Augustana Lutheran Church

102 Jonathan Blvd. N., Chaska, Minnesota 55318 Worship: 9:30 AM with Bible Class following the service

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Volume 4, Number 34	

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God's Mind and Man's Mind

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The Unrighteous Steward

Sermon 1 Samuel 8:1-10

Put the Grace of God to Use, Lest Another Master Steal It from You

Welcome to our guests in the name of Jesus Christ! Augustana Lutheran Church confesses and practices the full truth of God's Word, a heritage passed down to us by Luther, and confirmed in the public confessions of our church. We believe that the Bible in all its parts is inspired by the Holy Spirit, error-free, and the only source of divine revelation and absolute truth. If you have any questions about such Bible doctrine, or about our congregation, please direct them to Pastor Diers.

General Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, who searchest all hearts and knowest all thoughts, grant us now, as we approach the throne of thy grace, true humility and penitence. Remember not the sins of our youth or our manifold transgressions, but according unto thy tender mercies, and for the sake of Jesus Christ, thine only-begotten Son, pardon our iniquity.

By the indwelling of thy Holy Spirit, save us from lusting after evil things, from idolatry, from immorality, from unbelief, or other great and shameful sins; grant us steadfast faith that in every trial we may in no wise test thy patience by murmuring, complaint, or doubt. Lead us not into temptation, but strengthen us by thy power to withstand it in the evil day, and finally be delivered from the reach of the tempter's arm.

Grant unto us true understanding of thy Word, so that we may be guided in all judgment, and be shown the way that leads to everlasting life. Keep before us the warning and admonition of the Law. Enable us to learn from it we ought to do and what thou hast forbidden and wilt punish; and help us to obey thy commandments with joy.

We thank thee for all thy benefits. Help us to use with faithful stewardship all that thou hast bestowed upon us, being heartily grateful for thine unfailing goodness and deeply conscious that thou wilt call us one day to give an account of our stewardship.

O Lord, remember the covenant thou hast made with thy people. Provide for them pastors who shall lead them to the spiritual Rock, Jesus Christ, that they may drink from the living Fountain the pure water of eternal life. Preserve them from all who would beguile them with false words, and keep them from all heresy, schism, or false religion.

Keep our country within thy care, that honor and integrity may be upheld, and that all lawlessness may be put down. Especially do we entreat thy favor upon all our rulers, that they may be endowed with wisdom to govern after thy good pleasure.

Guard and defend our homes, that parents may be kept in the bonds of love and godliness, and may rule their children well, nourishing them in truth and righteousness.

We pray for all who are ill or who are in danger of body or soul, for all who anxious or suffering disappointment, be thou present with them in their affliction, show them the way out of all their troubles, and save them for thy mercy's sake.

Heavenly Father, who didst not spare thy Son but freely delivered him up for us all, mercifully grant these and all other acceptable petitions which thou readest in our hearts, in his Name. Amen.

Announcements

On Monday, July 14, all of Gail Wissman's (of Faithful Word Lutheran Church, Hovland) bodily weakness and pain has been completely cured, for she has left this world and gone to be with her Lord and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Gail's funeral was on Wednesday.

Augustana Lutheran Church				
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Augustana Lutheran Church

Pastor Martin Diers

Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone

The Ninth Sunday After Trinity July 20, 2008



The Word of the Lord to Samuel

steward said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig; to beg I am ashamed. I am resolved what to do, that, when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses. So he called every one of his lord's debtors unto him, and said unto the first, How much owest thou unto my lord? And he said, An hundred measures of oil. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and sit down quickly, and write fifty. Then said he to another, And how much owest thou? And he said, An hundred measures of wheat. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and write fourscore. And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light. And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.

SERMON TEXT 1 Samuel 8:1-10

And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba. And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment. Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Proverbs 16:1-9

The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD. All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits. Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established. The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil. Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished. By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil. When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him. Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right. A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 16:1-9

And he said also unto his disciples, There was a certain rich man, which had a steward; and the same was accused unto him that he had wasted his goods. And he called him, and said unto him, How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward. Then the