

Stewardship Series
January 12, 2025
8:00 am
Lot – Money's Dark Side



Zion Lutheran Church
1400 S Duluth Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-338-5226
www.zlcsf.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

AS WE GATHER

Today we begin a three-week series called *Money Talks* and Lot is our focus. Lot, Abraham's nephew. Lot, whose wife famously became a pillar of salt. Lot, whose life shows us *money's dark side*. There is much to learn!

WELCOME | ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREET ONE ANOTHER

OPENING HYMN: LSB 409 Hail, O Source of Every Blessing

- 1 Hail, O Source of ev'ry blessing,
Father of our human race!
Gentiles now, Your grace possessing,
In Your courts obtain a place.
Grateful now, we fall before You,
In Your Church rejoice to live,
See Your glory and adore You,
Thankful for the grace You give.

- 2 Once far off but now invited,
We approach Your sacred throne,
In Your covenant united,
Reconciled, redeemed, made one.
Now revealed to eastern sages,
See the Star of Mercy shine,
Myst'ry hid in former ages,
Myst'ry great of love divine.

- 3 Hail, O all-inviting Savior!
Gentiles now their off' rings bring,
In Your temples seek Your favor,
Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.
May we, body, soul, and spirit,
Live devoted to Your praise,
Glorious realms of bliss inherit,
Grateful anthems ever raise.

Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Godliness with contentment is great gain.

People: For we brought nothing into the world, and it is certain that we can take nothing out.

Pastor: But if we have food and clothing, we will be content.

People: People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap.

Pastor: For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.

People: Some people, eager for money—

Pastor: Have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

People: Command those who are rich in this present world—

Pastor: Not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth.

People: Command them to be generous and willing to share.

Pastor: In this way we will lay up treasure for ourselves as a firm foundation for the coming age.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In today's Gospel lesson Jesus says, "Take care, and be on your guard against every form of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." (Luke 12:15)

Holy God, merciful Father—

People: Much like the rich man in today's parable, we place our faith in wealth and possessions.

Pastor: We live as if you do not matter and as if we matter most.

People: Like the rich man, too often our goal in life is to earn enough money so we can relax, eat, drink, and be merry.

Pastor: Then, blind to the needs of others, we become miserly and stingy.

People: Then we lay up treasures for ourselves and are not rich toward you.

Pastor: We are sorry for all our sin and seek your mercy through Jesus Christ.

[Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination]

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sin. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sin in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

THE INTROIT: Hymn: "The Earth is the Lord's" (To the tune of *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise LSB 802*)

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.
Redemption reminds us, O God, of your love.
By grace we are learning, as year leads to year.
We're called to be stewards, your caretakers here.

Too often, O God, we abuse your good earth.
We fail to remember its beauty and worth.

We take from creation much more than we need,
We threaten your mission through excess and greed.
May we be good stewards of all that you give.
Extending your Gospel wherever we live.
May we be a church that renews and restores
And lovingly cares for these gifts that are yours.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People (sing): Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: LSB 933 My Soul Rejoices

- 1 My soul rejoices, My spirit voices—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
For God my Savior Has shown me favor—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
With praise and blessing, Join in confessing
God, who is solely Mighty and holy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
His mercy surely Shall rest securely
On all who fear Him, Love and revere Him—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

2 His arm now baring, His strength declaring—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
The proud He scatters, Their rule He shatters—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
Oppression halted; The meek exalted.
Full are the hungry; Empty, the wealthy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
Here is the token All that was spoken
To Abr’ham’s offspring God is fulfilling—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

Text: © 1991 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004897

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

All: God, our beloved Creator and Father, make us wise and faithful stewards of your gifts, so that we serve our neighbors in need, extend the Gospel to people without Christ, and live to the praise of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

TIME IN THE WORD

Children’s Bible Reading: Page 288

Reader: The readings today are about money’s dark side.

The Old Testament Reading: Genesis 19:1-11

The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground. “My lords,” he said, “please turn aside to your servant’s house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning.” “No,” they answered, “we will spend the night in

the square.” But he insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them, baking bread without yeast, and they ate. Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom—both young and old—surrounded the house. They called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them.” Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him and said, “No, my friends. Don’t do this wicked thing. Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them. But don’t do anything to these men, for they have come under the protection of my roof.” “Get out of our way,” they replied. “This fellow came here as a foreigner, and now he wants to play the judge! We’ll treat you worse than them.” They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door. But the men inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door. Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-10

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise out of respect for the words and ministry of Jesus Christ.

RESPONSE

People (Sing): Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Gospel Reading: Luke 12:13-21

People (sing): Glory to You, O Lord.

Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’” “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’” “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’” “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People (sing): Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: LSB 783 Take My Life and Let It Be

- 1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

- 2 Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
- 5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Public domain

THE SERMON

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.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

OFFERING HYMN: LSB 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

- 2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!
Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Responsive)

Pastor: All things are yours, dear Lord, but you have granted us so much to use and manage to extend the mission of your church. We trust in your mercy and have confidence that you will give us all things needful, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be.

Pastor: Guard our hearts against greed, for life does not consist in the abundance of our possessions.

People: All that we have is Thine alone, a trust O Lord from Thee.

Pastor: Guard our hearts against anxiety, for life does not consist in the abundance of our possessions.

People: May we Thy bounties thus as stewards true receive.

Pastor: Guard our hearts against miserliness, for life does not consist in the abundance of our possessions.

People: And gladly as Thou blesses us to Thee our first fruits give.

+ Additional Prayers +

Pastor: O God, empower us by your Holy Spirit to be good and faithful stewards, sharing with others the resources you have given us,

People: And we believe Thy Word though dim our faith may be.

Pastor: We have freely received, now let us freely give.

People: Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, we do it unto Thee.

Pastor: In Jesus' name. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than we all ask or imagine –

People: According to his power that is at work within us.

Pastor: To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever!

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
- 2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!
- 3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead,
And homes are bare and cold,
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled
Are straying from the fold.
- 4 To comfort and to bless,
To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless
Is angels' work below.

5 The captive to release,
To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace,
It is a Christ-like thing.

6 And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

Text: Public domain

SEND OFF

Pastor: At Zion Lutheran we are committed to reaching out,
strengthening the saved,

All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!