trusting that he is wise, faithful and loving. Therefore, we trust that he will bless us as he sees is wise and we can handle. ...The Fourth Petition ...*

**People: Give us today our daily bread ...**

*Pastor: Jesus taught us to ask for our daily needs emphasizing that daily God will supply them – not always what we want, but what we need. God does so purely out of grace. ... The Fifth Petition ...*

**People: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

*Pastor: Because of Jesus, God fully and freely forgives our sins of greed, discontent, and doubt. Now he wants us and gives us reason to fully and freely to forgive one another.*

**People: Sing CWS 765 v. 2**

**Day by day, I know you will provide me Strength to serve and wisdom to obey;  
I will seek your loving will to guide me O'er the paths I struggle day by day.  
I will fear no evil of the morrow; I will trust in your enduring grace.  
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow; Till in glory I behold your face.**

*Pastor: The Sixth Petition ...*

**People: Lead us not into temptation ...**

*Pastor: We are tempted to love created things rather than the creator who made them and lends them to us. We pray that God protect us from such temptations and help us to resist them when they arise.  
... The Seventh Petition ...*

**People: But deliver us from evil ...**

*Pastor: We pray that God preserves us from the devil, the evil of the world, and our own sinful flesh. Ultimately we ask that God take us from here to heaven ... The Conclusion ...*

**People: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Pastor: God creates. God preserves. God rules. God loves. God is forever. This is trustworthy and true.*

**People: Sing CWS 765 v.3**

**Oh, what joy to know that you are near me When my burdens grow too great to bear;  
Oh, what joy to know that you will hear me When I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.  
Day by day, no matter what betide me, You will hold me ever in your hand.  
Savior, with your presence here to guide me, I will reach at last the promised land.**

## BLESSING

### CLOSING HYMN

### Almighty Father Bless...

CW 323

Almighty Father bless the word Which through your grace we now have heard.  
Oh, may the precious seed take root, Spring up, and bear abundant fruit.

We praise you for the means of grace As homeward now our steps we trace.  
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here May all at last in heav'n appear.

### MMT DVD – Just Do It!

*Have a Heart!*

**(Pastor Don Sutton)**