



***Welcome to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School***
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor

August 3, 2025



THE PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL
LUKE 12:13-21



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St. Paul Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School
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I find joy in
every day, not
because life is
always good,
but because
God is.



lcmmc

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



Pastor's Study on Hollywood and the Church continues with viewing part 1 of the Angels & Demons at 11:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall Conference Room.

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US

INTRODUCTION

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow
our own way.**
**You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life
you offer.**
**You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,**

**but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of + Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

Gathering Song

“All Who Are Thirsty”

Hymn # 981

From ASC Supplement

**¹ All who are thirsty,
come to the waters.
All who are hungry,
come here and eat.**

Hymn # 981

**All who are thirsty,
come to the water.
There's enough for all**

Hymn # 981

**Final All who are thirsty,
come to the waters.
All who are hungry,
come here and eat.**

Hymn # 981

**All who are thirsty,
come to the water.
There's enough for all**

Hymn # 981

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of
God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

*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 mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord
A-men.

THIS IS THE FEAST

***This is the feast of victory
for our God.***

Alleluia, alleluia

(sung twice)

***Worthy is Christ,
the Lamb who was slain
whose blood set us free
to be people of God***

***Power, riches, wisdom, and
strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory
are his***

***This is the feast of victory
for our God.***

Alleluia, alleluia

(sung twice)

***Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all
creation:***

***Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever.
Amen.***

***This is the feast of victory
for our God.***

Alleluia, alleluia

(sung twice)

***For the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign. Alleluia.***

***This is the feast of victory
for our God.***

Alleluia, alleluia

(sung twice)

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

**FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14;
2:18-23**

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a "vanity of vanities." Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one's work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in
Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to
search out by wisdom all that is done under
heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has
given to human beings to be busy with.

¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun;
and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under
the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who
come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they
will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all
for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the
sun. This also is vanity.

²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun,
²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun?

²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 49:1-12

My mouth shall speak of wisdom. (Ps. 49:3)

¹ Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
² **you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³ My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on
understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the
harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels
surrounds me,

⁶ **the wickedness of those who trust in
their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

⁷ One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;
⁸ **for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to
pay it,**

⁹ in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also;
like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who
come after them.**

¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever,
their dwelling places from generation to
generation,
though they had named lands after
themselves.

¹² **Even though honored, they cannot
live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.

⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal Life.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to
Luke 12:13-21

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

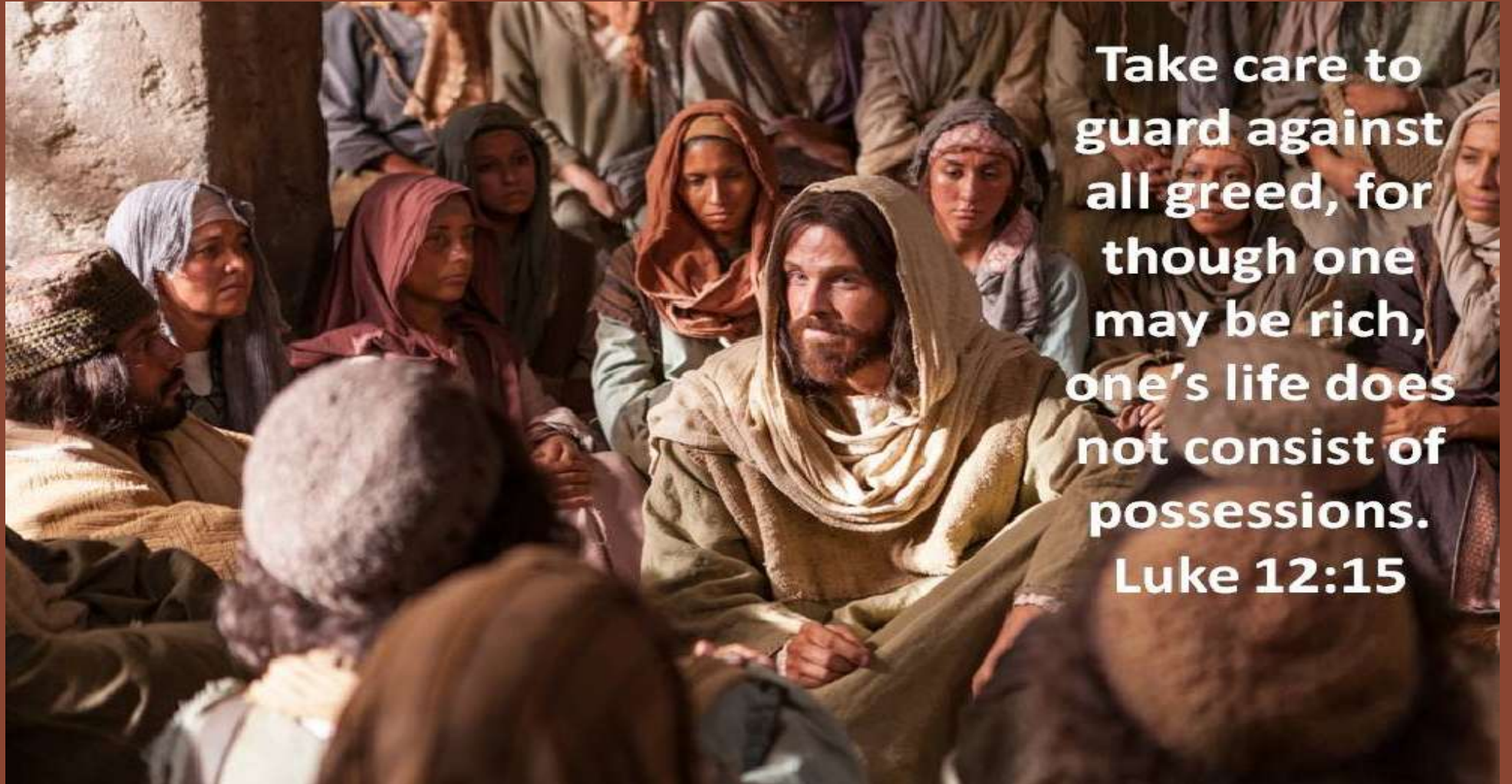
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley



**Take care to
guard against
all greed, for
though one
may be rich,
one's life does
not consist of
possessions.
Luke 12:15**

Hymn of the Day

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Hymn # 471

**¹ Let us break bread
together on our knees;
let us break bread together
on our knees.**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 471

[Refrain]

**When I fall on my knees, with my
face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

Hymn # 471

**² Let us drink wine together
on our knees;
let us drink wine together on
our knees.**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 471

[Refrain]

**When I fall on my knees, with my
face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

Hymn # 471

**Final Let us praise God
together on our knees;
let us praise God together on
our knees.**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 471

[Refrain]

**When I fall on my knees, with my
face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

Hymn # 471

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

CREED

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the
Father,
and he will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places.
Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters,
trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible
on this planet.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear, and we remember our friends and family members before you. Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for Guru and Ann in Nepal, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Family of Peace Lutheran Church in Ottawa Lake, Michigan. Almighty God, you sent your son with a mission to seek and to save the lost. Give us the courage and faith to join you in the Kingdom work that you are up to right in our own community. We thank you for our network of churches,

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ and our Texas District. By the power of your Holy Spirit, guide our District Council and give them wisdom as they promote our mission to multiply disciples and churches. Today we also give you thanks for St. Paul Lutheran Church in Phillipsburg, Texas and their interim pastor Donna Zipp. Bless their work for your Kingdom's sake. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you
And also with You

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks
and praise

It is indeed right, our duty and our
joy...

...we praise your name and join their
unending hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are
full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.**

COMMUNION

*Holy Communion is offered both in the center aisle
line and at the altar rail.*

Lamb of God Pg. 174

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.***



Holy Communion is offered both in the center aisle line and at the altar rail.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and
mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you
peace.

Amen.

Sending Song

“This Little Light of Mine”

Hymn # 677

**¹ This little light of mine,
I'm goin'a let it shine;
this little light of mine,
I'm goin'a let it shine;**

Hymn # 677

**this little light of mine,
I'm goin'a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it
shine.**

Hymn # 677

**2 Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm goina'a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go,
I'm goin'a let it shine;**

Hymn # 677

**ev'rywhere I go,
I'm goin'a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it
shine.**

Hymn # 677

**Final Jesus gave it to me,
I'm goin'a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me,
I'm goin'a let it shine;**

Hymn # 677

**Jesus gave it to me,
I'm goin'a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it
shine.**


Hymn # 677

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

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A photograph of a field of golden wheat, with several stalks in sharp focus in the foreground and a soft-focus background of more wheat and a blue sky with light clouds. The entire image is framed by a solid orange border.

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST