

For where there is

**envy**

and

**selfishness**

**ambition,**

there will  
also be

**disorder**

and  
**wickedness**

of every kind.

James 3:16, NRSV

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church- ELCA  
Melo Lutheran Church- ELCA**

Mission Statement of Our Savior's Lutheran Church

*Our Savior's Lutheran Church is a community of believers in Jesus Christ who are willing to take risks to serve and worship God. We exist to inspire each other in reaching out to others in God's love through worship, youth ministry, ecumenical cooperation and stewardship of all our resources.*

*Our Savior's and Melo Lutheran Churches  
Warren and Rural Angus, Minnesota  
Pastor David Peterson*

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16th Sunday of Pentecost

20 September 2009

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*Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them an actual flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the particular children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.*

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRELUDE**

**DeeDee Carlson**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *(Please stand if you are able)*

**ELW p 116**

**GATHERING HYMN**      **“For the Beauty of the Earth”**

**ELW # 879**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**C: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**HYMN**

**“How Firm a Foundation”**

**ELW #796**

*Sit*

**WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**Jeremiah 11:18-20**

It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. <sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" <sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**PSALM**

**Psalm 54**

Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

<sup>2</sup>**Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

<sup>5</sup>Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

<sup>6</sup>**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

**SECOND READING**

**James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a**

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. <sup>4:1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *(Please stand if you are able)*

**ELW p 205**

## THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. <sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

*Sit*

SERMON

Pastor Dave

HYMN OF THE DAY "Children of the Heavenly Father"

ELW # 781

## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you

### OFFERING *(Sit)*

*(Please stand if you are able)*

OFFERTORY

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW #184

### SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*We celebrate communion with an open table. All are invited and welcome at the Lord's Table who are members of the body of Christ through Baptism, have confessed their sin, trust that Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine, and believe that to receive him is to receive forgiveness. Children not having received instruction are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*Grape juice is available upon request.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p 206

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Receive the Lord and live.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## AGNUS DEI

ELW p 208

## COMMUNION HYMNS

“Jesus Loves Me!”

ELW #595

“Lord, Be Glorified”

ELW #744

## COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace

C: **Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Gracious Loving God, in this meal you sustain the weary and heal the broken. May the gift of your word made flesh, the body and blood of Christ, inspire our tongues to praise you and proclaim to the entire world the Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

## BLESSING

P: The life-giving God, who sets us free in Christ, encourage you with the presence of the Holy Spirit and + bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”

ELW # 638

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

Sunday, September 20, 2009

TIME AFTER PENTECOST—LECTIONARY 25

### Admissions, Confessions

It was a stark and disquieting day—the day he admitted that he didn't really believe in Jesus. He admitted it as he was reading the Bible and all he could think about were the questions he had swirling around in his head. The scripture said, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all" (Mark 9:35). He admitted that he wasn't particularly interested in being a servant of anyone, much less of everyone.

He admitted it as he thought about all the questions he had about how the Holy Spirit worked through the waters of baptism and the bread and wine of communion. He admitted it as he thought about how on the surface he appeared to be a very "good" Christian. However, he knew that underneath that very thin veneer there was a man who lived stingily and cautiously, and not like someone who really ever believed in a transformative gospel.

He admitted that if he was truthful with himself, he didn't want to give away his hard-earned money to the poor. Sure, he desired to help the starving children in Africa—but honestly, he really, really desired a flat-screen plasma television.

He admitted that any shred of faith he had now was completely unrecognizable from the faith he had as a child or even as a younger adult. He thought that admitting all these things might spin his faith off into some void, that he might somehow become lost forever in a sea of unbelief with no way back.

Rather, it led him back home again. His admissions, his confessions, reminded him why he so desperately needed a Savior. By refusing to just play the part of a Christian anymore, he was coming closer to being the real thing than he had in a long time.

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Sunday Worship Times:  
Melo 9:00am  
Sunday School 9:30am  
Adult Bible Study 9:30am  
OSL 10:45 am

Participants for Today's Worship, September 20

**Melo Custodian: John Johnson (Green)**

Participants for Next Sunday's Worship, September 27

**Melo Custodian: John Johnson (Green)**

This week in the Parish

**TODAY-** 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation/Mentor Meeting 11:45am

**Tuesday, September 22-** ODC Bible Study 9:00am

Quilting 1:00pm

**Wednesday, September 23-** 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 5:30pm

**Next Sunday, September 27-** Melo Worship 9:00am

Sunday School 9:30am

Adult Bible Study 9:30am

OSL Worship 10:45am

Youth and Family Earth Day 2:00pm

**Please note: Pastor Dave will be at a conference September 21-23 and on vacation September 25-27.**

**Prayer list**

**Those in need:** LaVerne Owens, Phyllis Stinar, Catie Blanchard, Joe Yeado, Jeanette Olson, Emilie Holland, Cassandra Blackbird, Joel Flaten, Marlene Owens, Rena Peterson. Sandy Hapka, Bryan Thygeson

**Those who mourn:** The Family of Nancy Mattson's Nephew

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign your name in the pew registration folder and pass it to the person sitting next to you. Please list everyone in your family who is worshipping with us today.*

There will be a Noon Salad Luncheon at Grace United Methodist Church on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11:30-1pm. Salads, garlic toast, ice cream and raspberries will be served.

Altru's Hospice M.E.N.D. will start a 6 week session on Thursday, September 24 from 7-9pm. For more information or to register, please contact Altru's Hospice Chaplain Pat Mersch at 701-780-5258.

WELCA Cluster Two fall gathering will be Saturday, September 26 at Zion Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls. Registration is from 8-9am with coffee and goodies. The program will begin at 9am. Kecia Stroot of Roseau, will speak and Inter-County Nursing will give a special presentation.

Oak Ridge Annual Fall Bazaar will be held Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9am-2pm. Lunch, bars, and coffee will be served all day. There will be quilts, baked goods, garden produce, crafts, and misc. items for purchase.

Angus Tabor Presbyterian Church Fall Dinner will be held Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am-1:00pm.

If you are feeling sad, anxious, or overwhelmed, take an anonymous mental health self-assessment. Given by a professional from the Center for Psychiatric Care. The Warren Living at Home Block Nurse Program is holding a FREE mental health screening on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. Call 745-4005 for more information or to sign up for a time slot..

Nazareth Lutheran Church of Holt will hold their annual Fall Dinner TODAY Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 12-2:30pm

Bloods is a valuable natural resource within each of us. By donating blood we can share our joy in life and God's love with others. Blood, like love, is for sharing. Please donate at the Warren Community Blood Drive on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Am. Legion. Please call Betty at 745-4454 for an appointment.

Altru Home Services is currently recruiting hospice volunteers to provide support to terminally ill patients and their family members during the end of life stage. Training will be held on September 25-26 from 9am-5pm at the North Valley Health Center conference room. To register or for more information contact Sue Fisk at 701-780-1450

St. Paul's Lutheran Church presents Pat Surface and the Boundary Water Boys Canoe Grass Band Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at St. Paul's in Crookston. Refreshments to follow, Free will offering, All are welcome!

5-10 lay leaders are needed from OSL and Melo to take part in a *Matters of the Heart* conversation on October 25<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm in Stephen. These conversations will be honest, strategic, helpful and energizing. They will focus on the mission of the congregation and synod, exploring how financial stewardship is integral to that mission. If interested in attending, please contact the office or Pastor Dave.