

Scripture Lessons for the First Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament



Jeremiah 9:32-34 NIV This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, 24 but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD, Who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.

Epistle

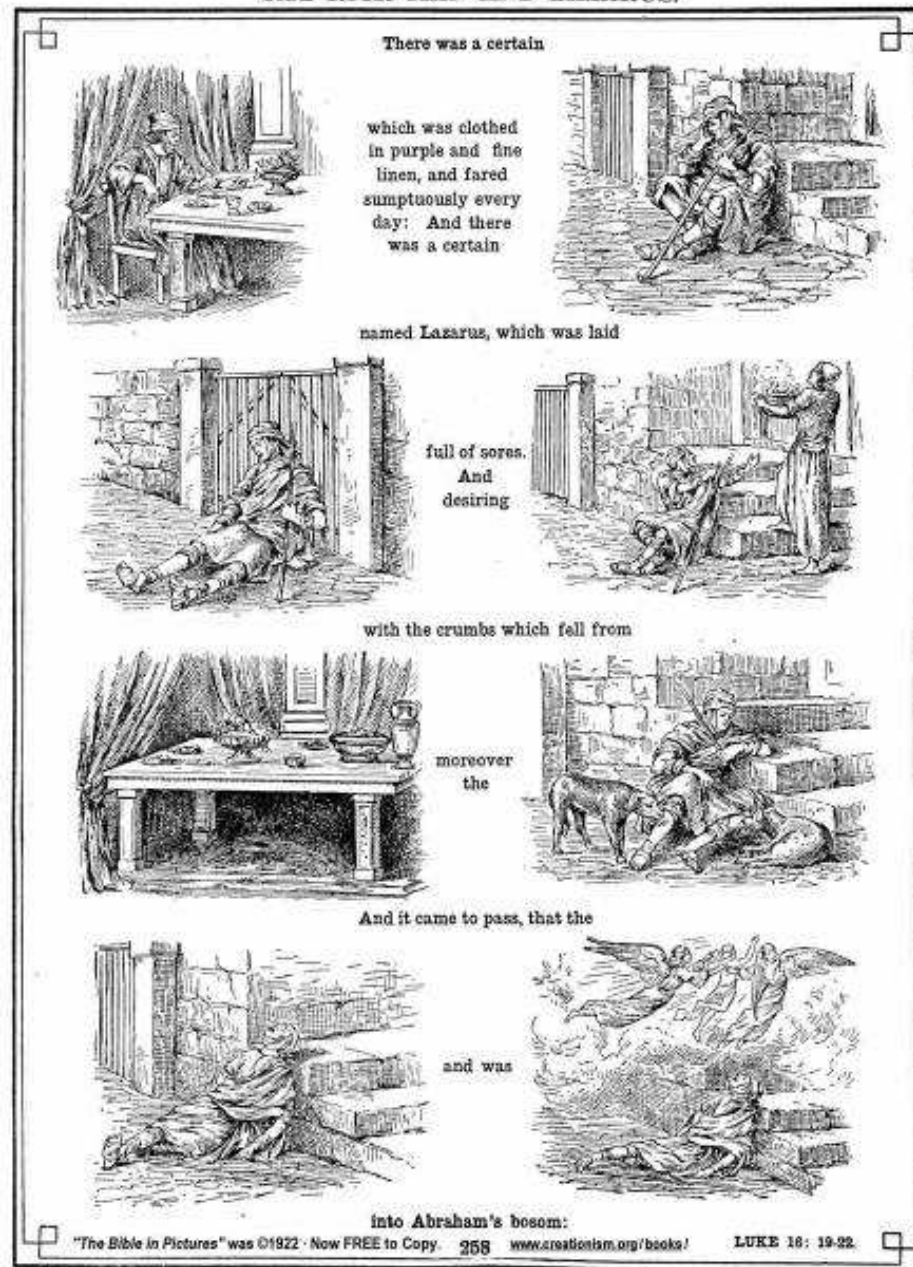
I John 4:16-21 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 17 In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, Whom he has not seen. 21 And He has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Gospel (Sermon Text)

Luke 16:19-31 "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. 20 At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores 21 and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. 22 "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. 24 So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.' 25 "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. 26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.' 27 "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father's house, 28 for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.' 29 "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.' 30 "'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' 31 "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL USA
The First Sunday after Trinity  *Heavenly Riches*
June 22, 2014 ✕ 9:30 am

THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS.



OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: www.osllakeland.org

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

* A.R. Burmeister 430-5859 * Organ: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

June 22, 2014 Trinity-1 Lazarus & Rich Man(Fool)

WELCOME to Our Savior! We are so happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time (or in a long 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! **God bless you.**

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP Printed in red (TLH) hymnals starting at p.5

Service		
Invocation Hymn	4 (3v)	God Himself Is Present
Hymn of the Day	399 (6v)	Thee Will I Love, My Strength, Tower
Offertory Verse	441 (1,2)	vv.1&2 We Give Thee But Thine Own
Third Hymn	400 (6v)	Take My Life and Let It Be
Closing Hymn	244 (4v)	Glory Be to God the Father

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays after the 1st Sunday after Trinity

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Josh10:1-15	Josh11:1-23	Josh23:1-16	Josh24:1-31	Judg2:1-23	Judges 6:1-40
Acts 9:1-43	Acts10:1-33	Acts11:1-30	Acts12:1-25	Act13:1-52	Acts 14:1-28

PROPERs for THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY JUNE 29

INTROIT I have trusted in Your mercy, my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me. How long O Lord? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? ...from **Psalm 13**

COLLECT O God, the Strength of all who put their trust in You: mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without You, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may please You both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. **C: ♪ A - - men.**

GRADUAL C: I said, Lord, be gracious to me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You. Blessed is he who considers the poor! The Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. Alleluia! Alleluia! Give ear to my words, O Lord; consider my meditation. Alleluia! ...from **Psalm 41**

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

O.T. **Jeremiah 9:23-24** The Lord tells us in what *only* we can boast.
 Epi. **I John 4:16-21** ☞ God is Love. ♥ ✕ △ ☽ ✦ ☾
 Gos. **Luke 16:19-31** Jesus compares the rich man & (poor)Lazarus.

SERMON Text: Luke 16:19-31 THEME: "LAZARUS WHOM GOD LOVES" ♥

PRAYER REQUESTS: Member or Relation	Pray for...
Pastor Burmeister	(Away these 2 weeks) Safe travel back from MN
David&Rachel Divine	(Vivian's grandson & wife) Serve in Army Afghanistan
All Fathers	Didn't mention God's blessing of Christian Dads last Sunday
Phil Griffith	Phil <i>may</i> be moving soon from Valencia Hills to VT
Elma Hendricks	<i>Hopefully</i> Elma is back home from Celebration Hosp.
Linda Kryszak	<i>Hopefully</i> Linda has (CT) analysis of mass & prognosis
Dee Kurczewski	(& David) Pray for David to get his driver license
Theresa Leuck	(Ann Wentz' daughter-in-law) Stage 4 lung cancer
Pat Marsh	(Robin's mother) Had breast surgery. Home recovering
Marcus Wienke	(Bev&Don's grandson) Leukemia: pray for remission
John Wuolle	<i>Hopefully</i> John and his leg are (fully?) recovered in WI

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Elma & Jim Hendricks?	Vivian & Tom Temple?
Ushers	John Weber	Leroy Dux
Treaters	(Volunteer)	(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 (Avg)
Worship, Communion Attendance	- - , - -	34, 27
Bible Class Attendance: Sunday	- -	- -
(Last) Sunday Offering	\$	(YTD) \$

Calendar of Events		
Sunday, 6/22	8:30 am	Bible Study - "Come Follow Me" Ch.1
<i>(Leroy Dux serves us in Pr. absence)</i>	9:30 am	Divine Worship (NO Communion)
	11:00 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee...Please stay & talk
Saturday, 6/28	11:30 am	CC - Catechism Class (Mariah & Mason)
Sunday, 6/29	8:30 am	Bible Study - "Come Follow Me" Ch.2
<i>(Pastor back from ELS-'14 & family)</i>	9:30 am	Divine Worship (WITH Communion)
	11:00 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee...Please stay & talk

Our (Savior) Elders are: **Leroy Dux 940-3237; Jim Vanesky 644-7807; John Weber 853-5458 & Don Wienke 815-8892.** Please contact them.

✕ **We thank Mr. Leroy Dux** for leading Bible study, leading Worship and sharing a gospel message from Scripture this morning and last Sunday. What a blessing we have someone like Leroy who is able *and willing* to fill in for Pastor Burmeister when he is away. (Give him a round of appreciation?)

✕ God-willing, **Pastor Burmeister** will be returning this week (possibly on Thursday or Friday). We hope and pray the Lord grants him **safe travel** round trip ... *in spite* of the means of travel he chooses to use?!

☞ *Have a very blessed day and week all!* ☞

Next Sunday 6/29 **Trinity-2 Sunday (p.15, L.S.) TLH#s 1, 372, 644, 315, 365**

TRINITY-1 Luke 16:19-31 "RICH MAN & POOR LAZARUS" 06.22.14 OSL

INTRODUCTION To read the Gospel **parable** before us today, you might think that it is simply about economic status, the rich vs. the poor. The filthy rich are sent packing off to hell while the common lower class folks are the ones who make it to heaven. Paul does say in I Timothy, "People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."

However, the Bible reports that Abraham was very wealthy, the equivalent of a millionaire in his day. And in the Gospel, Abraham is in heaven. So possessing worldly wealth does not automatically condemn you to hell. It's worth pointing out once again that it's not money but the love of money that is the root of all kinds of evil – setting your heart on the pursuit of money, organizing your life around what you can get with your money, prioritizing your property and possessions above the Lord and His Word and His ways. Since you cannot serve both God and money, St. Paul directs those who have it to be "rich towards God."

What really condemns the rich man to hell is not what he has but what **he lacks**, namely **faith and trust in God**. Jesus describes the rich man's self-centered and self-sufficient life and his callous disregard for the beggar at his gate because those things show whom he was serving in his life: not God, but himself.

And there is a flip side to the sin of the rich man that we must also guard against, namely, **making a virtue out of the fact that we're not rich**, that we're just ordinary, working class people. That can open us up to falling into a similar sort of **pride and arrogance**. The fact of the matter, anyway, is that what **we** call lower class, many other countries would call wealthy. We must remember that greed is not limited to one economic group. The poor can have money as an idol just as much as the rich can. It's just that one sets his heart on the wealth he already has, whereas the other sets his heart on the wealth he yet wants to get for himself. Materialism is not a disease of the wallet but of the heart. It's not what you possess but what possesses you that counts.

The rich man in this parable is not unlike those who, even though they aren't well off, still run around **waiting for the golden opportunity**. Their love is focused on "making it." And if you think that getting in with the right people or making that **major purchase** or getting that **stock tip** or buying that **lottery ticket** can make life truly better for you and ease your troubles and solve your problems, then you have joined with them and their love. And then, with the rich man, you have put your love and trust not in God alone but in something else.

Being economically poor doesn't mean that you're going to heaven. Rather, Jesus put it this way, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." To be poor in spirit means to be humble and penitent before God, to trust not in yourself but in Him alone, to rely not on your own goodness but on His goodness. It means to look to the Lord for all that you need and to run to Him for help and comfort. This was the faith of Lazarus. It is written, "The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit."

You'll notice that of the two main characters in this Gospel, **only one** has a **name**. The rich man has (or is a Mr.) **No-Name** because God will not remember the nameless in hell. The rich man wanted to live independently from God in life, and so he will have to live independently from God and all that is good in death. But the Good Shepherd knows His sheep and calls them each by name. Like Lazarus, God has given you a name, too – in Holy Baptism. There He claimed you for His own, by name. You are not nameless before God. You bear the saving name of the Holy Trinity.

The **NAME "Lazarus"** is one of the keys to understanding this account, understanding the real difference between the rich man and the poor man. For "Lazarus" means: **"The one whom God helps,"** or **"God is my helper."** He was sick, he was hungry, he was covered with sores, and the dogs licked his wounds. But he still penitently trusted in God and clung to the Lord's promise of life and salvation. Unlike the rich man who called Abraham his father, Lazarus was a true son of Abraham, who *"believed in the Lord, and the Lord accounted it to him for righteousness."* He believed what his name meant, "God is my helper," and he received the fullness of that help and comfort in Abraham's bosom.

Abraham says to the rich man, *"(Your brothers) have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them."* That reminds us of what Jesus did while he walked with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus: "And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself." Moses and the Prophets all point to Jesus. Lazarus went to heaven **because he believed "Moses and the prophets."** That is to say, he believed **in the Messiah Whom they prophesied**, Who would **take the sins of the world upon Himself** and earn for him God's favor and a place in heaven.

That is what the **Messiah, Jesus Christ, has done for you too**. As Isaiah prophesied, *"Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows. . . He was pierced for our transgressions, . . . and by His wounds, we are healed."* You see, in order to rescue and deliver us, Jesus **"made Himself a Lazarus."** **He put Himself at the mercy of the rich and powerful** of His day so that He might take away the judgment of God from us on the Cross. In **Psalm 22** [=GF Psalm] Jesus says of those who accused and beat and crucified Him, **"Dogs** have surrounded me; a band of **evil men has encircled** me, they have pierced my hands and my feet." Though the dogs "licked" Jesus wounds, so to speak, by their mocking, yet the Blood that flowed from those holy wounds *bought our forgiveness and cleansed us* from our sin. That is why it is written, *"You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who though He was rich, yet for your sakes became poor, so that you, through His poverty, might become rich."* & Now, like Lazarus, Jesus has **risen** and **ascended** to the bosom of the Father in heaven. He is vindicated and reigns over all things.

So, Lazarus went to heaven, **not** because of what he lacked, but **because of what he possessed: faith in the Lord**, the Messiah, who was his Helper and his Savior. **By that same faith in the merits of Christ, heaven is yours as well!**

Lazarus is a **perfect example to us** that if our life on earth seems full of **trouble & pain**, we should not be offended at such misery or try to seek comfort in temporary things, but hope in that which is future and eternal. **No Christian**

should think **God has forgotten** him/her or is angry with him when bad things happen. For like a good father, God is always disciplining His children, so that they might be cautioned and kept from sin. Therefore, when we face difficulty, we should not be surprised, but instead be assured that God loves us, that He thinks of us and wants what is best for us. As it is said, "If a father really loves his son, he corrects him."

So don't judge God's goodness and grace by your temporal condition. It is true that **money** and **goods**, a **healthy body**, ...all these things are **gifts** and **blessings** of God. But these are blessings that **won't last forever**. For in the end everything must be left behind, as it is written, "We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain that we can take nothing out of it." Besides, with these blessings comes the danger that, if we are not careful to live in the fear of God and pay strict attention to His Word, our sinful nature easily leads us into sin. So, we see that with material blessings God often lays various crosses and afflictions on us, because God desires to **guard us** and **keep us** in reverence and **faith** towards Him. Otherwise, were it not for these trials, we might very well **decrease** in prayer, in faith and in zeal for the Word of God and finally ...neglect them altogether.

The true, highest, and best blessing, by which you can and should see the goodness of God, is **not** prosperity in this life, but the **everlasting blessing** that God has called you to Himself by the Gospel of His Son, in which He is merciful to you, forgives your sins, and saves you eternally from death and the devil. Whoever thinks rightly about these things will see how blessed they really are. Even if you have no money or property at all in this world, you are **still rich**, because you have Christ, and all things belong to Him, including your eternal life in the world to come.

The heart of this parable, then, is to be seen in **Abraham's response to the rich man's second request**. The rich man said, "*I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father's house, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.*" But Abraham replied, "*They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.*" **And that's the point of this parable**. It's all there in Moses and the Prophets, in the Holy Scriptures. For they all speak of Christ, who did all that was necessary to save us and give us eternal life. If people don't want to pay attention to the preaching of the Word of God, then they've rejected Christ, the only Savior, who is the heart of that Word. And if they reject Christ, then they won't even be convinced by a miracle, indeed, even if someone were to rise from the dead in front of their eyes.

CONCLUSION But Jesus, **who did indeed rise from the dead in victory** over the grave for us, said this, "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies. And whoever lives and believes in Me will never die." The risen Christ now extends to you his Word of Life and His holy body and blood for your comfort and your healing and your forgiveness—whether you're rich or poor or somewhere in-between. You don't simply get crumbs from the table; you are given to feast on the Bread of Life. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you—like Lazarus—shall be saved. Let us say with Lazarus, "**God is MY helper (too).**" "I have trusted in Your mercy; My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation." **In JESUS' Name, Amen. SDG**

POSSIBLE Prayer of the Church ☞ **1st Sunday after Trinity June 22, 2014**

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

For **all the Church**, that by listening in faith to the Scriptures, all who belong to Christ may set their hearts fully on the glory promised us in the Kingdom so that we may endure the hardships of this age with joy and patience, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For **the leaders** of this world and of our United States, that the poor may never be forgotten nor the hope of the afflicted ever perish, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For this family of God, **Our Savior Lutheran**, that we might be given grace to welcome with joy all those God has set before us to love and care for, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our **schools and all who teach** in them, that our children may learn to strive for the lasting treasures of heaven and not for the perishable goods of this age, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in need, [*for _____,*]

Pastor Burmeister	(Away these 2 weeks)	Safe travel back from MN
David&Rachel Divine	(Vivian's grandson & wife)	Serve in Army Afghanistan
All Fathers	Didn't mention God's blessing	of Christian Dads last Sunday
Phil Griffith	Phil <i>may</i> be moving soon	from Valencia Hills to VT
Elma Hendricks	<i>Hopefully</i> Elma is back home	from Celebration Hosp.
Linda Kryszak	<i>Hopefully</i> Linda has (CT) analysis	of mass & prognosis
Dee Kurczewski	(& David)	Pray for David to get his driver license
Theresa Leuck	(Ann Wentz' daughter-in-law)	Stage 4 lung cancer
Pat Marsh	(Robin's mother)	Had breast surgery. Home recovering
Marcus Wienke	(Bev&Don's grandson)	Leukemia: pray for remission
John Wuolle	<i>Hopefully</i> John and his leg are (fully?)	recovered in WI

and for those we name in our hearts, that the Lord would grant to each the help and healing which is according to His gracious will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those who commune in The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper, that their hearts would be set on fire with fervent love for all people, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have gone before us in the confession of the holy faith, let us give our thanks and ask that we, together with them, might share the endless joy of the Kingdom's feast, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

LORD'S PRAYER **"Our Father, Who art in Heaven, ... Amen."**