

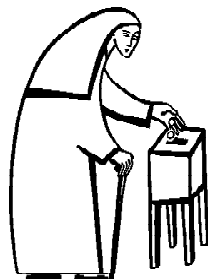
West St. Olaf Lutheran Church

70640 260th Avenue - Hayfield, MN

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 11, 2018

Pastor Paul Thompson Organist: Pat Nelson



INTRODUCTION

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JAM SINGS

GATHERING SONG *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies: America the Beautiful* (vs. 1,3,4)

*1. Oh, beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.*

*3. Oh, beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness,
And ev'ry gain divine.*

*4. Oh, beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.*

GREETING (WOV p. 46)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:13)

And also with you.

You are the treasured people of the LORD,
a people holy to the LORD our God.

Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

**Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,
when you lie down and when you rise.**

One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

SCRIPTURE SONG (WOV p. 47)

PRAYER OF THE DAY (WOV p. 16)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to

share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

A reading from Ruth.

Naomi has lost her husband and sons, but is blessed by the love and support of her widowed daughter-in-law Ruth. Naomi is resourceful in arranging the marriage of Ruth to her wealthy kinsman, Boaz; and Ruth, the Moabite, becomes the great-grandmother to that greatest of Israelite kings, David.

¹Naomi said to [Ruth,] “My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. ²Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. ³Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. ⁴When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.” ⁵She said to her, “All that you tell me I will do.”

^{4:13}So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son. ¹⁴Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! ¹⁵He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” ¹⁶Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. ¹⁷The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 127

¹Unless the LORD builds the house, their labor is in vain who build it. Unless the LORD watches over the city, in vain the sentinel keeps vigil.

²It is in vain to rise so early and go to bed so late; vain, too, to

eat the bread of toil; for you, LORD, give sleep to your beloved.

³Children are a heritage from the LORD,
and the fruit of the womb is a gift.

**⁴Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one’s youth.**

⁵Happy is the one whose quiver is full of them! Such a one will not be put to shame when contending with enemies in the gate.

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 9:24-28

A reading from Hebrews.

The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day.

²⁴Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, ²⁸so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (WOV p. 48)

GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 12th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.

³⁸As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the

marketplaces, ³⁹and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

⁴¹He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF DAY *Beautiful Savior (LBW 518)*

CREED AND CONFESSION (WOV p. 49)

PEACE (WOV p. 50)

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING (WOV p. 50)

OFFERTORY (WOV p. 50)

*Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours is the promise, the blessing, the birth.
Ours the rejoicing for Word given frame;
ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;
yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.*

PRAYER AFTER OFFERING

Let us pray.

God, our Creator,

you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture

and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYERS

Each petition of the prayer will end: Lord in your mercy,
Please respond with: **Hear our prayer.** [At ending: **Amen.**]

LORD'S PRAYER (WOV p. 25)

BLESSING (WOV p. 53)

SENDING SONG *Battle Hymn of the Republic (LBW 332)*

DISMISSAL (WOV p. 53)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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BOTH WELCOME TO THOSE VISITING



If you're visiting, we're glad you chose to worship with us. Please sign our guestbook in the narthex. Times for services rotate monthly between East & West churches.

BOTH NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



WEST: has early service at 9:00 am

BOTH: 10:00 am West JAM / East SS & TLC

EAST: has late service at 11:00 am

BOTH THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

WELCA Chairperson(s): Gloria Brown & Nancy Peterson (Nov.)

Altar Guild: Mary Brandt & Sandy Iverson (Nov.)

Acolytes: Ushers cover until schedule developed

Reader: Dee Rabehl (Nov. 11)

Ushers: Don Alrick, Greg Brandt,
Neil Rabehl, and Craig Steinfadt (Nov.)

Deacon: Nancy Gulbransen (Nov.)

Stewardship: Darlene Hanson (Nov.)

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY is WEST ST. OLAF HERITAGE DAY!!



Today West St. Olaf WELCA and JAM will be celebrating HERITAGE DAY. JAM students and their parents are invited to visit the baking and craft stations to help prepare and share some special treats for the 10:00 am coffee hour. The free-will offering will be donated to the St. Olaf Heritage Association. **We hope you can join us for coffee today!**

"Christmas Alive" Production Looking for Participants

Casting will be at Kasson United Methodist Church TODAY, 11/11, starting at 1:00 pm. All who want to participate will receive a part (some parts are speaking and others are not) - no acting experience needed. *We need Angels, shepherds, Mary's, Joseph's, Wisemen, Guards, Herod, Carolers and Narrators.* Please consider being part of this production. See info on bulletin board.

West WELCA Thank Offering Program & Meeting ~ This Wed.

WELCA will meet this Wed., Nov. 14 at 1:00 pm. There will be a Thank Offering program with a special offering. Please consider giving a generous offering for the many blessings we have been given. Hostess will be Aloma Eastlee.

Invitation to West St. Olaf Members ~ Next Sunday



Gloria Pew retired on November 1st. We will honor her with a luncheon next Sun., **November 18th** at the chapel at 10:30 am. Please join us!

Christmas Mission at West St. Olaf



We are adopting two families through Crisis Nursery, Families First of MN for our Christmas mission this year. **There is a tree in the entry of the church with tags listing items the children and mothers have on their wish lists. We hope our congregation will help make Christmas a little brighter for these two families by taking a tag and purchasing the item.** These gifts should be wrapped and the tag put on the outside of the package. If you are unable or would rather not shop, there is a container under the tree to put a

monetary donation which will help purchase some of the larger items on the lists. Please place your gift under the tree in the chapel by December 9. Thank you!

West Women: It's Time to Think about Advent by Candlelight



Advent by Candlelight will be Sun., December 2. Although it seems early, time passes so quickly that we need to be thinking about this upcoming event. Anyone who wishes to host a table or serve on the food committee, please contact Sharon at 365-8669. *There'll be a signup sheet in the church at a later date for those wishing to attend.* Please consider being a part of this event. We'd love to have you join us for this special evening!

Beautifying Our Sanctuary for Advent & Christmas



Everyone loves to see our church beautified with many Poinsettias during Advent and Christmas! *If you'd like to donate a plant, we will recognize it in the Christmas Eve bulletin.* **Please inform one of the following people by December 12 (also specify if given in-memory-of a lost loved one OR in-honor-of someone special in your life right now):**
WEST: Sandy Iverson (365-8862) or Cindy Senjem (365-8925)
OR Gina at the church office (365-8222). You may also email Gina at east.west@kmtel.com and certainty@kmtel.com

West St. Olaf Collection for Food Shelf



The month of November will be Dodge County Food Shelf month at West St. Olaf. Please donate nonperishable food items or monetary donations to help those in need in our community. Collection tubs will be in the church and chapel. A donation jar for monetary gifts will be in the church. Please write checks to the Dodge County Food Shelf. Thank you for your support.

CORRECTION to Attendance & Contributions

Last week's figures for 10/28 and 10/21 actually were EAST figures - so please disregard! Here is correct WEST info:
(10/28) Attendance: 55. Current \$1010.80 and Benevolence \$10.
(11/04) Attendance: 42. Current \$4,953.27 and Benevolence \$10.

Next Week's Readings: Nov. 18: 1 Samuel 1:4-20, Psalm: 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25, and Mark 13:1-8

HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

11/11	9:00 am	West worship and West Heritage Sunday (JAM makes Norwegian goodies for coffee hour After church – donations go to St. Olaf Heritage Assoc.)
	10:00 am	BOTH: JAM/East Sunday school & TLC
	11:00 am	East worship
Mon.	9:00-noon	Pastor Paul at office
	7:00 pm	<u>West church council meeting</u>
Tue.	9:00 am	West quilting/sack lunch
Wed.	9:00 am	West quilting/sack lunch
	1:00 pm	West <u>WELCA meeting with Thank Offering program</u> – hosted by Aloma Eastlee
	7:00 pm	BOTH Confirmation at West
Fri.	-----	Pastor Paul's day off-work
Sat.	9:30 am	<u>BOTH: First Communion Class at West</u>
	Noon	Deadline to submit newsletter reports/info
11/18	9:00 am	West worship
	10:00 am	BOTH: JAM/East Sunday school & TLC
	10:30 am	West members have luncheon to honor Gloria Pew's retirement – join us!
	11:00 am	East worship & communion

COMING UP AT EAST & WEST

NOVEMBER: West-9am, Both SS-10am, East-11:00am

Nov. 21 (Wed.): NO class for confirmation

Nov. 22 (Thur.): OFFICE CLOSED – Happy Thanksgiving

Nov. 23 (Fri.): West decorates chapel for the holidays

Nov. 25 (Sun.):

- West has communion
- During coffee hour - West WELCA Board meeting to distribute funds

Nov. 28 (Wed.): 7:00 pm BOTH - Confirmation class at West

Nov. 29 (Thur.): NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEER DAY at office (9:10-
print, 9:30-fold, 10:00 collate)

DECEMBER: East-9am, Both SS-10am, West-11:00am

Dec. 2 (Sun.):

- No coffee hour at West (*chapel will be setup for Advent event*)
- First Holy Communion date at both churches
- ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT at West in evening

LIST OF LOCAL & SYNOD EVENTS

****See bulletin boards for any posters about these events****

"Christmas Alive": A Spiritual Walk through the Birth of Christ

- Nov. 30 (Fri.) 6-8:00 pm at Jim Checkel farm
- Dec. 1 (Sat.) 6-8:30 pm at Jim Checkel farm

Dec. 2 (Sun.): Norwegian Lutefisk & Meatball Buffet at Christ Lutheran Church of Preston, MN.

TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

West Prayers: Ardean Bjornson, Christine Krause (*sister of Susie Thoe*), Boyd Pew, Vicki Lawrence, Bill Tietje (*brother of Carma Bjornson*), Joanne Larsen (*mother of Dan Larsen*), Joann Tiegen, Gene Hyland, Robert Beaver, Danny Linbo, Veronica Riniker (*mother of Donna Larsen*), Philip Senjem, and Matt Miller (*nephew of Carma Bjornson and Julie Boyum*).

East Prayers: Emily Nagel (*girlfriend of Shultz's grandson*), Braxton Raymond (*nephew of Shannon Meier*), Brenda Exe, Maryann Schultz, Les Severson (*son of Carol Severson*), Vicki Lawrence, Viola Olson, Steve Jensen, Julie Andreason, Kelly Anderson (*friend of Peterson's daughter*), Heidi Guenius (*cousin of Becky Brakke*), Sharon Boelter, Dale Boelter, Bill Fritts, David Distad, Patricia Lee, Sally Iverson, Roland Rivera, Carol Severson, and John Heydt (*Pat Nelson's brother*).

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR Paul Thompson: *(Please call before driving to the office.)*

Cell Phone: 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday and Thursday

9:00 am–Noon... OR by appointment *(Day off-work is Friday)*

SECRETARY Gina Moser: *(Please call before driving to the office.)*

Office Phone: 507-365-8222 **Cell Phone:** 507-951-4964

Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com AND certainty@kmtel.com

Please send all emails for Gina to both of her email addresses.

Office Hours: Tues. & Thursdays 10:00 am-Noon

OUR WEBSITES: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

OUR JANITORIAL SERVICE: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

President: Debbie Schuck - Primary: 251-7051, House: 477-2655

Vice President: Will Laxen - Cell: 208-5399

Head Deacon: Sheryl Wohlers - House: 365-8816, Cell: 259-5974