



Do not
neglect to show
hospitality to strangers

HEBREWS 13:2

12th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2019

10:00 am

Spanaway Lutheran Church

16001 A Street South
Spanaway, Washington
(253) 531-7000

12th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2019 * 10:00 am

Before worship, speak to God in prayer.

During worship, listen to God.

After worship, speak to each other.

PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES DURING WORSHIP.

Welcome To Our Worship. *If you are visiting, consider yourself at home with us and our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Family Room is available to welcome parents and children before or during worship. It is located to the left of the sanctuary. Listening devices are available; please inquire of the ushers.*

Prayer Requests and Announcements. *If you have a prayer request this morning, or wish for Pastor to make an announcement for you, please use the prayer cards provided in the blue folder and hand the completed card to an usher. If you wish to make an announcement yourself, please check with the Pastor or the Council President for approval prior to worship. Always use a microphone to accommodate those with impaired hearing. Thank you.*

INTRODUCTION

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

First Reading: Proverbs 25:6-7

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel’s leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today’s reading is about humility.

Second Reading: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God’s love toward us in Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to mimic God’s gracious hospitality to the poor and the broken.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

- *Ushers collect prayer requests and announcements* -

STAND FOR THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS, IF YOU CAN COMFORTABLY DO SO.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, † one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

C Amen.

A If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

- *Silence is kept for reflection* -

A God of mercy,

C **we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news! As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by His authority I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, † and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In

ELW 532

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



A Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,



you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther. A - - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

BE SEATED FOLLOWING THE PRAYER OF THE DAY.

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 25:6-7

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;
⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112

¹Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD,
who greatly delight in his commandments.

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.

⁴**They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

⁵It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

⁶**For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.**

⁷They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

⁸**Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

⁹They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honor.

**¹⁰The wicked see it and are angry;
they gnash their teeth and melt away;
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.**

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

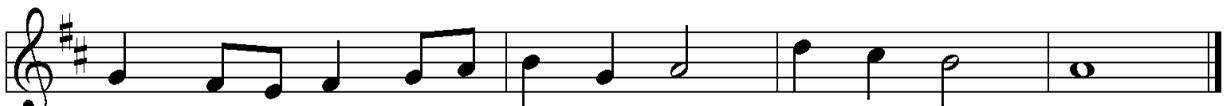
Erica Lustig

STAND FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, IF YOU CAN COMFORTABLY DO SO.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.

¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

BE SEATED FOR THE SERMON.

SERMON

Pastor John Schier-Hanson

STAND FOR THE HYMN OF THE DAY, IF YOU CAN COMFORTABLY DO SO.

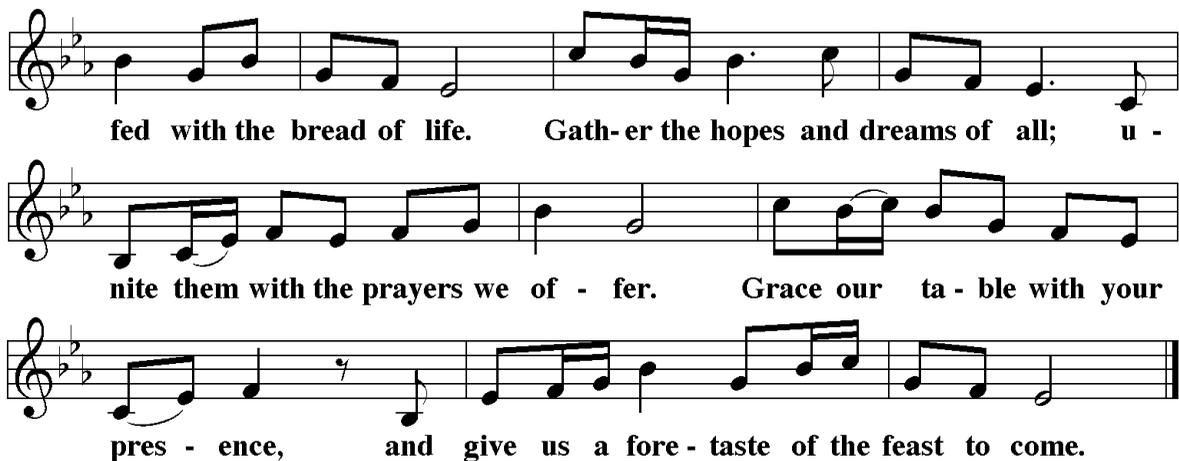
HYMN OF THE DAY *The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing* **ELW 531**

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**



fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. God our provider,

C we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it.

Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

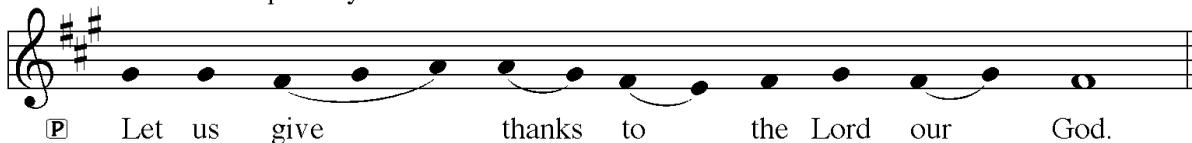
GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Blessed are You Lordas he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

P In the night in which he was betrayed...

...do this for the remembrance of me.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

P Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come, take your place at the feast.

PLEASE BE SEATED.

We invite all who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present to come to His table to commune. When we celebrate the Lord's Supper we receive the wine from a pouring chalice. Those who desire to receive wine bring an empty cup from the trays in front of the altar and wine is poured from the pouring chalice. Those desiring grape juice should bring a cup filled with juice from the trays to the altar rail. A gluten free option is available in place of the bread, let the ministers know at the altar rail. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen.***

LAMB OF GOD



C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

ELW 461

In the Singing

ELW 466

I Come with Joy

ELW 482

STAND FOR THE BLESSING, IF YOU CAN COMFORTABLY DO SO.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His most precious blood strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God † bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

C Amen.

BE SEATED FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAND FOR THE CLOSING HYMN, IF YOU CAN COMFORTABLY DO SO.



1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—
 2 O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing
 3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing



our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;
 our in - most thoughts, the se - crets none can hide;
 our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;



e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,
 still as of old up - on your bod - y bear - ing
 our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,



un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:
 the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:
 our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:



O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,
 O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—
 O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,



who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;
 O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;
 for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;



O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en:
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,



we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Holy, Holy - Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978 Augsburg Fortress.

Lamb of God Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978 Augsburg Fortress.

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*Flowers are offered today
for the Glory of God.*

Worship Ministers Today

Presiding Minister	Pastor John Schier-Hanson
Assisting Minister	Mary Herem
Minister of Music	Cheryl Drewes
Altar Guild	Ron Morris and Sarah Briehl
Lector	Ron Morris
Children's Message	Erica Lustig
Communion Assistants	Sarah Briehl and Camille Eliason
Acolyte	Volunteer
Greeters	Volunteers
Ushers	Kay and Dale Schimke, Paula and Larry Oty
Control Booth	John Herem and Phil Aponte
Coffee Hour	Women's Bible Study (Marjie Schulze)
Holy Ground	Erica Lustig

Radical Love Triumphs

For most of human history wisdom was largely part of an oral tradition. From one generation to the next, wisdom was passed down. These days it sometimes seems that technology has replaced that tradition of shared wisdom. Rather than ask a trusted elder the temptation is to pull out a smartphone and do a quick Internet search. Next thing you know, there it is, wisdom at your fingertips—maybe. Could it be that something is lost in the process? We can find facts online, but virtues like humility, respect of elders, hospitality, servanthood, and peacemaking do not seem to translate as easily in the electronic age. In the gospel reading Jesus takes the time to pass on some ancient-yet-prudent wisdom from the proverbs of Solomon to a crowd of social climbers who obviously were not familiar with such prudence or wisdom.

More significantly Jesus lifts up the mysteriously gracious and life-transforming values of the kingdom of God. Jesus lifts up the humility required to take the lowest seat at the table, never hoping to be invited to a place of greater honor or status. Jesus invites his followers to practice the hospitality that offers a banquet of the finest of foods for people who cannot repay. Jesus invites his followers to embody the kind of radical-yet-relational love of Jesus himself. This radical love is taught by both individuals and congregations. Communities of faith by their practices of generosity and compassion embody the love of Jesus in their communities.