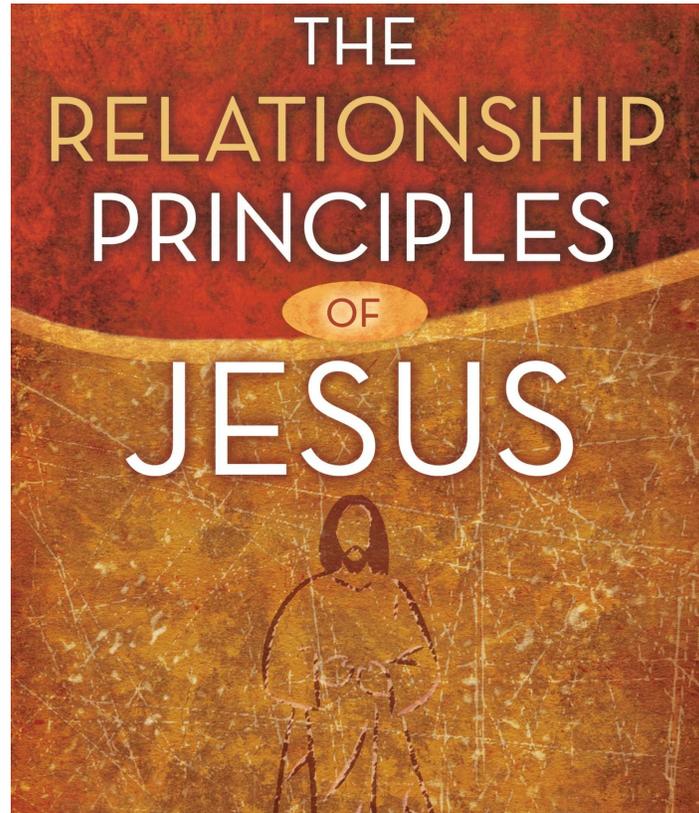




GRACE LUTHERAN

CHURCH • SCHOOL



SEPTEMBER 12: INTRODUCTION

SEPTEMBER 19: PRINCIPLE 1 - PLACE THE HIGHEST VALUE ON RELATIONSHIPS

SEPTEMBER 26: PRINCIPLE 2 - LOVE AS JESUS LOVES YOU

OCTOBER 3: PRINCIPLE 3 - COMMUNICATE FROM THE HEART

OCTOBER 10: PRINCIPLE 4 - AS YOU JUDGE, YOU WILL BE JUDGED

OCTOBER 17: PRINCIPLE 5 - THE GREATEST ARE THE SERVANTS

OCTOBER 24: PRINCIPLE 6 - TREAT OTHERS AS YOU WANT THEM TO TREAT YOU

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 16, 2021 - 5:00 PM

OCTOBER 17, 2021 - 10:45 AM

*(The * indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

PRELUDE

“Canzona in G Major”

Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way” *Hymn 857*
(vv. 1-3, 5)

([10:45] Stand and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.)

**Lord, help us walk Your servant way Wherever love may lead
And, bending low, forgetting self, Each serve the other’s need.**

**You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, But pow’r You laid aside.
You lived Your years in servanthood; In lowliness You died.**

**No golden scepter but a towel You place within the hands
Of those who seek to follow You And live by Your commands.**

**Lord, help us walk Your servant way Wherever love may lead
And, bending low, forgetting self, Each serve the other’s need.**

***THE INVOCATION AND OPENING VERSICLES** *(Based on The Relationship Principles of Jesus)*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: The ancient prophet Moses calls on us to Love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and might.

People: **Lord God, help us to put love first in our faith and our friendships.**

Pastor: The book of Proverbs informs us that reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

People: **Lord God, inspire in us kind words and affirmations to foster trustworthy communication.**

Pastor: The apostle Matthew warns us that if we cast judgement, we too will be judged.

People: **Lord God, temper our hypocrisy, and give us strength to act with integrity and mercy.**

Pastor: Christ instructs us to humble ourselves, and our reward will be great in heaven.

People: **Lord God, give us wisdom not to exalt ourselves, but rather to act with humility and to notice the needs of those around us.**

Pastor: In Paul's letter to the Romans, he reminds us that God demonstrated His own love for us by sending His Son to be sacrificed on the cross.

People: **Lord God, let this be a reminder that we should strive to meet the needs of others with empathy and compassion.**

***THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

(Please kneel or be seated.)

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we often fall short of these ideals. Let us come before you with confession, seeking forgiveness for our sins.

People: **God of humility, we confess that we often think too highly of ourselves while ignoring the wisdom and contributions of others. Our desires for greatness cloud the vision of ourselves and others, when instead we should strive to walk humbly with You. We ask for forgiveness for these failings.**

Pastor: People of God, your confession has been heard. Almighty God, in His mercy, gave His Son to die on the cross to forgive you these sins, named and unnamed. As a called and ordained servant of the Word and by the authority of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE** "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

Hymn 845

(vv. 1 & 5)

**Where charity and love prevail There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.**

**Let us recall that in our midst Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined We are in Him made one.**

THE FIRST READING

Proverbs 3:33-35, 16:8-9, 29:33

³³The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the dwelling of the righteous. ³⁴Toward the scorners he is scornful, but to the humble he gives

favor. ³⁵The wise will inherit honor, but fools get disgrace.

⁸Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice. ⁹The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.

¹⁸Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

²³One's pride will bring him low, but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-11

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE ANTHEM

“Lord, Grant Peace to All Your Servants”
(Grace Chorale)

Walter Ehret

*THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 23:11-12

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-third chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹The greatest among you shall be your servant. ¹²Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

[10:45] CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

***SERMON HYMN** "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service" *Hymn 848*

Lord, whose love through humble service Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Offered mercy's perfect deed,
We, Your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose Ev'ry gift that You impart.

Still Your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love Your Spirit kindles Still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, Till Your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness, Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to Your service, Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged, Love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom May Your mercy know and live.

THE SERMON "Principle 5: The Greatest Are the Servants" *Matthew 23:11-12*

***PROFESSION OF FAITH - APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

***THE BENEDICTION** *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

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***RECESSIONAL HYMN** "Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go" *(vv. 1, 2, 4, 5)*

Hymn 920

Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;

Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.

King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
Kingship with Him His servants gain;
With Christ the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.

Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;
Prophets are we whose deeds proclaim
Christ's truth in love that we may be
Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.

We are the Church; Christ bids us show
That in His Church all nations find
Their hearth and home where Christ restores
True peace, true love to all mankind.

***DISMISSAL**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Prelude and Fugue in G Major"

Dietrich Buxtehude

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

The Officiant
The Organist
The Lector
The Usher/Greeter Team

The Rev. Charles T. Reich
Nick Klemetson
Jan Struck
Bill McComb, Bill Smith

SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

The Preacher
The Liturgist
The Organist/Choir Director
The Sound Technician
The Elder on Duty
The Lectors
The Robing Leader/Crucifer
The Acolytes
The Welcome Team Greeter
At the Welcome Center
The Welcome Team Ushers

The Rev. Charles T. Reich
The Rev. Brendon T. Moore
Nick Klemetson
Stephanie Klemetson
Cindy Sensabaugh
Steve Griffith, Linda Brown
Lilliann Witcher
Liam Ash, Vera Terry
Matthew Terry with Lucy
Holly Terry
Donna Enzor, Steve Griffith, Carl Rod

CREDITS

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