

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

- ¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:
- ² "I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
- ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
- ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.
- ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,
- ⁶ that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- ⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make well-being and create calamity,
I am the LORD, who does all these things."

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God

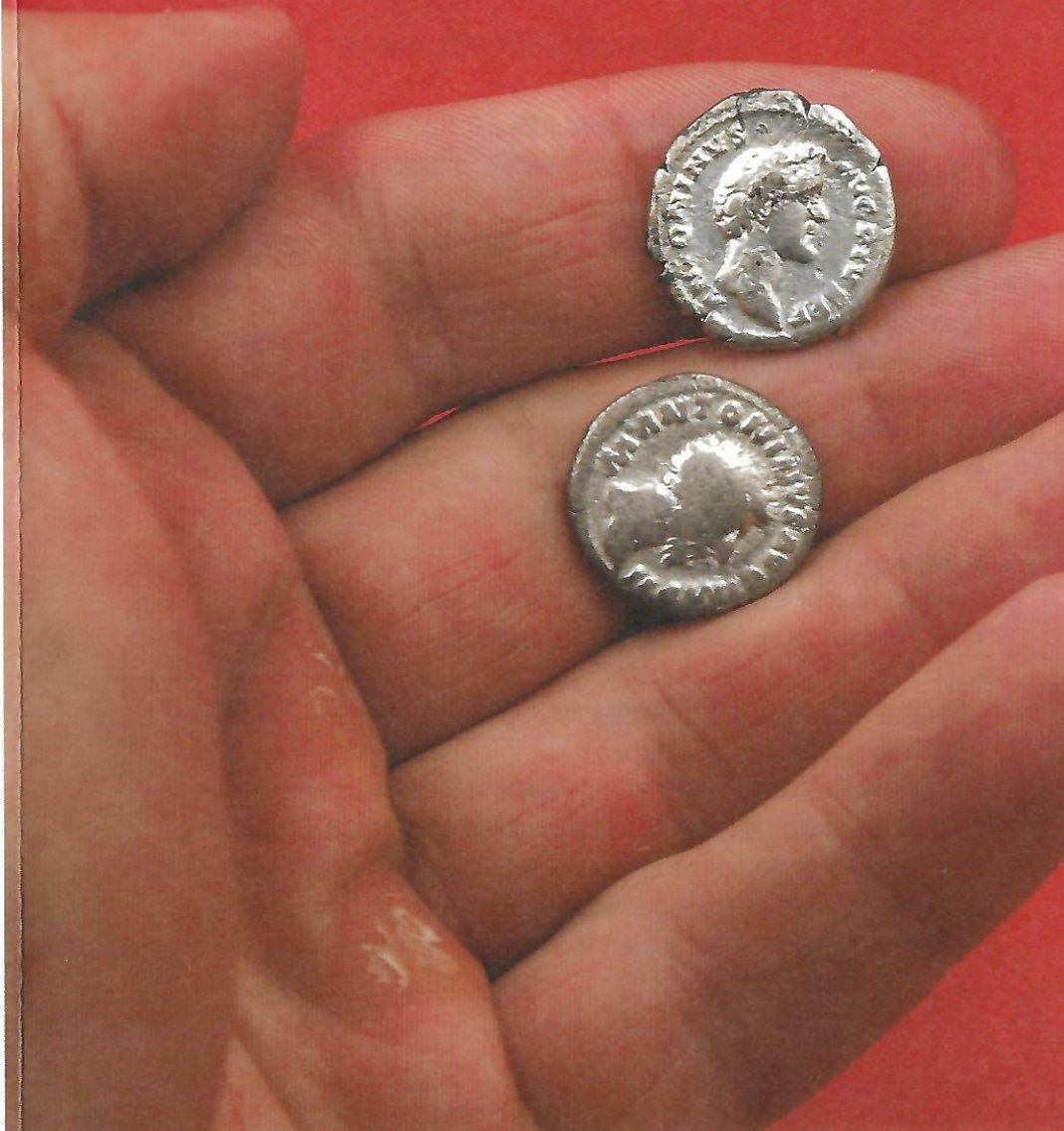
and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Is it lawful to pay taxes?

MATTHEW 22:17



Pentecost

About the Cover: The Pharisees' question over taxes was meant to trap Jesus as either an unfaithful Jew or a political threat to the Roman government. However, Jesus astonished them all with His answer. God reigns over all things, even governments. So, yes, we are to pay our taxes, but we owe our whole lives to our Lord, who gave His whole life for us on the cross, paying for our sins in full.

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DIVINE WORSHIP -10AM

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 2026

Hymn . . . “Love Divine, All Love Excelling” LSB #700

Divine Service Three

Invocation

Confession & Absolution p.184 LSB

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

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(PAUSE FOR SELF EXAMINATION)

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I a poor miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserve Your punishment now and forever. 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.

Upon this your confession, I 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 the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Introit

Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise,

In the city of our God, His holy mountain.

I will extol the Lord at all times,

His praise will always be on my lips.

My soul will boast in the Lord,

Let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Glorify the Lord with me;

Let us exalt His name together.

I sought the Lord, and He answered me;

He delivered me from all my fears.

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;

He delivers them from all their troubles. 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.

Kyrie, “Gloria In Excelsis”, Salutation & Collect p.186-189

Lessons & the Gospel p.190-191

Nicene Creed p.191

Hymn . . . “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” LSB #686

Sermon

Offering

Prayers of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Lord’s Prayer

Words of Institution

**Communion Dismissal
Post Communion Prayer
Salutation & Benedicamus p.201**

Benediction

Hymn . . . “Ye Watcher and Ye Holy Ones” #670 ^^

Announcements

***If you are visiting with us today please fill out our visitor card so that we can inform you of upcoming events or respond to a request.**

Mount Olivet’s Communion Statement

We welcome to the Lord’s Supper all who have been baptized into the Christian faith; who have received instruction concerning the Sacrament and have been admitted to the Lord’s table; who repents of their sins; and who seek the forgiveness and strength to live the new life which the Lord’s Supper gives. Members of Lutheran congregations in fellowship with us are welcome to share together with us in the blessings of the Sacrament of the Altar. Others who wish to receive Holy Communion or have questions about our Lutheran understanding of this Sacrament, are invited to have conversation with the Pastor Johnson after the service (if he is available) or by contacting him to set up an appointment. Also, anyone, child or adult, who wishes may come forward at the time of the distribution to receive a blessing.

SERMON NOTES

Sermon Title _____

Texts _____

Main Ideas / Thoughts _____

I Want to Remember _____

What Response Does God Want? _____