

October 23, 2011 | Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The Readings from Scripture

(Please be seated)

The First Reading

Leviticus 19:1–2, 15–18

The holiness code in Leviticus urges people to be holy because God is holy. Holiness is lived out in partiality for and consideration of the poor and the weak. We are to love our neighbors as ourselves. God's people exercise justice and love in their dealings with one another.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah:

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

²Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them:

You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

¹⁵You shall not render an unjust judgment;

you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great:

with justice you shall judge your neighbor.

¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

¹⁷You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin;

you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself.

¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



I*For in the one spirit
we were all baptized
into one body.*

1 Corinthians 12:13

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 2:1–8

Paul uses maternal imagery to depict the caring and nurturing relationship he shares with the Thessalonian Christians. When he first came to their city it was not to benefit himself but to share the gospel with them, which was his responsibility as an apostle of Christ.

A Reading from St. Paul first letter to the Thessalonians:

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:34–46

Put on the spot by the Pharisees, Jesus displays wisdom by summarizing the law of God in just two commandments and by demonstrating the Messiah must be more than the son of David.

The Holy Gospel according to St. _____ the _____ chapter

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

³⁶Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?

³⁷He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he? They said to him, "The son of David." ⁴³He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? ⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions

The Gospel of our Lord.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In grateful response to God's endless bounty of grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Heavenly Father, you gave your people the law so that they might know how to live. Grant your church the faith and strength to live according to your law of love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You created the fruit-bearing tree, a model for the godly life. Give your people the wisdom to tend to all of creation, so that in its beauty and life we might see a glimpse of your glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Divine ruler, you bid your people to live lives of justice and righteousness. Inspire the leaders of nations, states, provinces, and local communities to use their office not for personal gain but in humble service to their neighbor. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

From generation to generation, you are the refuge of all who suffer. Hold in your care all who are poor, unemployed or underemployed, homeless, and who live without adequate medical care. Grant your healing mercies to all who are sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Where two or three are gathered in your name, you promise to be present. Bless this congregation as it gathers around word and sacrament, in fellowship and prayer, in learning and service, in your holy name. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For what else do the people of God pray?

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your love, gracious God, you hold (*James of Jerusalem, martyr, and*) all who have died in you. Comfort all who mourn with the promise of your never-ending embrace (*especially*), and give us the faith to look expectantly for your promised kingdom, where all will be given resurrection life. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.



If you would like to participate in giving to the fall United Way Campaign through Lutheran Charities please use the following information:

United Way Donor Choice-

Lutheran Charities #00390

That number will give a general donation.

You can choose to specify a social ministry if you like:

Upper Perkiomen Child Care #43143

Artman #00514

Ken Crest #00839

Lutheran Children & Family Services #04024

Lutheran Settlement House #00390

Mary J. Drexel Home #00617

Paul's Run #02628

Silver Springs-Martin Luther School #03544

St. Paul's Prayer List ~ Weekly update to the October Vision

Gene Woehr – *Manor Care*
Barbara Woehr- *Recovering at home*
Norman Benner – *Recovering at home*
Calvin Miller – *Recovering at home*

Jerry Landis
Robert Stevens – *Recovering at home*
Pastor Bill Phillips – *Luth Comm. Telford*

Please look in the current edition of the Vision Newsletter for other names on our prayer list. The Sunday bulletins only list updates to the complete list in the Vision.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Health Sunday Cancer and Breast Cancer Awareness for Women presented by Linda Shagg.

Capital Improvement Fund ~ We have currently received a total of \$66,919 in our Capital Improvement fund toward our goal of \$225,000. Pledges amount to \$64,914.

Elevator Fund ~	Project Cost	\$170,000.00
	Total Gifts Received as of 10.10	\$73,050.00

Autumn Family Event ~ Today at the pavilion from 3 to 5 PM - Scarecrow Making & Judging; Family Apple Launch; Hot Dog Roast; Healthy Family Information and conversation about substance abuse. Sponsored by Youth & Family Services, Nate Clemens Substance Recovery Fund, Upper Perkiomen Ministerium, St. Paul's Church and YMCA of Upper Perk.



Ham Dinner ~ The 2012 Appalachia Service Project team will be hosting its Ham Dinner on November 12, 2011 at 3:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. This event benefits the ASP home repairs ministry. Come enjoy food and fellowship while supporting a great cause.

ASP at St. Paul's will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary with an ASP reunion picnic on July 28, 2012. A combined worship hour will be held at 9:15 on July 29 with Pastor Bill Bixby as the guest preacher. Pastor Bixby was associate pastor during the initial years of ASP.

Pie Making by the Kitchen Committee will take place the week of November 7. If you would like to help pinch pies shells join us on Wed. Nov. 9 at 6:30 PM. If you would like to help with pie baking join us on Thur. Nov 10 and Fri. Nov 11 - 8:30AM to 5 PM. The pies will be sold at the ASP Ham Dinner. Questions or interested in helping for a few hours call Donna Stever at 215.679.7521.

Lunch Bunch ~ Lunch Bunch invites you to join us for our Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon Meeting, Wednesday, November 9 at 11:30 AM in Church Fellowship Hall. No need to pack your lunch. You need to make a luncheon reservation. **Sign-up deadline is October 31.** The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall. The Rev. Robert Gerhart will entertain us with his talent of story in chalk art. Lunch Bunch is our active group of ladies and men aged 50 +, not limited to St Pauls' members. Don't forget to save your Redners Tapes and us your Save-A-Tape Gas Card at Redners. Bring your tapes to Lunch Bunch. Hope to see you on November 9.

This Week at St. Paul's

Sunday	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School	9:15 AM
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Autumn Family Event and Healthy Family Resources	3:00 PM
	Generations Choir	6:30 PM
	Bell Choir	7:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM

Monday	Cub Scouts Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
	Praise Team	7:30 PM

Tuesday	Robotics Team	6:30 PM
	Finance Committee	6:45 PM
	Council	7:30 PM

Wednesday	AA	8:00 PM
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Friday	Daisies	6:30 PM
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Saturday	Robotics Team	9:00 AM
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Sunday	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School	9:15 AM
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Senior Youth Group	4:00 PM
	Generations Choir	6:30 PM
	Bell Choir	7:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM

Today's Worship Assistants

Altar Guild:	8:00AM	Barb Miller
Assistant:	8:00AM	Sandy Bergey
	10:30AM	Vicar Ryan
Ushers:	9:15AM	Ron Rodenberger
		George Bonekemper
	10:30AM	Bruce Baver
		Laverne Keyser

Next Sunday's Worship Assistants

8:00AM	Alan & Diane Richard
8:00AM	Charles Shagg
10:30AM	Robert Walp
9:15AM	Rich Kressley
	Traci Kressley
10:30AM	Nancy Yerger
	Pat Walter
Monday:	Sandy Bergey
	Alan Richard
	Diane Richard