

19TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST



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

October 4, 2026

Parable of the Wicked Tenants

Matthew 21:33-44



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St. Paul Lutheran Church
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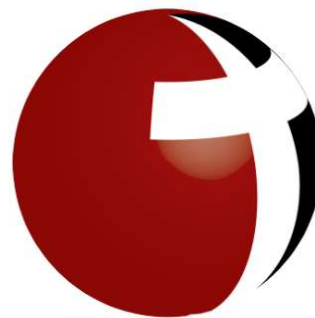
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor

RESTORE US, O GOD OF
HOSTS, AND CAUSE YOUR
FACE TO SHINE UPON US,
THAT WE MAY BE SAVED.

– PSALM 80:7

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



lcmc

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ



Altar flowers given in honor of
Raelynn & Sean Bullock Jr.
in celebration of their 5th birthday today
by the Bullock family

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through
faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody
your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our
relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking
justice.**

**Divisions disrupt your call to show
genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

**Restore our world and reconcile us to one
another.**

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

Gathering Song

“All Are Welcome”

Hymn # 641

**¹ Let us build a house
where love can dwell
and all can safely live,**

Hymn # 641

**a place where
saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.**

Hymn # 641

**Built of hopes and dreams
and visions,
rock of faith and vault of
grace;**

Hymn # 641

**here the love of Christ shall
end divisions:**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 641

[Refrain]

**All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

Hymn # 641

**3 Let us build a house where
love is found
in water, wine and wheat:**

Hymn # 641

**a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.**

Hymn # 641

**Here the love of God, through
Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;**

Hymn # 641

**as we share in Christ the feast
that frees us:**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 641

[Refrain]

**All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

Hymn # 641

**Final Let us build a house where
all are named,
their songs and visions heard**

Hymn # 641

**and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed
as words within the Word.**

Hymn # 641

**Built of tears and cries and
laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of
grace,**

Hymn # 641

**let this house proclaim
from floor to rafter.**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 641

[Refrain]

**All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

Hymn # 641

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.

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. ³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 80:7-15

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸ **You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.**

⁹ You cleared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.

**¹⁰ The mountains were covered by its
shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its
boughs.**

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river.

¹² **Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its
grapes?**

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ **Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;**

¹⁵ behold and tend this vine;
preserve what your right hand has planted.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me.

¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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
Matthew 21:33-46

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way.

³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits.

⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Sermon

Kenneth Kruse



www.eshallemaseroadinfo.org

Hymn of the Day

“Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom”

Hymn # 971
From ASC Supplement

**¹ Come and seek the ways of
Wisdom,
she who danced when earth was
new.**

Hymn # 971

**Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.**

Hymn # 971

**² Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the marketplace.**

**Hear the Word made flesh
among us,
full of glory, truth , and grace.**

Hymn # 971

**When the word takes root and
ripen,
peace and righteousness
embrace.**

Hymn # 971

**Final Sister Wisdom, come, assist
us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit guide and close
companion, bring to light our
sacred worth.**

Hymn # 971

**Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and Earth.**

Hymn # 971

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.**

Congregation may be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering and we remember our friends and family members before you.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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 our missionary Luke in the Philippines, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Grace Lutheran Church in Redway, California.

Today we also give you thanks for The River Church in Waco, Texas and their pastor, Kyle McGinnis. Bless their ministry both now and for generations to come.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Sacrament has already been instituted by Pastor Qualley.

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

“Oh, Sing to the Lord”

Hymn # 822

**¹ Oh, sing to the Lord,
oh, sing God a new song.
Oh, sing to the Lord,
oh, sing God a new song.**

Hymn # 822

**Oh, sing to the Lord,
oh, sing God a new song.
Oh, sing to our God,
oh sing to our God.**

Hymn # 822

**² For God is the Lord,
and God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord,
and God has done wonders.**

Hymn # 822

**For God is the Lord,
and God has done wonders.
Oh, sing to our God,
oh sing to our God.**

Hymn # 822

**³ So, dance for our God and
blow all the trumpets.
So, dance for our God and
blow all the trumpets.**

Hymn # 822

**So, dance for our God and
blow all the trumpets.
Oh, sing to our God,
oh sing to our God.**

Hymn # 822

**4 Oh, shout to our God,
who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, shout to our God,
who gave us the Spirit.**

Hymn # 822

**Oh, shout to our God,
who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, sing to our God,
oh sing to our God.**

Hymn # 822

Final For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!

Hymn # 822

**For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!
Oh, sing to our God,
oh sing to our God.**

Hymn # 822

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

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A landscape photograph featuring a large, rugged, reddish-brown rock formation in the foreground. A simple wooden cross stands on the peak of the rock. The background shows a vast, open landscape with more distant hills under a bright blue sky filled with soft, white clouds. The sun is visible on the right side, creating a warm, golden glow. The entire image is framed by a thick orange border.

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