



## **Stewardship Series**

*Week One: Open Hearts*

***Week Two: Open Minds***

*Week Three: Open Hands*

*September 14-16, 2019*

*Emanuel Lutheran Church*

*New London, Wisconsin*

# **Welcome to Worship!**

*“Let’s go to the house of the Lord!”* (Psalm 122:1) We rejoice that you’re here today. Each time we gather, we hear of God’s grace and respond with prayers and songs of praise.

## ***Visitors:***

Thank you for worshipping with us today! Take a moment to sign a **Friendship Register** located at the end of each pew. Your info helps us get to know you and allows us to stay in touch with you. Restrooms are located at the east end of the entryway, past the Coffee Nook.

## ***Parents with Young Children:***

Helping little ones learn to praise God is a messy project! Feel free to choose a place where kids can engage with the sights and sounds of worship. Make use of our ‘busy bags’ from the rack in the entryway. A closed-circuit TV is also located in the parent room to watch and listen to the service. An usher can assist you in locating this room, also called the “Gathering Place”.

## ***Limited Mobility?***

For your convenience, there are two areas set aside to accommodate those with wheelchairs, walkers, or other special space needs. Ushers are available to assist you.

## ***Hard of Hearing?***

A hearing loop system is in place. Adjust your hearing aids to “T” coil. For the best reception, sit on the pulpit side of church, excluding the back four rows. Special receiver packs with earbuds are also available if needed.

## ***LARGE PRINT:***

**A large print copy of the worship service, including hymns, psalms and service wording, is available in the back of church on the main floor. You may also ask an usher for a copy.**

# **Worship Notes**

## ***Today's Theme -- First Fruits: Open Minds***

As Americans, we might be shy when it comes to talking about our wealth. But the Lord isn't shy: the topic comes up in his Word more than 2,000 times! Often, it is accompanied by the warning that we find ourselves with a choice of two paths: the world's way of wealth, or the Lord's way. Lord, this week, open our minds to see the magnitude of your blessings!

## ***About Today's Service:***

Many of the elements in today's service have been selected to bring us into the presence of our Master, Jesus, and marvel at the wealth that he presents to us. First, he presents us with a feast of his Word, which we hear prayed, proclaimed, and preached. During the sermon, we have the chance to study the Word in depth. Then, God presents us with the feast of his body and blood in Holy Communion, which encourages us in our Christian lives, including stewardship.

## ***Prayer Before Worship:***

Dear Father, you have given me so much more than I can ever return to you. Give me the wisdom I need to respond to your love thoughtfully. Strengthen my will to dedicate all that I am and have to your glory thankfully. I ask this in the name of the One who lived and died for me, Jesus Christ, your Son, my Lord. Amen.

## ***Holy Communion:***

The Lord's Supper serves as one of the high points of today's service. In this special meal, we celebrate two special connections: the communion we have with a forgiving God (1 Cor 10:16) and the communion we share with our fellow members (1 Cor 10:17). We ask that only members of our congregation and synod partake of the Sacrament (close communion).

# Order of Service

## Opening Hymn

We Give Thee But Thine Own | Hymn #485

### Stand

### Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen. (Spoken)**

### Dialogue

M: “Everything under heaven belongs to me,” declared the LORD.

**C: Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father.**

M: You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.”

**C: But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.**

M: The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**C: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.**

*Job 41:11; James 1:17; Psalm 24:1;  
Deuteronomy 8:17,18; 1 Chronicles 16:34*

### Confession of Sins

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, we humbly come before you today knowing that we have failed to speak lovingly, think purely, or act rightly. We have sinned against you and against others...

...in wasting the precious time you give us.

**C: ...in our slowness and hesitancy to spread your Gospel.**

M: ...in the faithful care of our relationships.

**C: ...in our restless and relentless preoccupation with worldly wealth.**

M: ...in caring for the bodies and minds you have given us.

**C: ...in our refusal to make you our first priority.**

*Silence for personal reflection*

M: Hear our confession, for we have sinned and are in need of your mercy and forgiveness.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

Al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n and earth With lav - ish  
We, Lord, would lay, at your re-quest, The cost-liest

wealth be - fore you bow; Those trea - sures owe to  
of - f'ings on your shrine, And when we give and

you their birth, So rich - ly fur - nished for us now.  
give our best, We but re - turn your gifts di - vine.

# The Word

## Prayer of the Day

**M:** O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for your loving care; and grant that we, remembering the richness of your grace, may be faithful stewards of all your good gifts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** Amen.

## Be Seated

### Lesson

**1 Corinthians 16: 1-4**

*Scripture calls for offerings that are “in keeping with your income,” that is, proportionate. These offerings are given so that God’s people might be a blessing to others, meeting physical and eternal needs.*

## Stand

### Gospel

**Matthew 25:14-30**

*Through a parable Jesus teaches us that we are to manage all that the Master gives to us for his glory.*

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord!

**C:** Praise be to you, O Christ!

### Confession of Faith

**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 fully 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 shall 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, and giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the body and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Be Seated

### Hymn of the Day

### Jesus, Priceless Treasure | Hymn

#349:1,4,5

Stanza 4 will be sung by solo voices.

1 Jesus, priceless treasure,  
Fount of purest pleasure,  
Truest friend to me.  
Ah, how long in anguish  
Shall my spirit languish,  
Yearning, Lord, for thee?  
Thou art mine, O Lamb divine!  
I will suffer naught to hide thee,  
Naught I ask beside thee.

4 Hence, all earthly treasure!  
Jesus is my pleasure;  
Jesus is my choice.  
Hence, all empty glory!  
Naught to me thy story  
Told with tempting voice.  
Pain or loss Or shame or cross  
Shall not from my Savior move me  
Since he deigns to love me.

5 Hence, all fear and sadness!  
For the Lord of gladness,  
Jesus, enters in.  
Those who love the Father,  
Though the storms may gather,  
Still have peace within.  
Yea, whate'er I here must bear,  
Thou art still my purest pleasure,

Jesus, priceless treasure!

## **Sermon**

**What Really Matters Is Knowing the Master**

**See [handout for sermon outline.](#)**

## **Offering**

**Stand**

## **Prayer of the Church**

M: Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

**C: Thank you for the mountains and prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.**

M: Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work and the income it provides.

**C: Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.**

M: We know that it is from your hand that we have received all we have and are and will be. We understand that you call us to be the stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us.

**C: Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Help us, Lord, to be wise and faithful stewards of the opportunities that you give us to use our gifts.

**C: Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT

M: In the sacrament of our Lord's Supper, our gracious God touches your life very uniquely and personally with his love as he places into your hands the true body and true blood of our Lord Jesus, given and shed for you, for the assurance that everything God says about your identity in Christ is true; that you are a forgiven, redeemed, and perfectly loved child of our Father in heaven.

## Words of Institution

### Distribution

### Choir Anthem

*My worth is not in what I own  
Not in the strength of flesh and bone  
But in the costly wounds of love  
At the cross*

*My worth is not in skill or name  
In win or lose, in pride or shame  
But in the blood of Christ that flowed  
At the cross*

*Refrain: I rejoice in my Redeemer  
Greatest Treasure,  
Wellspring of my soul  
I will trust in Him, no other.*

### My Worth Is Not in What I Own

*Keith and Kristyn Getty*

*My soul is satisfied in Him alone.  
As summer flowers we fade and die  
Fame, youth and beauty hurry by  
But life eternal calls to us  
At the cross*

*I will not boast in wealth or might  
Or human wisdom's fleeting light  
But I will boast in knowing Christ  
At the cross*

*Two wonders here that I confess  
My worth and my unworthiness  
My value fixed - my ransom paid*

*At the cross.*

## **Hymn**

**Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness | Hymn #311**

## **Blessing**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**C:** (spoken) Amen.

## **Be Seated**

## **Closing Hymn**

**Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us | Hymn**

**#486:1-2**

**1 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.**

**2 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.**

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

<b>Presiding Minister:</b>	<b>Bill Heiges</b>
<b>Preacher:</b>	<b>Marcus Schulz</b>
<b>Accompanist:</b>	<b>Kate Tiefel</b>
<b>Soundbooth:</b>	<b>Jen Schmidt (Sat &amp; Sun)</b> <b>Trinity Mulder (Mon)</b>
<b>Instrumentalist:</b>	<b>Josh Buschkopf</b>
<b>Soloists:</b>	<b>Chris Alexander, Alex Berg, Angela Schabo</b>

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## **On-Call Emergency Pastor**

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