

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 29, 2021

August 29, 2021
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.
Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.
Amen.

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG (verses 1&4)

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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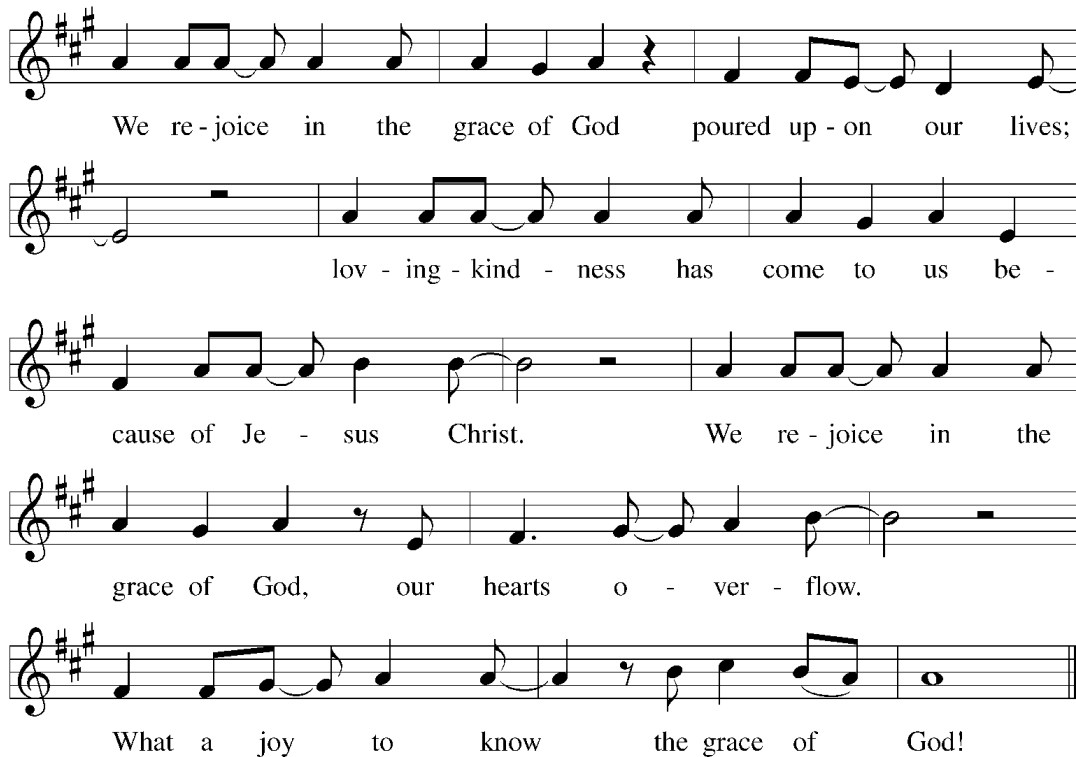
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 148)

We Rejoice in the Grace of God



We re-joyce in the grace of God poured up - on our lives;
lov - ing - kind - ness has come to us be -
cause of Je - sus Christ. We re - joice in the
grace of God, our hearts o - ver - flow.
What a joy to know the grace of God!

Text: Steve Cook and Vicki Cook

Music: WE REJOICE IN THE GRACE, Steve Cook and Vicki Cook

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

A reading from Deuteronomy.

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

(Read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)

¹LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

SECOND READING: James 1:17-27

A reading from James.

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)



GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR BILL

HYMN OF THE DAY (verses 1&4)

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Please stand if you are able.

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (*Please respond.*)

P: Lord, in your mercy. C: Hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY *We Are an Offering* (ELW 692)

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

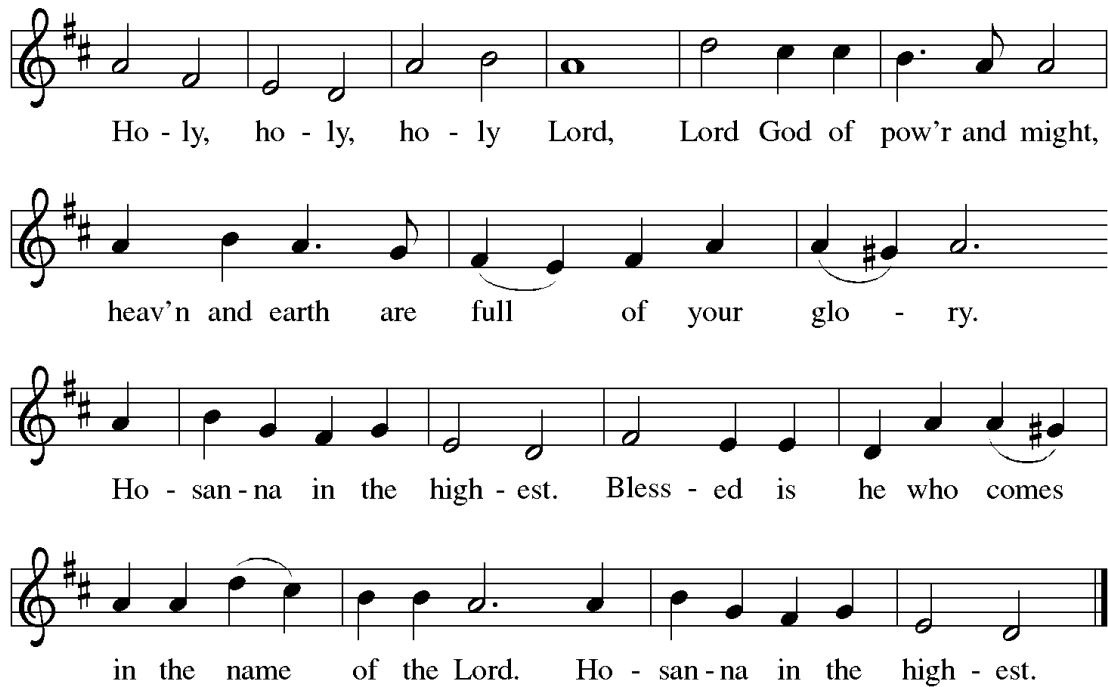
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.
Come!

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher, maintaining your distance. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Return to your seat.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ Strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG (*verses 1&5*)

For the Beauty of the Earth



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
- 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
- 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
- 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

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Organist	Doug Mummert
Head Usher	Frances Reichard
Acolyte	Aaron Shreiner
Lector.....	Karen Wolfinger
Securing Offering.....	Edna Harris & Sam Mull
Communion Set-Up.....	Margie & Wayne Dale
Communion Clean-Up	Margie & Wayne Dale
Bread Cubes	Margie Dale
Communion Assist	Wayne Dale
Attendance last Sunday	51

Stewardship Thought - **Aug. 29, 2021** (14th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B) **James 1:17** – *Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.* Make a list of the blessings in your life. Go ahead! These are gifts to you from God, the source of all. Now review the list and pray for each, “I thank God for” Do this every day and see how you feel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in honor of Eli & Hattie Mummert given by Grammy and Gramps.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

2021 Altar Flowers Chart—Kimberly will not be posting the new altar flowers chart as usual. INSTEAD, please call her to reserve your special Sunday! **Flowers will now be purchased from Royer's Florist in Chambersburg. Please note the price will change to \$35.** For the price of two flower arrangements, you can give glory to God with the beauty of His creation on the altar; commemorate a loved one; and if you choose, have your flowers given to someone who is homebound or recovering from surgery or illness.

Prayer requests for the following *Clif Rau, Linda Wepking, Raelynn Tarman, Susie Alleman, Pastor Peter Emig, David Riggleman, Matt Bowen, Connie Bikle, Morgan, Nancy Bumbaugh Cook, Thelma Briggs, Patricia Yetter, Joe Mock, Darrell Veilleux, Bud Armstrong, Gertie Reichard, Manny Negron, Barbara Socks, Denise Bowen, Anne English, Millie Kulkusky, Bonnie Hudson.* If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. **Note:** At the beginning of each month, the Prayer Request List will start anew. If you would like to remain listed on the next month's list, or if you would like to have your name removed from the list before the end of the month, please call the office.

Notice of Congregation Meeting Today: The congregation council has called a congregational meeting immediately following worship today, to vote on the recommendation to approve a sound system upgrade in the church. This upgrade will significantly improve the sound in worship as well as on the YouTube videos. The cost of this upgrade is fully covered by a generous church member. A quorum is needed, and all voting members of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

Relay for Life: Our team is putting together a raffle basket for the Relay event on Friday, September 17 and we are looking for donations of scratch off lottery tickets in any denomination. Please give your tickets to Becky Mull by September 12th. Thank you for your support!

Choir Practice begins on Thursday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Youth Family Campfire-Picnic: Saturday Evening, September 18, 2021 at 6:00pm in the Picnic Woods. Hot Dogs, Mac & Cheese, Chips and S'mores. Bring your lawn chairs.

SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary is having a "**Michael's BBQ Chicken Dinner**" Saturday, September 4th at Lowe's, LWE, Chambersburg. The dinner includes: 1/2 BBQ chicken, macaroni salad, baked beans, applesauce, and Martin's roll. Tickets can be pre-purchased from Marjorie Dale, Frances Reichard, or Becky Pecha for \$12.00.

We will have an outdoor worship service in the Woods on September 19 at 10:15 a.m., weather permitting. Following the service, we will gather in the picnic shelter for a potluck lunch. Beverages, plates, napkins, and cutlery will be provided. Please bring a dish to share and a camp chair. If it rains, we will worship in the church and eat in the Fellowship Center.

- Last name beginning with A-G bring a dessert
- Last name beginning with H-N bring a main dish
- Last name beginning with O-Z bring a side dish

Bible Study Begins September 8. Join Pastor Bill in the conference room on Wednesdays from 10:00-11:30 a.m. for an informal Bible Study. Starting September 8, we will be studying the Gospel of Luke. Luke will be featured in the lectionary readings for Year B, beginning in Advent. No experience is necessary, and all are welcome.

Adult Sunday School Begins September 26. Pastor Bill will lead a discussion of the Sunday lectionary texts at 9:00 a.m., in the Sunday School Room. All are welcome. You can prepare by reading the Old Testament lesson, Psalm, Epistle and Gospel texts appointed for the day.

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is September 12. Solomon's is participating with thousands of other congregations across the country to serve our communities on *God's Work Our Hands Sunday*. Join Social Ministry in the Fellowship Center immediately following worship to assemble personal care kits for those in need. In the meantime, consider donating items needed for the kits. A board listing items requested, and a collection box are located next to the piano in the sanctuary.

Norm Kuykendall is selling tickets to a **Smith's Chicken BBQ** (1/2 chicken, baked potato, baked beans, and choice of coleslaw or applesauce) for \$12 on September 25th. See Norm if interested.

Personal Care Kits: Social Ministry has extended the collection of items for Personal Care Kits through the end of August. The kits will be assembled during Rally Day in September. Items needed for each kit are:

One light weight bath-size towel (20" x 40" or 52" x 27")

Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand in original wrapper

One adult-size toothbrush in original package

One sturdy comb like the one on display in the Sunday school room

One metal nail clipper (attached file optional)

You may purchase any part of the kit and place it in the gray tote under the display.

No Sunday School classes during the summer months. Classes will resume on September 26.

The **annual SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary membership drive** will continue through the summer months. Anyone can join with a minimum contribution of \$1.00. The auxiliary is grateful for the generous support we have received. This enables the Auxiliary to make donations to the many important programs and services at The Village at Luther Ridge. If you would like to join the auxiliary or need more information, contact Becky Pecha.

Bulletin Announcement Forms are located in both pamphlet racks. Please submit all bulletin announcements to the office by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

Council Minutes, Monthly Financial Statement and Committee Minutes are available in the library for anyone to read.

AUGUST 29, 2021

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Maintaining the heart of our Christian faith.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 7:1-23	Authentic faith
Monday	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9	God commands obedience
Tuesday	James 1:17-27	Hearing and doing the word
Wednesday	2 Timothy 3:6-16	A good minister of Jesus Christ
Thursday	Galatians 5:22-26	The fruit of the Spirit
Friday	Romans 1:8-15	Prayer for thanksgiving
Saturday	Psalm 15	Who shall abide with God?
Sunday	Mark 7:24-37	Jesus heals the Gentiles

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. James 1:27 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to act in ways that show your love for us and our love for you and all people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, we thank you for this food and pray that all may have food to eat, a roof over their heads, and security for their daily lives. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's justice and mercy set you free to love and serve others through Christ Jesus our Lord.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Think or talk about a time when you or someone you know said you would do one thing but then did the total opposite.
- How do you feel about someone who tells you something about themselves that is not true?
- What does it mean to you that Peter said that Jesus is the Holy One of God?

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 7:1-23.

We may be more like the Pharisees and scribes than we would like to admit. They wanted to protect God's teachings and honor God's word with their whole life. They set up all kinds of pious actions like hand washing to represent this singular attention. Jesus called them hypocrites for some of these practices. In the process of valuing and protecting God's importance in our lives, it is possible for us to miss the heart of it all. The Book of James reminds us to keep it simple: care for those in need and keep oneself "*unstained by the world*" (James 1:27). Even our best efforts at keeping pure will fall short. Jesus reminds us all of our hypocrisy that needs cleansing and forgiveness. The heart of the Christian faith is Christ's grace that places us all in the same need of forgiveness. That, in turn, sets us free to care for others instead of condemning them. In your heart of hearts, what is something that you do that is inconsistent with what you think is right or best?

***Pray:* Almighty God, help us to repent of anything that turns our hearts from loving you and caring for our neighbor. In Christ Jesus we pray, amen.**

SERVICE

James tells us to be doers of God's word. In Jesus' time that included caring for orphans and widows. Who are the people that need your help today? School has either started or will start soon. Be aware of those who feel alone and may need a friend. How can you be a doer and not just a hearer of God's word?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Sometimes our doing gets in the way of our being. We can miss the joy of daily life while working to save up time and money to enjoy life. It is true of our faith life as well. We can faithfully attend Christian worship and forget to daily pay attention to Christ's love that sets us free. Take time this week to sit in silence and imagine your loving Savior standing in front of you. End by praying: **Thank you, God, for _____.**