

## This Week at VIC

| <b>DATE</b>   | <b>TIME</b> | <b>EVENT</b>        |
|---------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Today 9/20    | 11:00 a.m.  | Sunday School       |
|               | 11:00 a.m.  | Adult Bible Study   |
|               | 12:00 noon  | Fellowship Lunch    |
| Tuesday 9/22  | 1:00 p.m.   | Women's Bible Study |
| Saturday 9/26 | 8:00 a.m.   | Youth Garage Sale   |
| Sunday 9/27   | 10:00 a.m.  | Divine Service      |
|               | 11:00 a.m.  | Sunday School       |
|               | 11:00 a.m.  | Adult Bible Study   |
|               | 12:00 noon  | Fellowship Lunch    |
|               | 12:45 p.m.  | Council Meeting     |

### **Announcements**

**Nominations for Elected Officers** – There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for members to submit names for the offices available. The offices available are Vice President, Financial Secretary, Chairman of Stewardship, Chairman of Worship, and two positions each for Elder and Trustee.

**Church Council Meeting** – There will be a Council Meeting following the noon meal on Sunday, September 27.

**Church Voters' Meeting** – There will be a Voters' Meeting following the noon meal on Sunday, October 25.

**Church Cleaning** – Scheduled for church cleaning this week are the Richardson and Scott Rohloff Families.

**Garage Sale** – On the morning of Saturday, September 26, the VIC youth group will be holding a garage sale at the church. If you would like to donate items for this sale, please contact Suzanne Richardson.

### **General Fund Income –**

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Weekly Budgeted Income           | \$ 3,272.86  |
| Actual Income Received Last Week | \$ 1,427.00  |
| Year to Date Budgeted Income     | \$ 22,910.02 |
| Year to Date Actual Income       | \$ 18,003.25 |

*Creation Day 4* by Julius Schnoor von Carolsfeld.

Permission to use this image is limited to personal and congregational use.  
Courtesy of Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - the World Mission Collection.

Scripture text is based on *Revised Standard Version* © 1946, 1952, 1971 Division of Education and Ministry of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.  
All Rights Reserved.

This bulletin cover made available by [www.scholia.net](http://www.scholia.net) and is provided without cost.

## Victory in Christ Lutheran Church



*For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.*  
*Isaiah 55:9*

The Sixteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost  
September 20, 2020  
10:00 a.m.

Victory in Christ Lutheran Church  
508 Main Street  
Newark, Texas 76071  
817-489-5400

Pastor Philip Schielke

Pastor's Email: [pastor@viclutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@viclutheranchurch.org)

Church Website: [www.viclutheranchurch.org](http://www.viclutheranchurch.org)

Church Email: [churchoffice@viclutheranchurch.org](mailto:churchoffice@viclutheranchurch.org)

**WELCOME!** We thank God for you and pray that He will richly bless our worship activity together.

**Communion:** We welcome all of our guests worshiping with us today and pray your faith is strengthened. God's Word declares to us that the bread and wine we receive in the Lord's Supper is the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ given for the forgiveness of sins and nourishing of faith (Matt. 26: 26-28; Mark 14: 22-24; Luke 22: 19-21; 1 Cor. 11: 23-26). When receiving His true body and blood, all communicants are to be united in their understanding and confession of Jesus Christ and all of His teaching (Jon. 17: 22; 1 Cor. 1: 10). An unworthy reception of this gift results in one who "eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Cor. 11: 29). Therefore, if you are still learning Lutheran doctrine or are not part of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, we invite you forward for a blessing and encourage you to speak with the pastor *before* the service in order to learn more about our teaching on the Lord's Supper.

**Hymn of Invocation: #555 (st. 1-5) – Salvation unto Us  
Has Come**

**Divine Service Setting Four: pg. 203**

**Psalmody**

***Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16, antiphon 116:17 (ESV)***

<sup>17</sup>I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks-giving  
and call on the name of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup>**What shall I render to the LORD  
for all his bene-fits to me?**

<sup>13</sup>I will lift up the cup of sal-vation  
and call on the name of the LORD.

<sup>15</sup>**Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his saints.**

<sup>16</sup>O LORD, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.  
You have loosed my bonds.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the be-ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

<sup>17</sup>I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks-giving  
and call on the name of the LORD.

**Old Testament Reading**

***Isaiah 55:6-9 (English Standard Version)***

<sup>6</sup> "Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts."

**New Testament Reading**

***Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30 (English Standard Version)***

***The Advance of the Gospel***

<sup>12</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, <sup>13</sup>so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup>And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

***To Live Is Christ***

<sup>19</sup>for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, <sup>20</sup>as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup>For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup>But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. <sup>29</sup>For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, <sup>30</sup>engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

### **Gospel Reading**

#### ***Matthew 20:1-16 (English Standard Version)***

##### ***Laborers in the Vineyard***

<sup>1</sup>"For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' <sup>5</sup>So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup>They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' <sup>8</sup>And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' <sup>9</sup>And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?' <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last."

**Sermon Hymn: #555 (st. 6-10) – Salvation unto Us Has Come**

#### **Sermon:**

**Communion Hymns: #742 – For Me to Live Is Jesus  
#557 – Seek Where You May  
to Find a Way**

**Closing Hymn: #869 – With The Lord Begin Your Task**

#### **Weekly Stewardship Focus**

**Matthew 6:25 – "(Jesus said), 'Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on.'" Our anxieties and fears all come down to one thing: worrying that we will not have what we think we need. But God is our loving heavenly Father: He will always care for us, His will is always best, and He actually knows what we actually need. That confidence should set us free from worry and make us free for service according to the callings God has given us.**

#### **Announcements**

**Trustee Work Day** – There will be a Trustee Workday on Saturday, October 10, beginning at 8:00 a.m. We will work on our fall cleaning.

**Lutheran Witness** – If you are interested in receiving the *Lutheran Witness*, please let Doug Rohloff know by Sunday, October 18. The cost is \$14.25 for 11 issues. Please make your checks out to Victory in Christ, earmarked *Lutheran Witness*, and give them to Doug, too.

**Fall Festival /October Fest** - VIC will be hosting a Fall Festival / October Fest on Saturday, October 24, at the church.

**The Readings for today –  
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Isaiah 55:6–9

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

Matthew 20:1–16

***Disciples Live in Their Vocations by Grace through Faith in Christ***

Those who are sent as "*laborers for his vineyard*" (Matt. 20:1) depict the wide diversity of vocations to which the disciples of Christ Jesus are called. Whatever our particular stations in life may be, we are called to live and serve by faith in His promises. Our labors do not merit anything before Him, for He is already generous to one and all without partiality. In mercy He has chosen to bear "*the burden of the day and the scorching heat*" on our behalf, to make us equal to Himself and to give us what belongs to Him, that is, the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 20:12–15). This way of the Lord is foolishness to the world and foreign to our thoughts, but He draws near so that "*he may be found*" (Is. 55:6), "*he may have compassion,*" and "*abundantly pardon*" (Is. 55:7). So it is that we are found in Christ Jesus, and He is honored in our bodies, "*whether by life or by death*" (Phil. 1:20), by "*fruitful labor*" (Phil. 1:22), or by suffering. It is by faith in His forgiveness that our works are "*worthy of the Gospel*" (Phil. 1:27).

**A Look Ahead to Next Sunday –  
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

Philippians 2:1–4 (5–13) 14–18

Matthew 21:23–27 (28–32)

***The Cross of Christ Opens to Us the Way of Repentance to Life with God***

The way of the Lord is righteous and just: "*the soul who sins shall die*" (Ezek. 18:4). However, because the Lord has "*no pleasure in the death of anyone*" (Ezek. 18:32), He calls sinners to repentance and faith in His gracious forgiveness of sins. The man who is thus turned away from his wickedness, who henceforth lives by the grace of God, "*shall surely live; he shall not die*" (Ezek. 18:28). This way of repentance has been opened for us by the cross of Christ. In the righteousness of faith and love, "*he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death*" (Phil. 2:8), and He was vindicated in His resurrection from the dead. Indeed, "*God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name*" (Phil. 2:9). He has given us this name in our Baptism into Christ, in whom we now "*shine as lights in the world*" (Phil. 2:15). He uses the authority that He has received from His Father (Matt. 21:23–27) to preach a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, by which even "*the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God*" (Matt. 21:31–32).