



TODAY'S FLOWERS are presented in "Celebration of our 63rd Wedding Anniversary" by Kent and Ruth Steinhauer

THE SINGLE ALTAR FLOWERS are in recognition of the birthdays of Richard 'Tex' Essig (93), and Jim Giles (82).

PRELUDE: "Offertory on "Dennis" *-Southbridge*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASSES commence today following worship

"GIFT CARD CALENDAR" Donor spots are needed.

COMMUNITY LUNCHEs Next Sunday

APPLE DUMPLING SALE Orders due Sept. 30th (\$5.00 each)

BOSCOV'S "Friends Helping Friends" shopping passes for **Wednesday October 19th** will help fund Bern Youth Ministries. See Corey.

PRAYER: Holy "Giver of all good blessings"! Every blessing we have received, or hope to yet receive, comes from your generosity. The gifts we bring to you this morning pale in comparison to the bottom line of our ledger. Yet you manage your kingdom on a different economic model – one where the equity is grace, forgiveness, compassion, mercy, and justice. You encourage us to be shrewd, knowing it is not the currency that matters in the end. And so, we pray in the name of Jesus, whose life and death paid our debt. Amen. (*Luke 16:1-13*)

CALL TO WORSHIP: Jeremiah 8:20-9:1

Leader: For the hurt of my people I am hurt, says the Lord; I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

People: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

Leader: O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the destruction of my people!

People: Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my people not been restored?

HYMN: "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

(Note: Begins with CHORUS)

**There is a balm in Gilead To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead To heal the sin-sick soul**

**1. Sometimes I feel discouraged And think my work's in vain
But then the Holy Spirit Revives my soul again. CHORUS**

**2. Don't ever feel discouraged For Jesus is your friend
And if you lack of knowledge He'll ne'er refuse to lend. CHORUS**

EPISTLE: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all--this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property.

So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.

'Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'

His master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?

No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

SERMON: "THE ACCOUNTANT"

SR. CHOIR ANTHEM: "Live Your Love"

-Martin

"Live your love, give your grace. Let every breath be an offering of praise. Pass your peace. Share your song. Trust in the Lord all your days long!"

PRAYERS

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: "SPEAK TO ME THAT I MAY SPEAK"

**1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek Your erring children, lost & lone.**

**2 Oh, lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wand'ring & the wav'ring feet.
Oh, feed me, Lord, that I may feed Your hungry ones with manna
sweet.**

**3 Oh, teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which
you impart. And wing my words that they may reach the hidden
depths of many a heart.**

**4 Oh, use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, & when, & where.
Until your blessed face I see, Your rest, your joy, your glory share.**

COMMISSION

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the needy and the afflicted. Honor all people. Serve the Lord with gladness, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;

BENEDICTION: And may God's blessing be upon us; the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; and remain with us always. Amen.

POSTLUDE: "Postludium"

— *Armstrong*

Attendance last week 64



THE GOD ACCOUNT