

ILCW Year-C Lessons for the  Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14 Then the LORD your God will make you most prosperous in all the work of your hands and in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your land. The LORD will again delight in you and make you prosperous, just as he delighted in your fathers, 10 if you obey the LORD your God and keep his commands and decrees that are written in this Book of the Law and turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. 11 Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. 12 It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" 13 Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" 14 No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

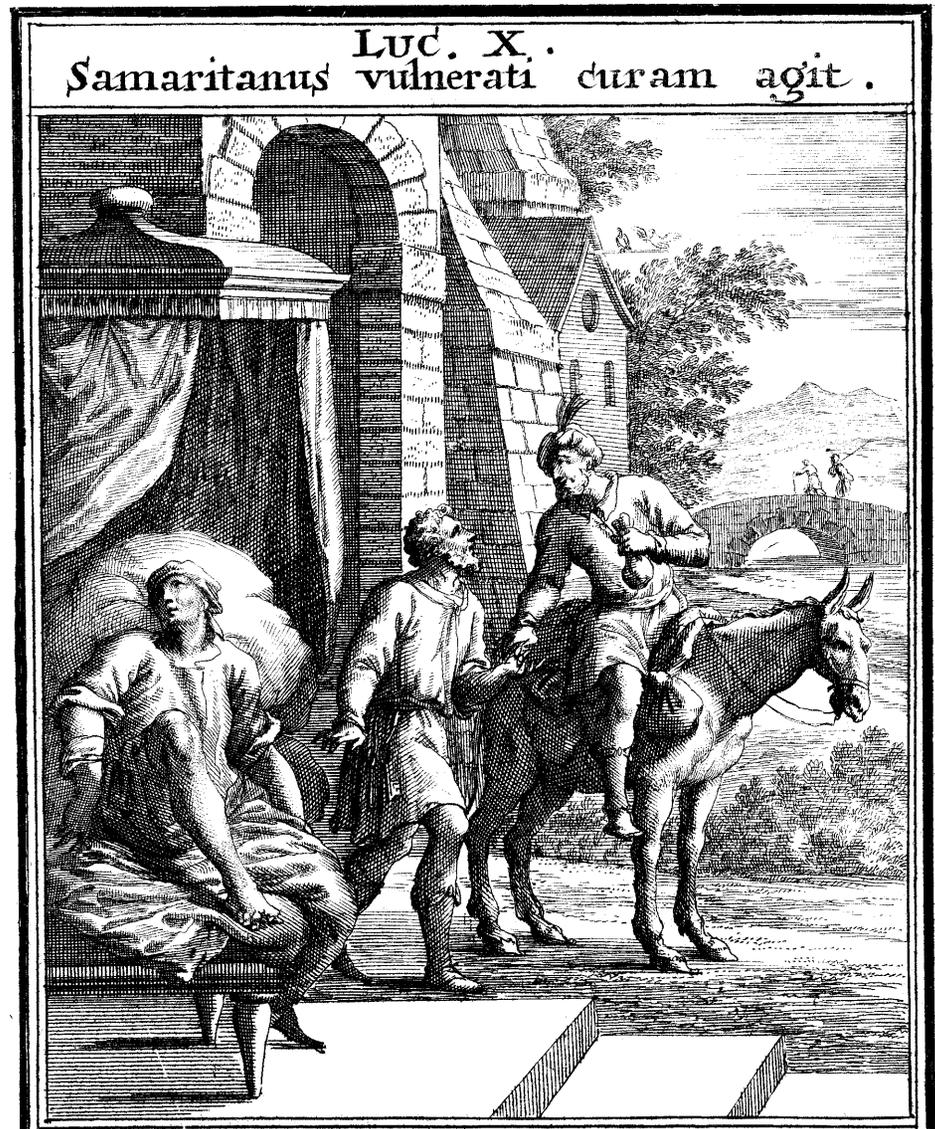
Epistle

Colossians 1:1-14 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, 2 To the holy and faithful brothers in Christ at Colosse: Grace and peace to you from God our Father. 3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints -- 5 the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel 6 that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. 7 You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, 8 and who also told us of your love in the Spirit. 9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. 10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. 13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Gospel (Sermon Text)

Luke 10:25-37 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 "What is written in the Law?" He replied. "How do you read it?" 27 He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" 28 "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." 29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" 30 In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' 36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" 37 The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL, USA
8th Sunday of Pentecost(C)  *The Good Samaritan*
July 14th, 2013  9:30am



*Woodcut illustration from a 1695 Bible – Luke 10:35
The Good Samaritan gives the innkeeper two silver coins to take care of the wounded man until he returns.*

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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Mailing address: P. O. Box 91905—Lakeland, FL 33804-1905

PHONE (863) 859-3400— www.osllakeland.com

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:30 AM

Pastor Andrew Burmeister (863) 430-5859

Organist: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

July 14th, 2013 Pentecost-8(C) †GOOD SAMARITAN †

WELCOME to Our Savior! We are happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time, we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come and worship with us again! Thank you.

ORDER OF SERVICE *(See insert)*

PLEASE NOTE: The service folder insert has been written so that it may be used more than once. If you prefer to use the hymnal, see **page 5**. Feel free to leave the service folder insert with an usher after the service. Thank you. May the Lord bless your worship!

Service		
Opening Hymn	375 (5v)	If Thy Beloved Son, O God
Hymn of Day	384 (5v)	Oh, How Great Is Thy Compassion
Sermon	Luke 10:25-37	“Who IS My Neighbor?!”
Offering Hymn	283 (1v)	God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage
Sending Hymn	439 (6v)	God of Mercy, God of Might
Closing Hymn	389 (6v)	Not What These Hands Have Done

PROPERs for (TRINITY7=)EIGHTH SUNDAY of PENTECOST-C † JULY 14

INTROIT: Oh, clap your hands, all you people! Shout to God with the voice of triumph. For the Lord Most High is awesome. He will subdue all the people under us, and the nations under our feet. ...from Psalm 47

COLLECT: O God, whose never-failing providence orders all things both in heaven and earth, we humbly beseech You to put away from us all hurtful things and to give us those things which be profitable for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. C: ♪ A - -men.

GRADUAL: Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Look to Him and be lightened; and let your faces not be ashamed. Alleluia! Alleluia! Oh, clap your hands, all you people! Shout to God with the voice of triumph. Alleluia! ...from Psalms 34&47

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: *(printed on the outside back page of the bulletin)*

Deuteronomy 30:9-14 (Promised Land so close) God is *always* close to His.

Colossians 1:1-14 (Paul) Thank God for their ‘Colossal’ Gospel faith.

Luke 10: 25-37 In answer to a Law question: *Good Samaritan Parable..*

MESSAGE: (Gospel) **Luke 10:25 37** THEME: **“TO WHOM MAY !!! BE NEIGHBOR?”**

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Madeline Beck	Patty & Buster Brewbaker
Richard Birkenmeier	Delores (Dee) Kurczewski
Jonathan Jumper (Elaine’s grandson)	Jeanette Kubly
Tyler Kirby (nephew of Andrea Sawyer)	Mariah Sawyer
George Wendt (brother of Steve Wendt)	Ann Wentz

Volunteers	This week	Next week
Greeter	(Volunteer)	(Volunteer)
Usher	(Volunteer)	(Volunteer)
Treats	Orpha Weber	(Volunteer)

COFFEE will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Everyone is invited to stay! We thank our volunteers for serving today. We are IN NEED OF SERVERS for future Sundays. If you can help, PLEASE SIGN UP. Thanks!

Statistics	Last week	Year to date (average)
Sunday Worship	22	33
Communion Attendance	16	27
Sunday Bible Class	11	9
Thursday Bible Class	--	9
Sunday Offering	\$	(YTD total) \$

Calendar of Events

Sunday, 7/14	8:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 ff...	Bible Study (Genesis 37) Divine Worship (no Communion) Fellowship time: <i>Treats and Drinks</i>
Tuesday, 7/16	6:00 pm	Catechism Class with Prescott
Thursday, 7/18	6:30 pm	Bible Study at Madeline Beck’s
Friday, 7/19	1:30 pm	Catechism Class with Sawyers
Sunday, 7/21	8:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 ff...	Bible Study Divine Worship (w/ Holy Communion) Fellowship time: <i>Treats and Drinks</i>

Congregational Notes

Please contact our Elders with any concerns about church matters: **Jim Vanesky 644-7807 & John Weber 853-5458 & Don Wienke 863-815-8892.**

Schedule Notes - Month of July

- + Pastor has produced a revised and updated Our Savior members and friends Church Directory with phone numbers and email addresses. An electronic copy was sent to members in email and (yellow) printed copies are available in church. Pick one up if you like.
- + A great day was had by all yesterday at “Lutheran Day at the TB-Rays.”
- + The ELS’ LYA (Youth) Rally is **July 25-28th** in Orlando Area, Rollins.edu .
- + Next Sun. (7/21) Service of Word and Sacrament p.15 Hymns: 235, 366, 53

TRINITY-7(P8C) Luke 10:25-37 "ASK (JESUS) A LAW QUESTION..." 07.14.13

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

"What must I do to inherit eternal life?" & "Who is my neighbor?" (25 & 29)

INTRODUCTION Ask a law question, and you'll get a law answer. The question (two of them actually) came from a synagogues "lawyer," whose job it was to make the Bible reasonable and doable. His question is a **law question**. *"What must I do to inherit eternal life?"* It's the most fundamental of all religious questions. What **do I have to do** to get to heaven? What **do I have to do to be saved?** What **do I have to do** to be in good with God?

Q1: Parse the question in your own mind for moment. What do **you** have to do to inherit anything? Well, you have to do virtually nothing. Someone has to die, and you have to be in his good graces and on the receiving end of the inheritance.

Jesus knows He's being put to the test, so He answers the question with a question. *What is written in the Law?* By "Law" Jesus does not necessarily mean "commandments," but simply the books of Moses, the Torah. What did Moses say? What is in the Torah? How do you read it? Jesus leaves the question open. The lawyer responds with the law - Love God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind; love your neighbor as yourself. That is what he believes one must do to inherit eternal life. Love God; love your neighbor. And that **would be** correct. The Law promises life, **if** you can do it. The Law promises grace and every blessing to all who keep the commandments, **if you can keep** the Commandments.

"Do this, and you will live." Don't do this, and, well, **you're dead**.

The lawyer isn't satisfied; he's uncomfortable. Something's nagging at him. Perhaps it was that **poor man he had passed by** on the way to the synagogue without even making eye contact. Or maybe it was the **grudge** he was holding against his brother for the bad business deal. Love your neighbor as yourself. He knew he loved God, but the neighbor was another matter. Some neighbors just aren't so lovable. That's why we build **walls** and **fences**. They make for "good neighbors."

"Love your neighbor as yourself." His tight little system of theology was coming unraveled. If he didn't love his neighbor as himself, he had no confidence of his inheritance of eternal life. **Do YOU love YOUR neighbor as much as you love yourself?** (Of course, that presumes you love yourself.) I'm not talking about the nice neighbors who bring cake and cookies over. Would you want to stake your eternal inheritance on your love of neighbor? As cartoonist Charles Schulz once commented through his character Charlie Brown: *"I love humanity; it's people I can't stand."*

But you say, *"Wait a minute. I'm supposed to love someone who won't even give me the time of day?"* What kind of rule is that? How about: **love** those who love you; **hate** those who hate you; **ignore** the rest. That

would be more like it, wouldn't it? How am I supposed to love my neighbor, and what does "neighbor" mean anyway? The guy next door, down the block?

Q2: Seeking to justify himself, the lawyer asks Jesus a **second law question**: And who is my neighbor? See where all this law talk goes: self-justification. Get "neighbor" right and you get love right. Get love right, and you win the big prize. **"So, Who (really) is MY neighbor?"**

(THE PARABLE) Enter the man who fell among thieves. The road between Jerusalem and Jericho was a treacherous highway. Packed with pilgrims and thronging with thieves. If you traveled alone, you were an **easy target** for the roaming **gangs of robbers**. [1]v30 A man fell among robbers who stripped the clothes of his back, beat him, and left him for dead in a ditch.

v31 Now it so happened that a **priest** was coming down the road, on his way home from his tour of duty in Jerusalem. He sees the man lying there motionless and bleeding in the ditch. He may have wanted to help; there's nothing that says he didn't. But there was a law in the Law of Moses. If he touched something dead he would be unclean and unfit for priestly service when he got home. He'd have a lengthy purification process to undergo and an expensive sacrifice to offer and a lot of explaining to do. It would be like me (driving or riding) to church on a Sunday morning, and seeing someone lying on the side of the road. I glance at my watch and realize that it's five minutes before service begins and you're all waiting for me. And if I stop and help this guy, I'm not going to make it for church. Maybe at best I grab my cell phone and dial **911** and call in someone to help.

Caught between a rock and hard place. Painted into a corner with no way out. **That's what the Law will do to you**. The Law says, *"Love your neighbor,"* and then God tosses us a **neighbor who's very inconvenient and even difficult to love**. So now what do you do? The priest passed by on the other side. Didn't come near the man. He chose the way of "purity." It was safe.

v32 A **Levite** saw the man. Levites were priestly assistants, kind of like **deacons or elders**. The same rule applied to them. He came a bit closer. Perhaps he saw the priest make his hasty detour. He did the same thing. He chose the **"way of purity" too**, and safely passed the man by on the other side of the road. Each could argue that **they had kept the law**. They could **justify** their actions. **But they did NOT love their neighbor as themselves**.

v33 Then came a **Samaritan**. The Jews, like the priest and the Levite, **despised** their Samaritan neighbors. They were considered **half-breeds** and heretics. **Impure** in race and religion. Samaritans didn't worship in Jerusalem, so this man was likely **on a business trip**. He wasn't clergy of any sort. Just an ordinary guy doing his work. He saw this broken, half-naked, bleeding man in the ditch and had compassion on him. He got down (and dirty) into the ditch **with him**, bandaged his wounds, **v34** put him on his donkey, and took him to an inn in town and spent the night taking care of him. **v35** The next day he left **two day's wages** with the innkeeper and ran a tab for the rest. I'm sure this

man had some explaining to do when he got home about where he was and why he spent the money.

(Jesus asks question) **Q2: Which of these three men, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?**

I would love to see the lawyer's face as he has to say the words. You notice he can't even bring himself to say, "*the Samaritan.*" That's too much to bear. But he can say, "*The one who showed him mercy.*" And Jesus said to him, "*You go, and do likewise.*"

Do you think the lawyer left with any hope of inheriting eternal life? **What about YOU?** Who is YOUR neighbor?! Your neighbor is **anyone** in need of mercy, anyone God places in your path, no matter how **inconvenient** he or she might be. Can you go and do likewise, and on the basis of that doing, know that you will inherit eternal life?

Ask a law question, and you receive a law answer. Ask Jesus what **you** must do, and **He will tell you** what YOU must do. (But) Come to Him in empty handed need, and He will give.

The good news **Gospel answer** is that the inheritance of eternal life comes **not** from (**us**) our loving God with our whole heart, soul, strength, and mind or in loving our neighbor as our self, but in and through Jesus who **became neighbor** to us, who had **compassion** on us, who **joined us** in the ditch of death. God in His Son became our good Samaritan neighbor, took on our flesh, loved God and loved a world of neighbors so perfectly and purely that it covers all. He pours the healing balm of baptism on you. He binds up your wounds with His wounds. He brings you into the company of His Church, a hospice of sinners justified for Jesus' sake. He binds your wounds with His forgiveness. He gives you the bread of His body and the wine of His blood for nourishment and strength. He pays your debt in full.

You want to thank him. I'm sure the man who had fallen among the thieves wanted to thank the anonymous Samaritan for his undeserved kindness. He had saved his life. But where in Samaria would he go to find him? And how could he possibly thank him?

Where is Jesus that we might thank Him for saving us? Look again at that man in the ditch, the man who fell among the thieves, bleeding, naked. He looks familiar, doesn't he? He looks like someone you know. He looks like the One who was beaten, and pummeled, and crucified among thieves to save you from you sins, from the Law that condemns you, from death and hell. Where is Jesus that we might thank Him for all that He has done for us? **He's there in the ditch.** Your neighbor in need, in the least, the lowly, the nearly dead, the forsaken, the forgotten. Yes, even that **not-so-desirable** person. "*For as often as you have done it to the least of these, my brothers, you have done it to me.*"

Let's give today's **questions a bit of a tune-up**, shall we? **Q1:** How do I inherit eternal life? **Answer:** By God's grace through faith for Jesus' sake.

What do I do as an heir of eternal life? **Answer:** Get down in the ditch and be a neighbor to that broken man or woman who fell among the thieves.

Only one who is **free from the law** can even remotely begin to do the law. Only **the Samaritan, free from the law**, unlike the **priest** and **Levite**, could "do the law." By His perfect life and death, Jesus has freed you from the law, and qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. It's an inheritance. It comes through the death of Jesus and is received as a gift through faith. There is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. And in **Samaritan freedom**, you are actually free to be a neighbor.

CONCLUSION So in the end, the parable is **about Jesus:**

Jesus, our Good Samaritan who became neighbor to us in the ditch of our death.

Jesus, who is Neighbor to you in Word and Water and Supper to give you the inheritance of eternal life.

Jesus, who is there in the ditch as your neighbor in need to serve and to thank in the freedom of His forgiveness.

In (that same) Jesus' Name, Amen

Now, the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus to life everlasting. Amen. SDG

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL
(7th Sunday after Trinity)  8th Sunday after Pentecost
SERMON: "What to DO?!"  July 14, 2013 10 am

(Stupid) **Question 1. "What must I Do to inherit Eternal Life?"**

... Jesus tells the Parable of **The Good Samaritan** ...

Luke 10:30 ... **31-32** ... **33** ... **34** ... **35** .
(Stupid) **Question 2. "Who is my Neighbor?"**

Prayer of Church 8th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 10C) 14 July 2013

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Jesus Christ, and for all people according to their needs.

Merciful Lord, Your Son became our Good Samaritan and came to our aid when we were in need of Your mercy. Teach us to be ambassadors of Your goodness to our neighbors and those who need our mercy, that we might love them as You have loved us in Your Son. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, the Apostle Paul did not cease to pray for the church in Colossae, that she might be filled with the knowledge of Your will and all spiritual wisdom and understanding. Stir up in us a spirit of intercession for our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world, that we might constantly remember them in prayer, even as they remember us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, You have entrusted the sword to temporal authority to punish those who do wrong and protect those who do right. Grant courage and steadfastness to those who govern, that, by Your leading, they might defend the defenseless, pursue the wicked and exercise their authority responsibly, that all citizens of this land might be served through them. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, You have commanded that special attention and care be paid to the fatherless and widows. Abide with all who are lonely. Use us to visit the homebound and those in care facilities, those who require ongoing care and those in hospice. Remember [*especially _____,*] our brothers and sisters in this congregation who are in need of our mercy and visitation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, Your Son, our Good Samaritan stopped and came to us to pour the oil and wine of His healing and forgiveness on our broken lives. Continue to care for us each day you give us life. Remember especially the sick, the suffering, the poor and those afflicted in any way, [*including _____*]

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Madeline Beck
Richard Birkenmeier
Jonathan Jumper (Elaine's grandson)
Tyler Kirby (nephew of Andrea Sawyer)
George Wendt (brother of **Steve Wendt**)

Patty & Buster Brewbaker
Delores (Dee) Kurczewski
Jeanette Kubly
Mariah Sawyer
Ann Wentz

and all who have requested our prayers. Heal us temporally and eternally with the crucified and resurrected body and blood of Jesus, with which You will feed us in the Holy Supper, for the forgiveness of all our sin. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring our private petitions in a moment of...
Silent prayer.

Merciful Lord, You have gathered to Your abode those who have preceded us in faith and have died a blessed death. Give us strength to face our own deaths with courage and the hope of the Resurrection. Give comfort to all who mourn. Receive our thanks for those who died with Your gift of faith and who now rest from their labors. Grant to Your whole Church, in heaven and on earth, Your light and Your peace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**