

## TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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(A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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**Pentecost 19**

**October 16, 2022**

“Complacency” and “Contentment” may be near each other in Webster’s Dictionary, but Scripture sees them as worlds apart. One is abhorred by the Lord and the other He tells us is of great gain. The prophet Amos warns against attachment to worldly things that makes one spiritually complacent. St. Paul also points to the dangerous pitfalls of affluence. It is easy to permit materialism (wealth) to become one’s god.

Instead, God wants the believer to be content and make faithful use of His blessings to carry out His work of spreading the gospel message. Such God-pleasing use of material blessings helps one avoid the sinful “love” of money.

The gospel lesson, too, teaches the greater importance of the spiritual vs. the material. The rich man, who had as much access to the Scriptures as anyone else, was totally preoccupied with his luxurious lifestyle. Lazarus, on the other hand (his name means “he whom God helps”), was rich with God by faith...which blessed him everlastingly. Therefore, the Lord calls for our trusting acceptance of His word during this time of grace which makes us forever rich with God.

Order of Worship: ELH Page 60, THE DIVINE SERVICE “*Rite Two*” with communion.

Hymns: 29, 441, 374 (2), 474

### THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

*Old Testament: Amos 6:1-7.* The LORD’s prophet warns against our attachment to worldly things becoming a love affair that makes us spiritually complacent.

*Psalms of the Day: Psalm 146.* As we carry on the fight of faith our hope belongs in the LORD, not in the power of “*mortal men, who cannot save*” (*Supplement*).

*Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:6-16.* Every true believer fights the good fight of the faith against earthly saviors, such as wealth. Paul urges us to be content with what the Lord provides for our lives in this world and to place the greater value on the everlasting life Christ has purchased for us.

*Verse of the Day: Alleluia.* At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Alleluia (Philippians 2:10-11, EHV).

*Gospel: Luke 16:19-31.* The account of the rich man and poor Lazarus is a powerful reminder that putting our trust in anything but Jesus will result in losing everlasting salvation...in hell apart from Jesus.

*Sermon: 1 Timothy 6:6-16*

*Theme - “Fill Your Lives With Godly Contentment”*

Points to ponder from the day’s Scripture readings:

- Old Testament: About what had the children of Israel become uncaring and complacent?
- Old Testament: How does the LORD’s warning to them serve as a lesson for 21<sup>st</sup> century believers?
- Epistle: What does Paul say that the “*love*” of money has done to many? How?
- Epistle: What does it mean to have “*godly contentment*”?
- Gospel: Lazarus went to heaven; the rich man to hell. Why?
- Gospel: The rich man not only left behind his earthly riches but also his unbelieving brothers. What did Lazarus say they had that could keep them from going to hell?

### Announcements:

+ Please join us for Bible class on Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m.

+ Sunday School at 8:00 a.m.

+ Confirmation class: Monday – 3:30-5:00 p.m.

+ [timeofgrace.org](http://timeofgrace.org) – information on a variety of timely topics from Wisconsin Synod pastors.

**Holy Communion** - We celebrate the Lord’s Supper because Jesus instructed us to do so, and God offers us forgiveness of sins, life and salvation through it (Matthew 26:28). We believe the Bible’s teaching that receiving the Sacrament together is a way of expressing unity in our beliefs as one body (1 Corinthians 10:17). We therefore respectfully ask that guests who are not members of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod, or our sister synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, refrain from communing here until becoming familiar with our beliefs and express agreement. We in no way imply that you are not a Christian or are not “good enough” for us. God’s Word teaches us to regard communion as an outward expression of unity in all areas of faith. In communion we publicly confess that we agree in all that we teach and confess on the basis of the Bible (Matthew 28:20, 1 Corinthians 1:10, Romans 16:17, 1 Corinthians 10:17). We pray that you understand and will respect this practice of Close Communion. We encourage you to seek more information about the confession that unites us and would love to meet with you if you have questions regarding Close Communion.

**Amos 6:1-7** – Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you distinguished people of the leading nation, to whom the house of Israel comes. Travel to Kalneh and look. Go from there to Hamath Rabbah, and go down to Gath of the Philistines. Are you better than those kingdoms? Are their territories greater than your territory? You who are trying to put off the evil day, you bring near the session for violence! Those who lie on ivory beds, sprawling upon their couches, eating lambs from the flock and calves straight from the stall, improvising tunes on the lyre, composing music for themselves on musical instruments like David, drinking large bowls of wine—they slather themselves with the most expensive perfumed oils, but they do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.

That is why they will go into exile as the first of the exiles. Those who sprawl out at their feasts for the dead will depart. (EHV™)

**1 Timothy 6:6-16** – But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly cannot take anything out. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be satisfied. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge them into complete destruction and utter ruin. For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evils. By striving for money, some have wandered away from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains. But you, O man of God, flee from these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith. Take hold of eternal life, to which you were called and about which you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who made a good confession as a witness before Pontius Pilate, that you keep this command without spot and without fault, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will make known at the proper time—the blessed and only ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or is able to see. To him be honor and power forever! Amen. (EHV™)

**Luke 16:19-31** - “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen, living in luxury every day. A beggar named Lazarus had been laid at his gate. Lazarus was covered with sores and longed to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Besides this, the dogs also came and licked his sores. Eventually the beggar died, and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. In hell, where he was in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus at his side. He called out and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me! Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in misery in this flame.’” But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus received bad things. But now he is comforted here, and you are in misery. Besides all this, a great chasm has been set in place between us and you, so that those who want to cross from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’ “He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, send him to my father’s home, because I have five brothers—to warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’ “Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets. Let them listen to them.’ ““No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ “Abraham replied to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’” (EHV™)