Augustana Lutheran Church

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

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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 showest mercy with thy servants that walk before thee in true faith, open thine eyes toward this house where thy Name dwelleth, and hear the prayer of thy people.

Enlighten our minds by thy Holy Spirit, that we may hear thy Word in reverence and gratitude. As it instructs us in thy glorious work of creation, thy merciful providence in governing this world, and in thine infinite mercy in the gift of thy dear Son Jesus Christ for our salvation, grant that we may believe it with all our hearts and give it free course in our lives.

To that end, may we see in the mirror of Thy Law our true nature, confess our sinfulness, and repent of our iniquity, and may thy Gospel confirm us in the promise of everlasting life in Jesus Christ. Clothe us with thy armor, that we may resist the treacherous ways and temptations of Satan, of the world, and the stubborn weakness of our own flesh. Deliver us from such evil, and preserve us for the eternal kingdom of Christ our Lord.

Grant us hearts which continually seek they mercy and help in all our needs, and in the needs of our fellow man, making our requests known unto thee in prayer.

Protect us from all peril by storm or fire, from plague and famine, from war and rebellion, from luxury and ease, from ignorance and superstition, from painful and sudden death, and from an evil end. And although we have broken thy commandments and deserve thy correction, grant us thy grace and peace that we might yet praise thee, and glorify thy name for the great salvation which though hast granted unto us.

Prosper thy church, that she may be ever confess the truths of thy Word, and that she may serve her fellow men in love by declaring unto them the Word which is able to grant new life to their souls. Raise up ministers and missionaries who will honor their calling by a godly life, seek the lost with uncommon zeal, and feed thy flock with the Bread of Heaven.

Grant patience and comfort to thy church militant, especially to those who's blood is shed because they confess the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ. Give to them the comfort of thine eternal peace, that they may know that even in the midst of their persecutions, they are kept by thy power. Sanctify their sufferings, by reminding them of the greater suffering of thy Son, who shed his blood that they might have life, and by the witness of the martyrs, turn the hearts of their persecutors unto thee.

Bless, we pray thee, our own land. Endow our governors and legislators with understanding and integrity, that they may serve according to thy good pleasure. Give thy favor to industry and agriculture, that they may provide for our use the wholesome fruits of their crafts. Grant that in every occupation, we might remember that when we labor, we are laboring unto thee.

All these things we pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, thine only-begotten Son, who by his most bitter sufferings and death, and by his most glorious resurrection, has given to us the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. Amen.

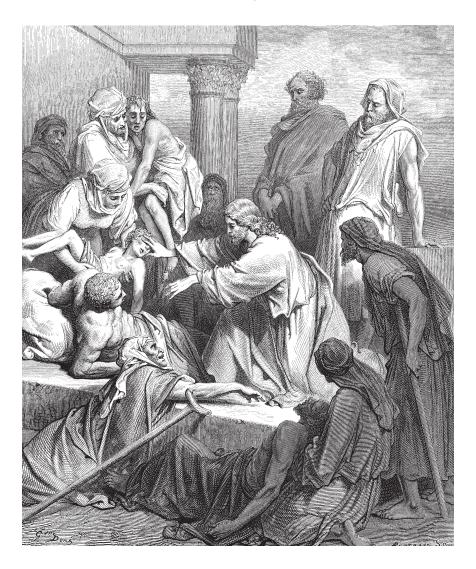
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Augustana Lutheran Church

Pastor Martin Diers

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

The Twentieth Sunday After Trinity October 5, 2008



were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.

SERMON TEXT Ezekiel 36:29-38

"I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. I will call for the grain and multiply it, and bring no famine upon you. And I will multiply the fruit of your trees and the increase of your fields, so that you need never again bear the reproach of famine among the nations. Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good; and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight, for your iniquities and your abominations. Not for your sake do I do this," says the Lord God, "let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel!" Thus says the Lord God: "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt. The desolate land shall be tilled instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass by. So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.' Then the nations which are left all around you shall know that I, the LORD, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted what was desolate. I, the LORD, have spoken it, and I will do it." Thus says the Lord God: "I will also let the house of Israel inquire of Me to do this for them: I will increase their men like a flock. Like a flock offered as holy sacrifices, like the flock at Jerusalem on its feast days, so shall the ruined cities be filled with flocks of men. Then they shall know that I am the LORD." (NKJV)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Proverbs 2:1-8

My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.

EPISTLE LESSON Ephesians 5:15-21

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 22:1-14

And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which