



# THE CORNERSTONE OF GOD'S KINGDOM

*Pentecost 20 Worship*

October 22, 2017

**W**ELCOME TO SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES! We're here to shepherd Christ's flock and seek the lost sheep by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all. Come, let us worship!

**LORD JESUS**, Son of the Most High: You were rejected by your chosen people, yet you are the cornerstone to your Church. Grant that we trust you today & always, recognizing that you have built us into a holy building for the praise of your glory; AMEN.

#### **WORKS OF THE LAW VS. FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT:**

4. Now, consider the distinction between the works of the Law [Galatians 2:16] and the fruit of the Spirit [Galatians 5:22-23]. We believe, teach, and confess that the works of the Law are those that are done according to the Law. They are called works of the Law as long as they are only forced out of a person by teaching the punishment and threatening of God's wrath.

6 5. Fruits of the Spirit, however, are the works wrought by God's Spirit, who dwells in believers. The Spirit works through the regenerate. These works are done by believers because they are regenerate «spontaneously and freely». They act as though they knew of no command, threat, or reward. In this way God's children live in the Law and walk according to God's Law. St. Paul calls this the "law of Christ" and the "Law of my mind" in his letters. (See Romans 7:23-25; 8:7; 8:2 [; Galatians 6:2].)

*Formula of Concord, Article 6 (Concordia p. 486)*

#### **VINEYARD:**

"What more could I have done?" God asks. Through Isaiah, God promises the impending destruction of Jerusalem – yet God's work was not complete. [Isaiah 5] Even though the Son is rejected [Matthew 21], he is the cornerstone of the Church; through him, we press on toward the goal as we bring forth the fruits of faith in our Christian lives. [Philippians 3]

**In what way can Christians speak about their efforts & fruit?**

**OPENING HYMN:** 224 - *God Himself is Present*

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** *Morning Praise, CW p. 45*

## THE WORD

**FIRST READING:** *Isaiah 5:1-7*

*The vineyard: Tended by God*

Let me sing my loved one  
a song about his vineyard.

My loved one had a vineyard  
on a fertile ridge.

2He dug it up and gathered the stones out of it.

He planted it with the choicest vines  
and built a tower in the middle of it.

He even cut a wine press into it.

He expected it to produce clusters of grapes,  
but it produced only sour grapes.

3“So now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard.

4What more could have been done to my vineyard  
that I have not already done for it?

When I expected it to produce clusters of grapes,  
why did it produce sour grapes?

5Now let me tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will take away its hedge, and it will become pasture.

I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled down.

6I will make it a wasteland.

It will not be pruned or hoed,  
so briars and thorns will shoot up.

I will also command the clouds not to pour rain on it.”

7Yes, the vineyard of the LORD of Armies is the house of Israel,  
and the men of Judah are the planting that pleased him.

He expected justice, but there was oppression.

He expected righteousness, but there was an outcry.

**PSALM OF THE DAY:** 118, p. 108

## **SECOND READING:** *Philippians 3:12-21*

*The fruit: Pressing on toward the goal, walking together in Christ:*

12Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus also took hold of me.

13Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it yet, but there is one thing I do: Forgetting the things that are behind and straining toward the things that are ahead, 14I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15Therefore, let all of us who are mature continue to think this way. And if you think differently about anything, God will reveal this to you too. 16Only let us think the same thing and walk in line with what we already have attained.

17Brothers, join together in imitating me and in paying attention to those who are walking according to the pattern we gave you. 18To be sure, many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. I told you about them often, and now I am saying it while weeping. 19Their end is destruction, their god is their appetite, and their glory is in their shame. They are thinking only about earthly things. 20But our citizenship is in heaven. We are eagerly waiting for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

## **THEME VERSE:** *Hebrews 2:12*

Alleluia. I will proclaim your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Alleluia.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## **GOSPEL READING:** *Matthew 21:33-43*

*The workers: Bringing the harvest for the landowner*

33“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a tower. He leased it out to some tenant farmers and went away on a journey. 34When the time approached to harvest the fruit, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. 35The tenant farmers seized his servants. They beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. 36Then the landowner sent even more servants than the first time. The tenant farmers treated them the same way. 37Finally, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. 38But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill

him and take his inheritance!’ 39They took him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40So when the landowner comes, what will he do to those tenant farmers?”

41They told him, “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end. Then he will lease out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him his fruit when it is due.”

42Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:  
The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.  
This was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?

43“That is why I tell you the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruit.”

**CONFESSION OF FAITH:** *Small Catechism Explanation to the Second Article (1529)*

**I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.**

**But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.**

**In this Christian church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.**

**This is most certainly true.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** 235 - *Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him*

**SERMON based on Philippians 3:** *Christian Effort & Fruit*

**SUNG CONFESSION OF FAITH:** *Te Deum, CW p. 48*

**OFFERING**

**KYRIE & LORD'S PRAYER:** *CW p. 50*

**CLOSING HYMN:** *356 - You are the Way; through You Alone*

**Friendship Sunday & Thanksgiving Meal** next week. See the sheet at the back to help with the cooking - ingredients provided.

**Men's Bible Breakfast** next Saturday at 8 AM. No Bible breakfast in November. Happy hunting!

**3 PM District Reformation Service,** next Sunday at MLC.

**Final QVM,** Nov 26.

## **THIS WEEK**

<b>Today</b>	<b>Luke 21</b> <b>9:30 AM - Pentecost 20 Worship</b> <b>10:51 AM - Bible Study: Genesis 1-2</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Luke 22</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Luke 23</b> Treasure Haus Work Day 7-8:30 PM CAP Class
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Luke 24</b> 5-6:45 - Small Catechism Class
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>John 1</b> 6 PM - Choir 7 PM - Chimes
<b>Friday</b>	<b>John 2</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>John 3</b> 8 AM - Men's Bible Breakfast @The Ranch 9:15 AM - Bible Basics: Church & Ministry 1
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 4</b> <b>9:30 AM - Reformation Festival Worship &amp; Friendship Sunday (without Holy Communion)</b> <b>10:52 AM - Bible Class</b> <b>11:40 AM - Thanksgiving Friendship Meal</b> <b>3 PM - District Reformation Worship at MLC</b>

## This We Believe: Good Works

*A portion from our Wisconsin Synod Statement of Belief:*

1. We believe that faith in Jesus Christ always leads a believer to produce works that are pleasing to God. “Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead” (James 2:17). As a branch in Christ the vine, a Christian produces good fruit (John 15:5).
2. We believe that works pleasing to God are works of love, for “love is the fulfillment of the law” (Romans 13:10). Faith, however, does not set up its own standards to determine what is loving (Matthew 15:9). True faith delights to do only what agrees with God’s holy will. That will of God is revealed in the Bible, particularly in the Ten Commandments as their content is repeated in the New Testament. In wrestling with current moral problems, the Christian will therefore seek answers from God’s law.
3. We believe, for example, that the Fifth Commandment teaches that all human life is a gift from God. This commandment speaks against abortion, suicide, and euthanasia (“mercy killing”).
4. We believe that the Sixth Commandment regulates marriage and the family. God instituted marriage as a lifelong union of one man and one woman (Matthew 19:4-6). It is the only proper context for sexual intimacy and the procreation of children. A marriage can be ended without sin only when God ends the marriage through the death of one of the spouses. Nevertheless, a Christian may obtain a divorce if his or her spouse has broken the marriage through adultery (Matthew 19:9) or malicious desertion (1 Corinthians 7:15). The Sixth Commandment forbids all sexual intimacy apart from marriage, including homosexuality (1 Corinthians 6:9,10).



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# MY WORSHIP NOTES



For children to use during worship.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of the church season or special day today? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the color of the church today? Circle one:

Blue White Purple Red Green

The Sermon Text Was: \_\_\_\_\_



This is in the:  Old Testament  New Testament

What was the sermon about? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



My favorite song today was:



\_\_\_\_\_

Did we have a Sacrament today?



Baptism?

Yes

No



Communion?

Yes

No

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

What did you learn about God today?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_