



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.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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



THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 2026

St. Luke Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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Rev. Terry L. De Giovanni Pastor

Welcome to Our Visitors

We pray all will be spiritually enriched by your visit to this "House of God." Here Christ breaks the silence that surrounds mortal man in his sin and death. Here in Christ Jesus, we hear the voice of the Eternal One, and hear the voice of the Father, and that He loves us, that He forgives us and that in the resurrection of Christ, He has made us His Children and has given us victory over death itself.

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

Liturgy – Divine Service III Pages 184-202

Ringling of the Bells, Welcome, and Announcements

Opening Hymn LSB#851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

Invocation

Confession – Absolution Pages 184-185 (right side)

The Introit:

P: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

C: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

P: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

C: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

P: Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

C: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

P: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

C: 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 is your keeper; the Lord is the shade on your right hand.

The Kyrie Page 186

The Gloria in Excelsis Pages 187-189

The Salutation and Collect of the Day Page 189

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7 (see back of bulletin)

P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual: (spoken by the Pastor)

The Epistle Reading 1Thessalonians 1:1-10 (see back of bulletin)

P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

The Triple Alleluia Page 156

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

The Apostles' Creed Page 192

The Hymn of the Day LSB#782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

The Sermon To God Be The Glory Matthew 22:15-22

The Offering

The Offertory Pages 192-193

The Prayer of the Church Response:

P: Lord, in Your mercy, C: Hear our Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction Page 202

Closing Hymn LSB#781 We Give Thee But Thine Own

We thank Pastor Buono for leading us in Worship this morning as Pastor preaches and attends the Quarterly Voters' Meeting at Trinity, McFarland

Next Sunday we shall observe the 509th Anniversary of the Reformation with a Service that will Holy Communion.

Unofficial Minutes from October 11 Voters' Meeting are in the Narthex.