

The Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The saying is trustworthy that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 24:42-47

⁴²[Jesus said:] “Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

⁴⁵“Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. ⁴⁷Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions.”

The Apostles’ Creed (p. 192)

The Hymn of the Day: 664 “Fight the Good Fight”

The Homily

Offerings are not gathered during Service today. While Pastor Messer prepares the Table for the Holy Supper, you may spend time prayerfully preparing to receive the Blessed Sacrament (you may wish to read through Luther’s “Christian Questions . . .” on pp. 329-330). If you wish to leave an offering, you may do so by placing it in the plate by the door as you depart after Service.

The Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The Service of the Sacrament

(Communicants are to be in full confessional fellowship with the LCMS)

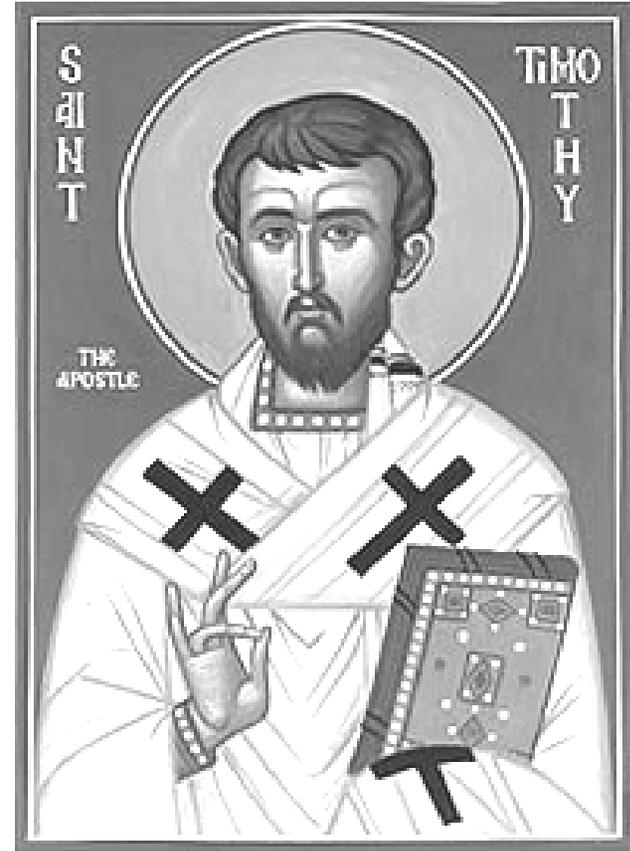
The Preface - Agnus Dei (pp. 194-199)

The Distribution

The Nunc Dimittis - Benediction (pp. 199-202)

Soli Deo Gloria!

St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor



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DIVINE SERVICE 3, PAGE 184

The Service of Preparation

(Upon entering the nave, silence should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)

Preparatory Prayer

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution (pp. 184-185)

The Service of the Word

The Introit

Ps. 89:1, 5, 15-16; antiphon: 1 Tim. 6:12a, b

Fight the good fight of the faith.

Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called.

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,

your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout,

who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,

who exult in your name all the day

and in your righteousness are exalted.

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.

Fight the good fight of the faith.

Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called.

The Kyrie (p. 186)

The Gloria in Excelsis (pp. 187-189)

The Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 189)

Lord Jesus Christ, You have always given to Your Church on earth faithful shepherds such as Timothy to guide and feed Your flock. Make all pastors diligent to preach Your holy Word and administer Your means of grace, and grant Your people wisdom to follow in the way that leads to life eternal; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The First Reading

Acts 16:1-5

¹Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. ²He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium. ³Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. ⁵So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily.

The Gradual

Ezek. 34:11, 12b; Jer. 23:4a, b

Behold, I will search for my sheep and will seek them out;

I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered.

**I will set shepherds over them who will care for them,
and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed.**

The Epistle

1 Timothy 6:11-16

¹¹But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, ¹⁴to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.