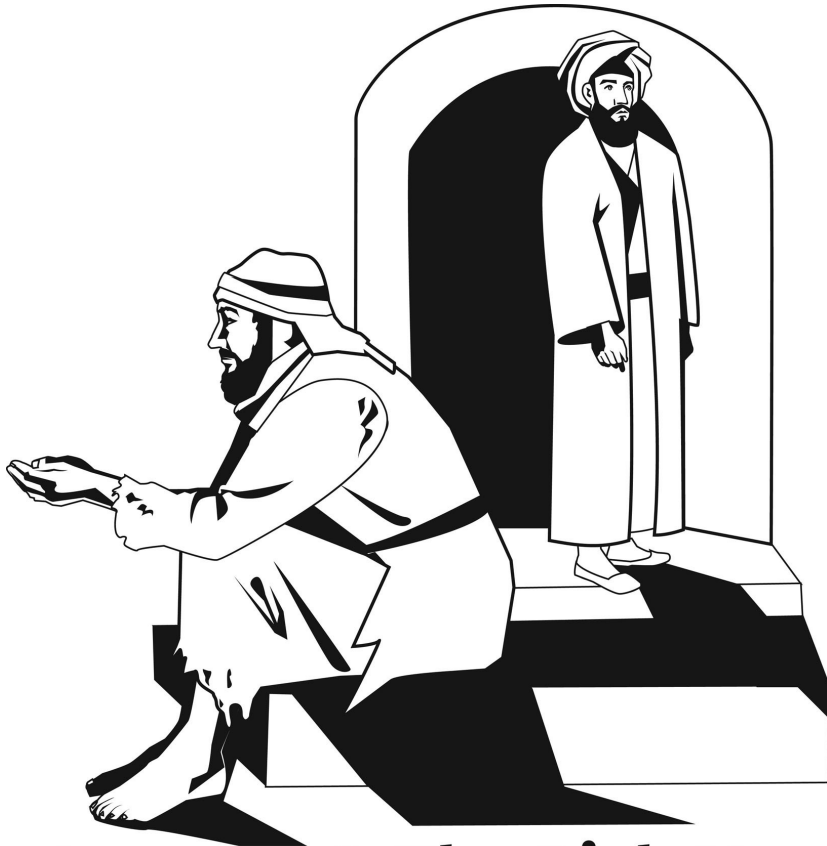


16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 28, 2025



Lazarus & The Rich Man

First Lutheran Church

116 Inner Drive

Le Sueur, MN 56058

507-665-2615

Rev. Samuel Mailleue

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www.firstlutheranlesueur.org

UNITED by Christ, God call us to LOVE one another
As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK—*Stewardship*

Karl Haemig

OPENING REFLECTION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.**

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

***Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* ELW #719**
(Vs. 1, 4 & 6)
Public Domain

GREETING

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

ELW page 138

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

***Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* ELW #873**
(Vs. 6)
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray
O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST CHOIR

***Take My Life, Lead Me Lord*, arr. Rawls/Wilson**
One License 533398 & CCLI #59122

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING—Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

- ^{1a} Woe to those who are at ease in Zion
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.
- ⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall,
- ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David improvise on instruments of music,
- ⁶ who drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
- ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM—Psalm 146

- ¹ Hallelujah!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- ² **I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**
- ³ Put not your trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there is no help.
- ⁴ **When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**
- ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**
⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.
⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are
bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**
⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING—1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in

good works, generous, and ready to share,¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION—*Alleluia*

ELW page #142

The Holy Gospel according to the sixteenth chapter of Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL— Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

[Jesus said:]¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony.²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Rev. Sam Mailleue

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Church of Christ, in Every Age ELW #729

(Vs. 1, 3 & 5)

CCLI #220682 & Public Domain

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**

THE PRAYERS

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for people in any need especially those on our prayer list and in our hearts. Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

Gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY HYMN

Take My Life, That I May Be ELW #685

(Vs. 6)

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE 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.
Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

The God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

God Be with You Till We Meet Again ELW #536

(Vs. 1 & 3)

Public Domain

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

*Whether you are looking for a place of worship
or are just passing through, we hope our service has blessed you
on your journey as your presence has been a blessing to us.*

| Financial Update | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Week of | Amount Received | Amount Needed |
| 9-21-25 | \$5,105 | \$4,542 |
| YTD | \$165,143 | \$177,122 |

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Ministry Focus: God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday, Sept. 7th – Serving Together Locally and Globally

Each year, congregations across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) join together for *God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday*—a day dedicated to serving our neighbors in love. This year, we again are excited to take part by combining local service projects with a global outreach effort through Global Health Ministry.

Congregational Hayride & Campfire Social - Save the Date

You're invited to an evening of fellowship and fall fun at **Craig and Megan Schwarz's farm 31506-356th Street, Le Sueur on Saturday, October 11th, at 6:30 pm**. We'll gather for a cozy autumn hayride, a crackling campfire, and time to relax together in the beauty of God's creation.



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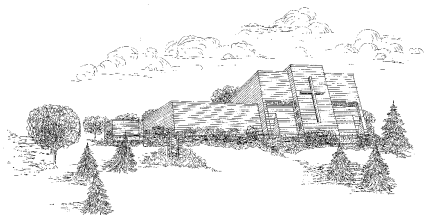
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Shift Worship—Membership
Expires 12/25/2025

Sharefaith—Membership
Expires 6/2026

Church ArtPro—Account #74057560
Expires 12/15/2025



Weekly Schedule

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Sunday, September 28 | 9:00a 10:15a | Worship First Choir Rehearsal |
| Wednesday, October 1 | 9:00a 6:00p 6:30-7:30p 6:30-8p 6:30-8p | Staff Meeting Meal @ First RISE RISE UP FLY |
| Sunday, October 5 | 9:00a | Worship with Holy Communion Blessing of the Animals Faith Statement—Sophie Tews |

Worship Assistants

September 28, 2025

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Organist/Pianist: | Virginia Miller |
| First Choir Director: | Jennifer Weick |
| Acolytes: | Everett Greisen |
| Reader: | Alison Montag |
| Usher: | LeRoy May |
| Greeters: | Montag Family |
| Council Member: | Callie Greisen |
| Fellowship: | Montag & Greisen |
| Projection: | Tech Team |
| Audio: | Tech Team |
| Videographer: | Becky Pollack |
| Offering Counters: | Joan May Bob Patrias |
| Altar Guild: | Marie Walker |

October 5, 2025

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Organist/Pianist: | Virginia Miller |
| First Choir Director: | Jennifer Weick |
| Acolytes: | Ezra Carlen |
| Reader: | Shawn Liebhard |
| Usher: | Chuck Frauendienst |
| Greeters: | |
| Communion Asst: | John Miller Bonnie Keech |
| Council Member: | Miles Heille |
| Fellowship: | Wayne & Margaret |
| Projection: | Tech Team |
| Audio: | Tech Team |
| Videographer: | Becky Pollack |
| Offering Counters: | Joan May Bob Bartle |
| Altar Guild: | Marie Walker |