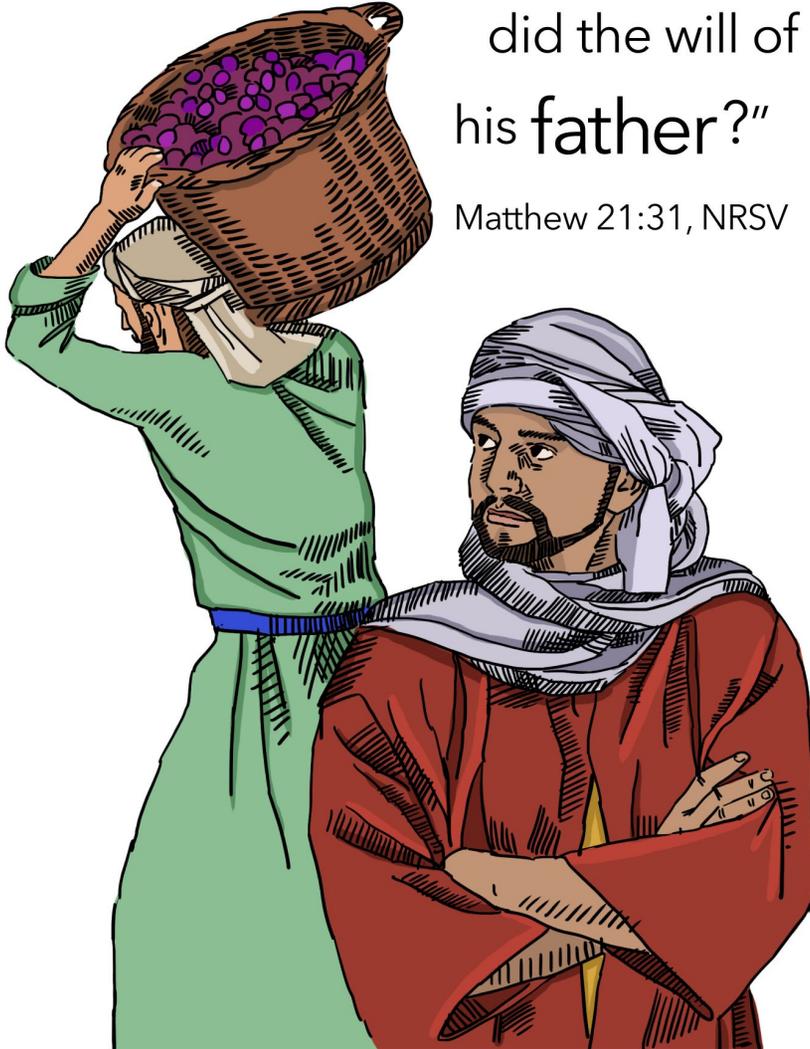


“ Which of the two  
did the will of  
his father?”

Matthew 21:31, NRSV



## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

Sept. 27, 2020

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
2601 23rd Ave South — Fargo, ND 58103  
Phone: (701) 293-1047  
Pastor Chris Waldvogel  
Pastor Brian Shane

### Processional Hymn

“Christ Be My Leader”

LSB 861

### Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

### Opening Versicles

P: This is the day that the Lord has made.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: the name of the Lord is to be praised!

P: Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere.

C: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

P: Make me to know Your ways, O Lord,

C: Teach me Your paths.

P: Sanctify us in Your truth.

C: Your Word is truth.

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: the name of the Lord is to be praised!

### Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination)*

P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Introit** *(Psalm 147:1-5; antiphon, verse 6)*

P: The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.

**C: Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**

P: The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

**C: He heals the brokenhearted and binds up the wounded.**

P: He determines the number of the stars;  
He gives to all of them their names.

**C: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
His understanding is beyond measure.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.

**Hymn of Praise** "Beautiful Savior" LSB 537

**Old Testament Reading** Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: "What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?"

"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the LORD God; so turn, and live."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Reading** Philippians 2:1-18

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

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise, you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## The Holy Gospel

And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Responsory

P: Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P: Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Matthew 21:23-32



## The Ten Commandments

**C: You shall have no other gods.**

**You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**

**Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**

**Honor your father and your mother.**

**You shall not murder.**

**You shall not commit adultery.**

**You shall not steal.**

**You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**

**You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**

**You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or his maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

## The 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.**

## The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

## Song

"Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Your Word" LSB 655

## Sermon

## Prayer of the Church

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the holy Christian church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For seasonable weather, and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who are married, that they may fulfill their vocation to honor, cherish and love their spouse; for those who are single and desire to be married, that God would provide companionship according to His good and gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those in distress of mind, body or soul, for the sick and the dying, and all those who have requested our prayers, including \_\_\_\_\_, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: *(Specific petitions)* Let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, You exalted Your son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Collect for the Word

P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Luther's Morning Prayer

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger, and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## Blessing

P: The almighty and merciful Lord,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C: Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

“Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go” LSB 854

