

Sermon Text: Gospel Lesson

Sermon Title: For everything there is a time and place.

Things never seem to go well if they are done at the **wrong time or place.**

-  Cooking dinner does not seem out of place
 -  **unless** the rest of the house is engulfed in the flames of a fire.
-  Remaining in your vehicle when it breaks down does not seem out of place
 -  **unless** it is broken down on a railroad crossing.
-  Planning a family event does not seem out of place
 -  **unless** it is done while the doctor is explaining the treatment options for malignant cancer.
-  Each of these highlights that when we do things at the wrong time and place we will commit **sins of commission and sins of omission.**

God comes to us

-  **with** the Words of Life
-  and **bids us to gather around Him.**

Yet there are many things this very hour and in this very place that cause us to be anxious and troubled.

-  We may have thought about the company arriving for lunch
 -  and the importance of having the right side dishes
 -  to go with the main course
 -  **instead** of grieving our sins and joyfully receiving absolution.
-  We may begin to look at our watch and wonder
 -  when the sermon is going to finish
 -  because we want to
 -  get home,
 -  have lunch
 -  and be ready to watch television
 -  **instead** of seeking the one needful thing.

Martin Luther Chapel – Pennsauken, NJ
6th Sunday After Pentecost – 21 July 2019

Color: Green

Propers: 11

Divine Service: I

Proper Preface: Common

 We may have considered not even coming to worship today because
 the house needs to be cleaned and the lawn mowed because I can
always go to church next Sunday.

We may have signed up for service as

 a greeter,
 an usher,
 an acolyte,
 or a reader
 but now it seems that we are bearing the burden
† more
† and more often.

 In the beginning we were glad for the opportunity to serve in one of
these positions:

 on a church board or committee,
 or on the church council.

 **Over time** we sense we are becoming resentful that

 there are others that are just as capable as we are
 and yet they seem oblivious to the need for such service
 that provides a rewarding worship service.

 While we would **never say a word to anyone** we might stop and
wonder if

 God sees,
 much less cares,
 that we alone are bearing the burden of service.

At times like that we feel like Martha:

 anxious that something will be overlooked
 and we will be blamed
 or troubled that everyone else is enjoying the worship service at our
expense.

Like Martha we have become so involved in doing the work that

 we think is important for God and the church
 that we fail to see the good work that the Lord is doing for us.



Have we received God



into our home



but not our heart, mind and soul?

God **comes** to you and me again today



and **lovingly and kindly calls us** by name,



knowing we are anxious and troubled by many things that



have happened,



are happening



or are about to happen in our life.



Jesus **comes to us** this morning **knowing** that



we have barely got the kids fed and dressed



in time to make it to church



before the first hymn.



Christ **comes to you** in this place knowing



the long night you have spent trying to forget

† the demands of work

† that await you at work tomorrow



and now how hard it is to both keep your eyes open for the sermon or
listen to it.



Your LORD **graciously and generously** comes this morning,



calling you by name that you would be still,



believe that God Himself

† **intimately knows** you as His child,

† and **lavishes upon us**

‡ **His peace,**

‡ **Forgiveness of sins**

‡ **The words of Life**

‡ **His body - true manna from heaven**

‡ **And His blood – life giving water.**

The Suffering Servant has **prepared a place for you** to sit at His feet where



He again comforts and assures you that

- † He has **saved you** from your enemies
- † that strive to maintain and increase your anxiety and trouble
- † through various trials and temptations.



The Lamb of God **affirms**

- † though you were once alienated and hostile to Him
- † He has **redeemed you** with His body and blood,
 - ✦ **presenting you holy and righteous** to God
 - ✦ exactly as **He promised in His Word.**



He **guarantees you** that **His Spirit is continuously working** through

- † **His word,**
- † the **sacraments and His gifts** to
 - ✦ **sustain,**
 - ✦ **strengthen**
 - ✦ and **safeguard** your faith
- † so that in times of suffering and celebration
 - ✦ you would be more and more conformed
 - ✦ in mind and body
 - ✦ into His image.



The Good Shepherd **consoles** and **secures** you

- † with the promise that you are a member of His body,
- † **fearfully and wonderfully made** for the work that He has **prepared for you**
- † from before the foundation of the world
- † as part of
 - ✦ His church
 - ✦ His bride
 - ✦ His brothers and sisters
 - ✦ Co-heirs in the kingdom of God.



Christ **charges you to remember** that here and now is the time

- † to honor Him
- † to be still and listen to His words,

Martin Luther Chapel – Pennsauken, NJ
6th Sunday After Pentecost – 21 July 2019

Color: Green

Propers: 11

Divine Service: I

Proper Preface: Common

- † to receiving Him into your heart and mind and soul
- † to embrace
 - ‡ His words as they penetrate your ears
 - ‡ and His body and blood as they enter your mouth.

The Master **assures** you that

-  now is the time to receive His word
-  for a time is coming
 -  when He will **lead you from this place**
 -  to do **God's work** in your various vocations.
-  He promises you that
 -  He will be a
 -  **light** unto your path
 -  and a **lamp** unto your feet,
 -  as the Holy Spirit
 -  **guides and aides** you
 -  in doing the **Father's will**.
-  Therefore,
 -  fear not for when the work of your calling begins anew
 -  you can know and be confident that He
 -  who has **created it**,
 -  **directed** it
 -  and **blessed** it
 -  **will preserve** you from sin,
 -  **sanctify** you
 -  and **bless** it
 -  so that it is well pleasing to your heavenly Father.

What does this mean?

Unfortunately, if we persist in placing our will and desires before God's we will continue to

 suffer anxiety and trouble.

Martin Luther Chapel – Pennsauken, NJ
6th Sunday After Pentecost – 21 July 2019

Color: Green

Propers: 11

Divine Service: I

Proper Preface: Common

 see our works consumed by fire,
 our peace and joy destroyed,
 and we will be left homeless.

God has **ordained a time and place** for everything:

 a time and place to be still and know He is God
 and then a time and place to
 preach the good news
 and publish peace with your
† thoughts,
† words,
† and deeds.

Therefore, by the power of the Holy Spirit;

 repent of your trust in your own works;
 confess that God's work in Christ Jesus is your only hope;
 be reconciled in Christ as a child of God's family;
 and seek and embrace the work that God has given you
 this day in your various vocations
 for His glory
 and your good.

Things always go well when they are done at the right time and place.