SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 4856 WAYNE ROAD CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202 (717) 267-2266

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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."

> NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AUGUST 7, 2022

August 7, 2022 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

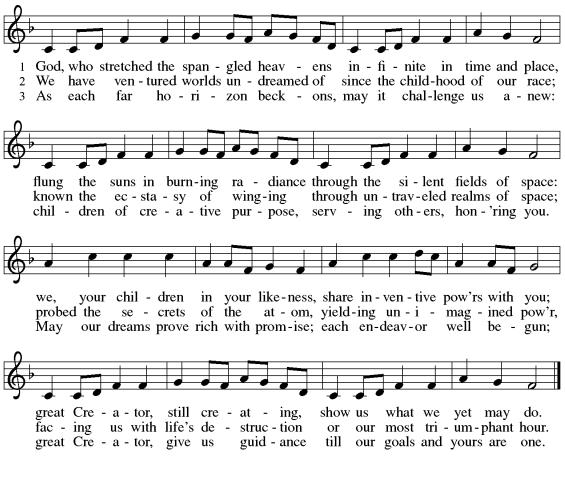
Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *God*, *Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* (all verses) God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens



Text: Catherine Cameron, b. 1927 Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835 Text © 1967 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SOLO PEGGI NORMAN How Can I Keep from Singing?

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

A reading from Genesis.

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 33:12-22

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

¹²Happy is the nation whose God [|] is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage! ¹³The LORD looks | down from heaven, and sees all | humankind. ¹⁴God sits firmly en-¹ throned and watches all who dwell | on the earth. ¹⁵God fashions | all their hearts and observes | all their deeds. ¹⁶A king is not saved by the size ¹ of the army, nor are warriors rescued by [|] their great strength. ¹⁷The horse gives vain | hope for victory; despite its great strength it | cannot save. ¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear ¹ you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your | steadfast love, ¹⁹to deliver their ¹ lives from death, and to keep them alive in [|] time of famine. ²⁰Our innermost being waits for ¹ you, O LORD, our helper | and our shield. ²¹Surely, our heart rejoic-¹ es in you, for in your holy name we | put our trust. ²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, ¹ be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

A reading from Hebrews.

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

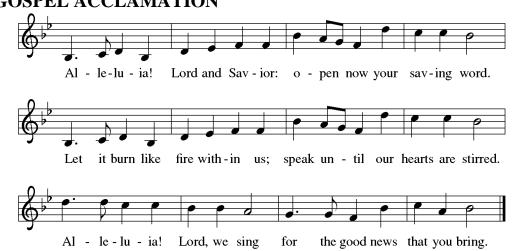
¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not

visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] ³²"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON PASTOR BARB

HYMN OF THE DAY Have No Fear, Little Flock (all verses)

TRUST, GUIDANCE



Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2–4 Music: Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930 Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House

LITTLE FLOCK 66766 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: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERATORY









OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

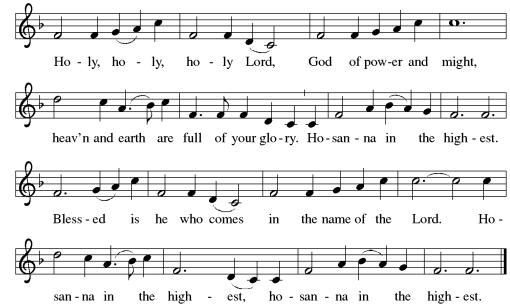
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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

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

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

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. Please notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar. The Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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



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

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **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 God of Grace and God of Glory (all verses) God of Grace and God of Glory



Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. **Thanks be to God.**

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor	Rev. Barb Barry
Cell Phone Number	717-357-3150
Email Address	
Church Office Email Address	<u>office@solomonslutheran.org</u>
Organist	Doug Mummert
Head Usher	
Acolyte	Rebekah Aldrich
Lector	Phil Johnson
Securing Offering	Marjorie Dale & Donald Wildeson
Communion Set-Up	Peggi Norman
Communion Clean-Up	Peggi Norman
Bread Cubes	Peggy Craven
Communion Assist	Lilly Chiado
Attendance last Sunday	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God for having survived the pandemic given by Annamarie Schwartz.

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!

For now, the offering plate will continue to be placed in the back of the church in front of the Baptismal Font. Thank you for your continuing support of the ministries of Solomon's as we join God in the work of sharing Christ's love.

Prayer requests for the following: *Ray Rotz, Dirk Gilbert, Matthew, Lexi and Brooke Bowen, Sarge and Barb Weaver, Patricia Furry, Rory Snyder, Barbara Weaver, Tina Smith, Nancy Marshall, Milissa Fogle, Marie Dovey, Beth Floyd, Jean Jackson, Annamarie Schwartz, David Johnson, Joe and Karen Wolfinger, Jennie Matthews, Kristen Hardman, Becky Pecha, Patricia Yetter, Ukrainian Nation, Peace for the World, Carol Locke, Aurora Shultz and her parents David & Brittany, Linda Wepking, Frances Kramer, Connie Bikle, Darrell Veilleux. 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.*

Office Hours for Pastor Barb are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon or call for an appointment.

Solomon's is invited to a Seminar exploring Sexism and Gender Bias: *Giving Life and Value to All: Moving Toward Gender Justice.* The seminar will be held at St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2695 Luther Drive both in person and by Zoom. Friday Evening, September 30, 2022, 6:30 - 9:00 pm and Saturday Morning, October 1, 2022, 9:00 am – Noon (Continental Breakfast 8:30). Registration Required by Sept. 20. To register or ask questions about seminar contact micah6.8chbg@gmail.com or call St. Luke Office at 717-261-1213 during office hours Tu, Wed, Th, 9 am - noon.

CONFIRMATION 101: Wednesday, Aug 17, 6 PM. Some in our family have asked for a class reviewing some of the basics. To participate fully in worship and grow our relationship with God, we need to know stuff. What does it mean to be a Lutheran Christian? Come for dessert and conversation with Pastor Barb.

Calling all keys! We are creating a list of all the people who currently hold a key for the Church or Fellowship Hall. Please notify the office either by phone (717-267-2266) or email (<u>kimberly@solomonslutheran.org</u>), if you hold any of these keys.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES will begin Sunday, September 28 at 9AM in the Conference Room in the Fellowship Building. If you know anyone of Confirmation age who needs to participate, please ask the family to call Pastor Barb at the church office. We want to have enough materials and supplies.

Relay for Life Fundraiser: We are kicking off 2023 with a mum sale! They are 9" pots for \$13.00 or 3 for \$33.00! Available colors are: White, Yellow, Purple, Orange, or Red. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Sunday School Room and all orders and payments are due by August 21st. Please make your check payable to Becky Mull if you are writing a check. Delivery is scheduled for Sunday, September 18th. Please contact Becky Mull or Zoe Mummert with questions. Thank you for your support!

Many thanks to Edna Harris for all the time and energy she gave to fulfill her duties as treasurer for the past two years. Edna will be stepping down from treasurer at the end of the year. Prayerfully consider if you feel called to serve in this ministry.

Rally Day is September 11, 9:00AM – 10:00AM with brunch starting at 9:00AM. Carissa Martin, Founder and President of Monarch's Way (home for troubled girls) will begin speaking at 9:30AM.

Volunteers are needed for nursery duties during the summer months. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Sunday School Room.

Power Pack Meals: We will not be collecting food during June or July. The program will resume in August for the 2022-2023 school year. Please place the items you donate in the gray tote in the Sunday School room. Monetary donations are also accepted, write your check to Solomon's, and put Power Pack in the memo line.

Social Ministry: Social Ministry will be collecting items through August for Personal Care Kits as we have done in past years. Items needed are: One light-weight dark color bath size towel (20" x 40" to 52" x 27"); Two - three bath size bars of soap equaling 8-9 oz., any brand in original wrapping; One adult size toothbrush in original packaging; One sturdy comb; One metal nail clippers attached file optional. We are not asking that you donate an entire kit, just the items you feel you can give. Please place the items in the gray tote under the coat rack. The kits will be assembled during **God's Work Our Hands** on Rally Day Sunday in September.

Sign-up Sheets for worship assistants for the rest of the year will be on the side table in the Sunday School room. Communion: bread, set-up, clean-up, and assistant will be on a monthly basis. If you can't commit to the entire month, please see if you can share the month with someone else. Acolytes and Lectors are on a weekly basis. If you find you can't fulfill a chosen date, please call someone to take your place. Let Kimberly in the office know so the bulletin and newsletter info stays up to date. Thank you for your commitment to help provide opportunities for meaningful worship at Solomons. Kimberly will publish the schedule for each month in the newsletter.

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 7, 2022 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

We are strangers and foreigners on earth.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 12:32-40	Seek treasures in heaven
Monday	Genesis 15:1-6	God's covenant with Abram
Tuesday	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	The meaning of faith
Wednesday	Psalm 33:1-11	Sing praises to the Lord
Thursday	1 Chronicles 29:10-22	David's praises to the Lord
Friday	Isaiah 40:27-31	The Lord gives strength
Saturday	Psalm 33:12-22	Trust only in God
Sunday	Luke 12:49-56	Following Jesus causes division

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

They [Abraham's descendants] confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. **Hebrews 11:13b-14 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, direct us to long for what you long for and to thirst for what you promise, that we may treasure what you want for us through Jesus, the Son of Man. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of steadfast love, fill our hearts with trust in you, as you fill our bodies with the riches of this meal. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of steadfast love and faithfulness give you peace.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What is something you have longed for and desired for some time?
- What is something you desire for the benefit of humanity?

HYMN OF THE WEEK Blessed Assurance



DEVOTIONS Read: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16.

Hebrews 11 is a famous chapter focusing explicitly on the Christian faith: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (v. 1). The focus is on the future; faith involves a God-given longing filled with God's promises, assurances that lead us not to sit down and rest as though satisfied. Faith longs for something more, a "homeland," a country of heavenly peace that is not yet fully experienced. Therefore, in this life we are foreigners and strangers. We are people on the move, looking ahead, and often not satisfied with things as they are. It is very tempting to settle down and be content with the way things are, but that is not the mindset of the Christian faith. We want God's promises to be fulfilled for all. Until that happens, we join others as travelers on earth longing for something more, something better, nothing less than the perfect peace and mercy of God.

Discuss: What is missing in your life that only God can fulfill?

Pray: God of promise, help us to be restless for the comfort and security only you can bring, not only for ourselves, but for all your people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you reach out to a friend or a new neighbor who might feel like a stranger in a group of people?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults who practice the faith with them. Hebrews 11 lists people from the Bible who showed faith in God. Who have been examples of faith to you and your family? Write a thank you card to these people thanking them for their example. One of the greatest gifts we can give to our children is deep and meaningful connections with other witnesses to the faith. Ask adults who are friends and family to share their own faith stories with children and youth.

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