



Teach us
to number
our days.

Psalm 90:12

November 15, 2020
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship

First Lutheran Church
709 5th Ave. – P.O. Box 218
Washburn, North Dakota 58577
www.flcwashburn.com

PRELUDE AND BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

SPECIAL MUSIC Randy & Gwen Hall
Brent & Theresa Petersen
"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: 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.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Read in Unison)

Gracious God, in baptism you pour out upon us gifts of immeasurable, eternal worth — faith, salvation, and the calling to serve as your witnesses in the world. Help us to deepen our baptismal life, walking wet daily, and responding with abandon to your gracious gifts; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READINGZephaniah 1:7-16

(There is a recurring scene in movies that drives me crazy. It annoys me so much that I usually end up talking to the screen. The scene I refer to is when something is about to happen that requires silence, and one of the actors starts talking. A typical example is when it is critical that everyone remain silent so that

their location is not announced to an enemy, but someone screams in panic. Such is the scene in our First Reading.

Be silent. Why? God is about to act. Who would chatter through the actions of the Almighty? Evidently, a lot of people. There will be shouts in the market, wailing in some corner of the city, crashing about in the hills, and mighty men will be crying. The prevalent sound on the great day of the Lord will be a bitter noise, accompanied by the blast of trumpets and battle cries. For the Lord is about to act in judgment.)

⁷Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice — "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰On that day," declares the Lord, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." ¹⁴The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

PSALM.....Psalm 90:1-12
(The complacent (Zeph 1:12) will have nowhere to hide. Their destruction will be complete; their goods and houses will be laid waste. But those who trust in the Lord will have no need of homes, for the Lord has always been their refuge. The one who numbers his days knows a reckoning is coming, and wisely considers the power and wrath of God.)

- ¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place
throughout all generations.
- ² **Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**
- ³ You turn people back to dust,
saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."
- ⁴ **A thousand years in your sight
are like a day that has just gone by,
or like a watch in the night.**
- ⁵ Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—
they are like the new grass of the morning:
- ⁶ **In the morning it springs up new,
but by evening it is dry and withered.**
- ⁷ We are consumed by your anger
and terrified by your indignation.
- ⁸ **You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.**
- ⁹ All our days pass away under your wrath;
we finish our years with a moan.
- ¹⁰ **Our days may come to seventy years,
or eighty, if our strength endures;
yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow,
for they quickly pass, and we fly away.**
- ¹¹ If only we knew the power of your anger!
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.
- ¹² **Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
*(We recently bought a new house. When the previous owners
were moving out, they finished moving some odds and ends in
their car and van. The man and wife each took loads from the
house to their vehicles and came back inside for another load.
When they came back outside with the next load, they
discovered that the few minutes it takes to walk from the house
to the driveway was enough time for thieves to steal golf clubs,
stereo, and other pricey items.*

*You never know when a thief will come. Such will be the day of
the Lord. You will not know until it is upon you. So walk in the*

light of love, be sober in your faith, and alert with the hope of salvation. Your hope in the Lord Jesus Christ is certain, so encourage one another as you see the Day drawing near (Heb 10:25).)

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

ALLELUIA

C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 25:14-30
(Depending upon whether these were silver or gold talents, the master entrusted the servant with the one talent somewhere between 20 and 600 years worth of income. No wonder he demanded to know why such a huge amount of money had not been invested.

We may not think we have been given as much to invest as others have received. But each of us has been given enough, for we have been given what God assigned (1Cor 7:17). He is

just in his distribution and we must be faithful is what he has imparted to us.)

¹⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SPECIAL MUSIC Randy & Gwen Hall
Brent & Theresa Petersen
“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

SERMON Rick Richard

SPECIAL MUSIC Randy & Gwen Hall
Brent & Theresa Petersen
“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX DEDICATION

P: Loving God, we pray for your blessing of these shoeboxes for the mission of Samaritan’s Purse “Operation Christmas Child.”

C: Loving God, we ask for your blessing.

P: We pray for the hurting children and their families whose lives will be impacted by these boxes and the contents we’ve packed with love.

C: Loving God, we pray for your loving touch.

P: We pray especially that through these gifts the hearts of the children and their families will be opened to your love and the message of your grace through Jesus Christ.

C: Loving God, we pray for your grace to be made known.

P: We pray also for the children and their families who are suffering in the desperate circumstances of poverty, sickness or war, that you will meet their physical needs.

C: Providing God, we pray for your bounty.

P: We pray also that these shoeboxes will be useful tools to open doors for the proclamation of the gospel.

C: Providing God, we pray for open doors.

P: We pray, also for all those who are participating in some way to the mission of Operation Christmas, and for the process of collecting, processing, transporting and delivering of the boxes to their rightful destination.

C: Providing God, we pray that you would smooth the way for these shoeboxes to be delivered to the right people who need to know about your love. To this end, in faith, we ask for your blessing. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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, for ever and ever. Amen

BENEDICTION

**HYMN On Next Two Pages
“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

POSTLUDE

Today’s Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

- PASTOR..... Pastor Chuck Mann
- WORSHIP LEADER Rick Richard
- ACOLYTE Ashlyn Schmitz & Maddie Jaeger
- READER.....Drew Petersen
- ORGANIST.....LeAnn Richard
- USHERS/GREETERS Lynn & Donna Sommer
- ALTAR GUILD Carla Bickert & Sonja Bergstedt
- SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORSDick & Carla Bickert

771

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
 2 Sum-mer and win - ter and spring-time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas - sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy
hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960
 Music: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957
 © 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co.

FAITHFULNESS
 11 10 11 10 and refrain

CCLI #2465135

Our Mission

“Working hand in hand to know Christ and make Christ known through Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism, Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service.”

Welcome to all who have come to worship.

Psalm 90 begins: “Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.” A beloved hymn echoes: “O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come.” Welcome, as we worship God, our eternal home and shelter.

Visitors

We welcome all visitors to First Lutheran today.

Nursery

The nursery, located beside the narthex, is available for use for any parent feeling the need to use it during worship services with their child.

Thank you for your giving

Sunday, November 8th Attendance – 83

Facebook Online Viewing - 132

General Fund & Plate Giving - \$3,235.00

Thank You

We want to thank Rick Richard for filling in today while Pastor Chuck is on his last day of quarantine!

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers today are from Arlene Schwarz in honor of Elmer Schwarz's 80th birthday which was yesterday, November 14th.

Prayer Requests

Maria – Niece to Peggy Wollmuth, Ruby from Pine Ridge, Claire Boucher – Friend's of Aaron & Lexie Solomonson newborn, Weldon & Eunice Wagner – Brother & Sister-in-law to Arden Wagner, Jamie Baumann, Abe Nichols – Cousin to Steph Mann, James Tolbert, Brad Taylor – Friend of Pastor Chuck, Beryl Lonski – Brother-in-law to Mike & Sharon Nelson, Taylor Gardner, Virgil Wisdom, Harold Holtz, Elaine Renfrow – Mother to Lynette Sondrol, Sandi Femling – Cousin to Melanie Beckman, Laren Holznagel, Harlow Tatum – Daughter to Brea (Gutknecht) Tatum, Melisa Chrest, Ruth Lund – Mother to Doddie Kuntz, Derek Laning, Jacklyne Carlson, Amber Selken – Sister to Wendy Miller, John Krebsbach – Brother to Peggy Wollmuth, Arlo Omoth – Brother to Jeneen Loe, Shirley Nelson, Bob Miller, Rodney Jaeger

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Thank you to everyone that filled a Shoebox or more this year. They will be dedicated during the worship service this morning and then taken to Bismarck this week. From there shipped to North Carolina and then off to the children throughout the world.

Deborah Bible Study

Deborah Bible Study will meet this Thursday, November 19th, at 9:30 am at the church. Cathy Sheldon and Sylvia Thompson host. Please study chapters 9 & 10 of the Bible Study. If you have questions, please talk to Barbara Brewster.

Newsletter Deadline

Please have all articles for the December newsletter to the church office by noon on Friday, November 20th. Articles that are not received by that time may not make it in the newsletter due the schedule Thanksgiving week.

Fall Harvest Festival Worship

Next Sunday, November 22nd is our Fall Harvest Festival Worship at 9:30 am that Sunday. Colleen Reinhardt will share her musical talents with us. Colleen is the choir director at First Lutheran Church in Bismarck and also works full-time for the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation year-round.

FLCW Special Offering

Next Sunday an offering will be taken for First Lutheran Church Women. Due to COVID, we have been unable to meet and will not hold the annual Lefse/Card sale. Cards (located in the basement) are for sale any day of the year. Any contributions are appreciated and will be used for our benevolence commitments and other expenses incurred such as Bibles for 3rd grade students, gifts and teas to honor our Confirmands and Graduates. A basket will be placed in the narthex. Thank you in advance!

November 22nd Sunday School

There will be no Sunday School next Sunday, November 22nd, **but there will be** a Sunday School teacher meeting at 10:45 am.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Join us on Wednesday, November 25th, at 7:00 pm for our Thanksgiving Eve Worship with Holy Communion. Invite your friends and family to worship with us.

FLCW Co-chair Needed

We are still in need of a FLCW co-chair to help Donna Gunderson next year. If the spirit moves you to fill this position or know of someone that would be good for it, please talk to LeAnn Richard or Donna Gunderson. LeAnn will be done the end of December.

Our Daily Bread

The December/January/February edition of *Our Daily Bread* is in the magazine racks in the narthex. Pick up a copy today to use with your daily devotions.

Christ in Our Home

The October/November/December issue of *Christ in Our Home* is in the magazine racks. Pick up a copy today to use with your daily devotions.

Prayer Chain

Just a reminder that First Lutheran has a prayer chain. If you would like to be included on the chain to receive prayer requests, please either call the church office – 462-3775, email the church office at flc@westriv.com, or talk to Jeannette or Pastor Chuck. We will need your cell phone number and carrier to be able to text you the prayer. Likewise, if you have a prayer request or know someone that does, please contact Jeannette or Pastor Chuck to get the prayer request started.

Mutual Ministry Committee Volunteers Needed

Church council is looking for volunteers to serve on the Mutual Ministry Committee. This is a seven member committee that is chaired by the Church Council Vice President. The purpose of the Mutual Ministry Committee is to provide support for the staff of the church and serve as a conduit between the congregation and the church staff. The Call Committee nominated two members, so we are looking for four additional members. Members of the committee are appointed by the Church Council President and Pastor. The term of duty is two years with three members being replaced each successive year. If you are interested in serving please reach out to Matt Gardner, 701-315-0326.

Pastoral Care

Please call Pastor Chuck if you or a loved one are in the hospital or know you will be going to the hospital. The church does not usually get informed of your stay by any of the hospitals even if you are registered under our congregation's name. We want to make sure you get pastoral care. Thank you!

Phone Number Changes

(Please note correction on Steph's #)

Pastor Chuck & Steph have changed their cell phone numbers. New numbers are: Pastor Chuck – 701-891-9443, Steph – 701-891-9413. Please make these changes. The parsonage number remains as 701-462-3774.

Thoughts on the Readings

We've been hearing that people like the "Thoughts on the Readings". So instead of whenever there is room in the bulletin to put them in, we will now include them at the beginning of each reading. They will be italicized and in parentheses and not read with the readings. They are there for you to read on your own.

Connections

We are looking at ways to better connect our members, especially those who are participating online with those who are participating in-person. Many have expressed how much they miss the fellowship time between the service and Sunday School. This article is a brainstorm of potential ways that we could try to better incorporate the whole body of First Lutheran Church.

There are many opportunities through which we may be able to add a more participatory model where those online would be able to talk (live) and see people face-to-face via an online video platform.

Bible Studies:

- Join existing Bible studies via ZOOM to join in the conversation. Please let us know in advance if you would be interested or to get more details of what this could look like.

Prayer Service:

- We would meet online, either monthly, bi-weekly, or weekly for a short prayer service/devotional. The vision that to see is an online forum time that would allow those who are participating online or in-person to have fellowship time to catch up and pray together. We would provide the space and you can bring your coffee ☺. There would also be opportunities for smaller groups to break-off to pray together and chat. This would be especially helpful for those who have been unable to join the in-person activities at the church due to COVID. If you would like to find out more, please contact Jeannette (flc@westriv.com) or Pastor Chuck (PastorChuck@westriv.com) via email.

We would like to start these activities soon, so please let us know if you would like to join us!

Online Giving

Many of you have patiently been waiting for e-giving here at First Lutheran Church. I am happy to announce that it is up and ready to use!

We welcome all donations through any of the options we offer for giving. You can contribute anywhere, anytime right from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

- ⇒ Put your offering in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.
- ⇒ Mail your offering or drop it off at the church office.
- ⇒ Go to the church website: www.flcwashburn.com and click on the donate button on the homepage. Follow the instructions from there.
- ⇒ For our smartphone users, don't forget you can contribute through GivePlus Church, our mobile giving app. It's a convenient solution whenever you have your phone but don't have cash or checks with you.

See the two pages on GIVEPLUS MOBILE in the November newsletter or go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church" to quickly find the app and download it for free. You can easily make donations anytime you're moved to give, or create an account to schedule recurring weekly, monthly, quarterly or yearly offerings and to the account of your choice. When you create an account, you can also securely and conveniently store debit/credit card or bank account information, manage donations and review giving history. You choose how you prefer to login - Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password.

Find our church by ZIP code - 58577 or by searching our Church name - First Lutheran Church, Washburn, ND

- ⇒ Scan this code and it will take you directly to the app.



Get started today! Download our mobile app or visit www.flcwashburn.com to set up your online contribution!

First Lutheran Church Updates as of October 16, 2020

UPDATE regarding Governor Burgum's continuing COVID-19 guideline changes over the upcoming weeks/months. Pastor Chuck, the FLC council members, and staff are making efforts to address these changes as they happen. In these trying times, we can hold fast that we serve a God that is in control despite a world that seems out of control.

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” 2 Timothy 1:7

As such, with prayerful consideration we are moving forward with church services being offered both in person and online. A few recommendations moving forward:

- Every family is encouraged to attend church, Sunday school, or other activities in the manner that they feel most comfortable (whether on-line or in person)
- Social distancing will be observed, by family unit (maintaining six feet apart).
- Hand sanitizer is available at multiple locations within the church.
- Face masks are strongly encouraged but not required. Please bring your own mask if able, if you do not have one available a mask will be made available for your use.
- No food is to be prepared in the kitchen at this time, and there will be no coffee hour.
- Due to recent changes, if you are signed up as a worship volunteer moving forward and decide to join online instead, please contact Jeannette with your replacement.
- If you are joining online and would like the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please contact Pastor Chuck.
- It was determined that small groups of no more than 24 people are the only groups allowed to meet at the church at this time with the exception of Sunday School.

- After the service has finished, please fellowship outside for adequate space for social distancing.
- The FLC website (www.flcwashburn.com) and Facebook will be updated as we continue to monitor the situation and any

new developments. Please check these sites for updates or concerns. If you do not see an answer to your concern, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Chuck or Jeannette.

- We ask that you remember your tithing for the church. Either send your payment to the church or drop it off at Farmers Security Bank in Washburn notating it is a donation for First Lutheran Church if you will not be attending worship at the church.

“May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.” Numbers 6:24-26

COMMUNITY AND AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS WASHBURN PARK BOARD FUNDRAISER

The Washburn Lions Club will be hosting a **DRIVE UP FOR DINNER** today, November 15th from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. They will be taking orders for carryout. Menu includes: Soup and Sandwiches along with some awesome Cookies. You can call in your order and pick-up or just pull up to the Washburn Ambulance Bay and order. We will also deliver. Everything will be prepared and packaged according to Covid-19 guidelines.

The money raised will go to the Washburn Park Board. This will be the Kickoff of the Park Boards Community Capital Campaign to raise \$50,000 to rehab the Washburn Swimming Pool filtration system. The goal of this campaign makes all the upgrades possible as we have a nice facility that is well used by the Community.

The Park Board received a Grant from Twice Blessed. In order to receive the \$7500 Grant, we must raise a match of \$7500. The total goal for the Campaign is \$50,000 so the filtration system can be upgraded, a must do and other repairs.

Please be generous and drive up and pick up some delicious food. Sunday November 15th, 10:00 am -1:00 pm, The Washburn Ambulance Bay, Main Avenue. To order call 701-220-4410 or 701-315-0305. Please Drive up to Pitch in to the \$50,000 Campaign and have some Yummy Food. The meals are a free will offering. Please be generous to the Pool Campaign.

Contacts: Judy Beaudry – 220-4410 & Mark Leim – 460-0145

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

TODAY	8:30 AM	Bible Study Led by Cathy Sheldon
	9:30 AM	Worship
	10:45 AM	Sunday School Bible Study Led by Alexis Solomonson
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting
TUES.	8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Mommy's Group
WED.	6:15 PM	Confirmation
	6:45 PM	Bell Choir
	7:15 PM	FLY
	7:30 PM	Choir
THURS.	9:30 AM	Deborah Bible Study at the Church
FRI.	Noon	Newsletter Deadline
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Bible Study Led by Cathy Sheldon
	9:30 AM	Fall Harvest Festival Worship
	10:45 AM	<u>NO</u> Sunday School Sunday School Teacher Meeting Bible Study Led by Alexis Solomonson
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Pentecost 24 - November 15, 2020

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

- Matthew 25:23 -

Scholars say that five talents is about 75 years worth of wages for those who would have been around to hear Jesus' parable of the talents. Calculate in your head how much that would be for your household. That puts it in perspective a bit, doesn't it? The Master in this story gave each of his servants an incredible sum of money to manage while he was away. Even the servant who received only one talent had a great responsibility.

Two of the servants acted as if these funds were their own and they invested it so it would grow. The third servant simply buried it in the ground so that nothing would happen to it. He was only thinking of the punishment he would receive if he lost any of it. We can understand his wariness, especially on days when we watch our retirement funds go up and down. But his lack of trust in himself, coupled with his hard heart toward his Master, caused him to sit on the funds as if he were a bird sitting on a nest of eggs. The least he could have done was to put it in a savings account where he received 0.01% interest!

We learn from Martin Luther's explanation to the First Article of the Apostles' Creed that God has given us all we have - everything from our body and soul, to our house, family, and work. What this parable of Jesus instructs us on is how we are to manage all that we have been given. We can hoard and stockpile all that we have been given or we can invest it in the Kingdom work of our Lord. This not only includes our money and time, but also the myriad gifts and abilities God has bestowed upon us.

Why were the first two servants willing to invest their Master's resources and the third one wasn't? In a word: fear. The first two servants trusted their Master and wanted to please him, so in obedience to his will, they invested what was entrusted to them and received a greater return. The fearful servant buried what was entrusted to him in the ground. He was unwilling to take a risk in order to please his Master. In fact, he held his Master in contempt. This story reminds us that loving like Christ loves, investing in other people in his name, can be a risk - but the rewards are incredible. We will be called, "good and faithful" when we follow Jesus.