

Did God Really Say?  
**“It’s Wrong to Judge Others”**

October 1, 2023

**As We Gather**

Can we tell the difference between things that are true, and things that sound true, but really aren’t? There are in fact many commonly heard expressions today that sound genuine enough to come from God, but upon closer examination are not only false, but dangerous when taken to heart. The temptation in the Garden of Eden began with Satan seeking to stir up doubt and confusion about what God really said, “Did God really say?” The same deceptions are at work today to lead us away from God’s truth into error. In this series, we will look at lies that sound true, and the truth of God that gives hope, life and peace.

One of the most well-known and quoted verses in the Bible is, “Do not judge, or you too will be judged” (Matthew 7:1). But just quoting that verse takes it out of its context, where Jesus was speaking against hypocrisy. Then several verses later, Jesus calls on His disciples to make judgments regarding true and false teachers. So what does Jesus teach regarding judging, and what does it mean for us today?

**Welcome**

+ Gathering +

**“O Holy Spirit, Enter In” LSB 913**

1 O Holy Spirit, enter in,  
And in our hearts Your work begin,  
Your dwelling place now make us.  
Sun of the soul, O Light divine,  
Around and in us brightly shine,  
To joy and gladness wake us  
That we may be  
Truly living,  
To You giving  
Prayer unceasing  
And in love be still increasing.

2 Give to Your Word impressive pow’r,  
That in our hearts from this good hour  
As fire it may be glowing,  
That in true Christian unity  
We faithful witnesses may be,  
Your glory ever showing.

Hear us, cheer us  
By Your teaching;  
Let our preaching  
And our labor  
Praise You, Lord, and serve our neighbor.

3 O mighty Rock, O Source of Life,  
Let Your dear Word, in doubt and strife,  
In us be strongly burning  
That we be faithful unto death  
And live in love and holy faith,  
From You true wisdom learning.  
Your grace and peace  
On us shower;  
By Your power  
Christ confessing,  
Let us see our Savior's blessing.

**Invocation**

**Baptism of Lainey Christine Cloud**

### **“Let the Little Children Come”**

The little children came  
for the blessing of Your touch  
The disciples tried to stop them  
They thought this welcome was too much  
For such a high and Holy teacher  
had no time for ones so small  
But You just turned to the children  
and called to them all

#### **Chorus**

O Come to Me, Come,  
Let the little children come  
For the Kingdom of God  
belongs to such as these  
O Come to Me, Come,  
Let the little children come  
Come and receive the Kingdom of God

Today we have come  
for the blessing of Your touch  
By water and Spirit  
You freely give so much

#### **Prayer**

#### **Children Excused to Children’s Church**

To this child that we bring You  
in answer to Your call  
For You love the children  
and You call to them all

#### **Chorus**

#### **Bridge**

We praise You, O Father,  
for You have revealed  
The kingdom of Your one and only Son  
Not just to the high and the mighty  
of this world  
But to the little ones  
Oh let the little children come!

#### **Chorus**

Come and receive the Kingdom of God

### **+ Service of the Word +**

#### **First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:14-22**

The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so. <sup>15</sup> The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. <sup>16</sup> For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.”

<sup>17</sup> The LORD said to me: “What they say is good. <sup>18</sup> I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. <sup>19</sup> I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. <sup>20</sup> But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I

have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.”

<sup>21</sup> You may say to yourselves, “How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?” <sup>22</sup> If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 5:9-13**

I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— <sup>10</sup> not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. <sup>11</sup> But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler. Do not even eat with such people.

<sup>12</sup> What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? <sup>13</sup> God will judge those outside. “Expel the wicked person from among you.”

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 7:1-5**

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. <sup>2</sup> For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

<sup>3</sup> “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to You O Christ!**

**Sermon**

**“It’s Wrong to Judge People”**

**Offering**

**Musical Offering**

**“Jubilance”**

*(SJLS Handbells)*

**by Kevin McChesney**

## Prayers

*Please add your prayer requests to the chat.*

### Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### Petitions

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

### St. John's People and Families

Kevin & Lezlee Cootey

John & Pam Foottit

Mark, Corrin, Anavon, & Kaden Cornovch

Jose, Kelsey, Jax, & Logan Rodriguez

John, Trisha, Teagan, & John Tortolani

Chris, Kelli, & Harper Auld

Mikhael, Alicia, & Gianna Florez

Kris, Jamie, & Meila Laratta

Tyler, Tiffany, Ezzie, Kimber, & Maren Marcotte

Josephine Laphai & Nan & Phoebe Zinghkang

## Benediction

### "Praise Be to Christ" LSB 538

1 Praise be to Christ in whom we see  
The image of the Father shown,  
The first-born Son revealed and known,  
The truth and grace of deity;  
Through whom creation came to birth,  
Whose fingers set the stars in place,  
The unseen pow'rs, and this small earth,  
The furthest bounds of time and space.

2 Praise be to Him whose sov'reign sway  
And will upholds creation's plan;  
Who is, before all worlds began  
And when our world has passed away:

Lord of the church, its life and head,  
Redemption's price and source and theme,  
Alive, the first-born from the dead,  
To reign as all-in-all supreme.

3 Praise be to Him who, Lord Most High,  
The fullness of the Godhead shares;  
And yet our human nature bears,  
Who came as man to bleed and die.  
And from His cross there flows our peace  
Who chose for us the path He trod,  
That so might sins and sorrows cease  
And all be reconciled to God.

## Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

### Memory Verse for This Week

You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.

*Romans 2:1*

## Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Reader	Morningdove Bain
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Sound Technician	Tyler Koen
Streaming Technician	Martin Meissenhalter
Projector Tech	Sarah Kramer
Worship Preparation Team	Ruth Peterson & Marlen Virkus
Ushers	Christy Wood
Worship Band	Neill Barker, Chris & Heidi Newman, Pastor Mike Schmid

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