

**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**  
**SEPTEMBER 11, 2022**

**September 11, 2022**  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.*

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
who is eager to forgive  
and who loves us beyond our days.  
**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge  
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.  
God of mercy and forgiveness,  
**we confess that sin still has a hold on us.**  
**We have harmed your good creation.**  
**We have failed to do justice,**  
**love kindness,**  
**and walk humbly with you.**  
**Turn us in a new direction.**  
**Show us the path that leads to life.**  
**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved of God:  
your sins are forgiven ✙ and you are made whole.  
God points the way to new life in Christ,  
who meets us on the road.  
Journey now in God's abiding love  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (all verses)

### Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.  
Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

## 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



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is  
 2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the  
 3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,  
 peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;  
 poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.  
 he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.  
 the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.



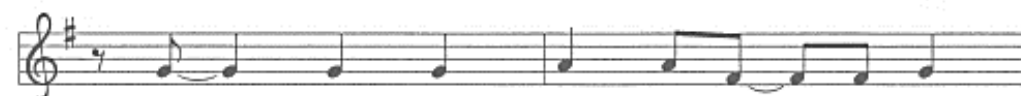
Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

THE FEAST IS READY

LM and refrain

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM      Walk Worthy of the Lord**

**FIRST READING: Exodus 32:7-14**

A reading from Exodus.

*While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.*

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” <sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.”

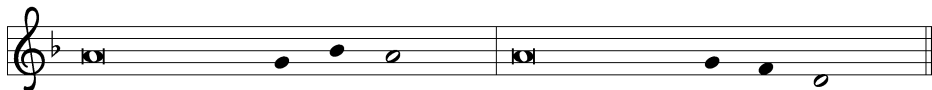
<sup>11</sup>But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” <sup>14</sup>And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 51:1-10

*(sung responsively between choir and congregation, beginning with the choir)*



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<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your <sup>1</sup>steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out <sup>1</sup>my offenses.

**<sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

- <sup>3</sup>For I know <sup>1</sup> my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- <sup>1</sup> er before me.
- <sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil <sup>1</sup> in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right <sup>1</sup> in your judgment.**
- <sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born <sup>1</sup> steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my <sup>1</sup> mother's womb.
- <sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth <sup>1</sup> deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom <sup>1</sup> deep within.**
- <sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I <sup>1</sup> shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- <sup>1</sup> er than snow.
- <sup>8</sup>**Let me hear <sup>1</sup> joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken <sup>1</sup> may rejoice.**
- <sup>9</sup>Hide your face <sup>1</sup> from my sins,  
and blot out <sup>1</sup> all my wickedness.
- <sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean <sup>1</sup> heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir- <sup>1</sup> it within me.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17**

A reading from 1 Timothy.

*The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.*

<sup>12</sup>I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup>even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Music: Caribbean traditional

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## GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.*

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup>“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**PASTOR BARB**

**BACKPACK BLESSING**

## HYMN OF THE DAY *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* (all verses)

### Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5  
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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: God of grace, C: hear our prayer.*

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### OFFERTORY



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.  
Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And  
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

*Last time*

Text: Henry Smith  
Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,

in your great love you richly provide for our needs.

Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,

and make us ready to share with all in need;

through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

**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



San-to, san - to, san - to Dios de glo - ria y po - der,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might,



cie - los y tie - rra pro - cla - man tu glo - ria.  
heav - en and earth . . . are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na en los cie - los.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na en los cie - los.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



Ben - di - to a - quel que vie - ne en el nom - bre de Dios.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of our God.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na en los cie - los.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na en los cie - los.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, 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 (Sung)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray with song 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 invites you to this table.  
Come, taste and see.

## **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.**

## **COMMUNION VISITATION TEAM BLESSING**

## POST COMMUNION



“Go, make dis - ci - ples, bap - tiz - ing them, teach - ing them.

Go, make dis - ci - ples, for I am with you till the end of time.

Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light for the world.

Go, be a cit - y on a hill, so all can see that you’re

serv - ing me. Go, make dis - ci - ples.”

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950  
Music: GO, MAKE DISCIPLES, Handt Hanson  
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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the abundant table,  
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal  
with bread for the journey.  
Give us your grace on the road  
that we might serve our neighbors with joy;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**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, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* (all verses)

### God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

#### *O Christ, Surround Me*



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,  
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SILENT PRAYER

## POSTLUDE

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## **SERVING TODAY**

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Church Office Email Address .....	<a href="mailto:office@solomonslutheran.org">office@solomonslutheran.org</a>
Organist .....	Doug Mummert
Head Usher .....	Phil Johnson
Acolyte .....	Sam Mull
Lector.....	Patricia Yetter
Securing Offering.....	Doug Mummert & Wayne Norman
Communion Set-Up.....	Sam & Becky Mull
Communion Clean-Up .....	Judy Johnson & Patricia Yetter
Bread Cubes .....	Marjorie Dale
Communion Assist .....	Marjorie Dale
Attendance last Sunday .....	45

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The altar flowers** this morning are placed to the Glory of God in honor of our 62nd wedding anniversary given by Bernie & Edna Harris.

**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.

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

**Prayer requests for the following** *Family & friends of Leroy Locke, Lanny Haugh, Heather Carman Shull, Betty Sterner, Jenny Barnes, Aurora Shultz and her parents David and Brittany, Ray Rotz, Matthew, Lexi and Brooke Bowen, Sarge and Barb Weaver, Patricia Furry, Tina Smith, Nancy Marshall, Milissa Fogle, Marie Dovey, Beth Floyd, Jean Jackson, David Johnson, Joe and Karen Wolfinger, Jennie Matthews, Kristen Hardman, Patricia Yetter, Ukrainian Nation, Peace for the World, Carol Locke, 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.

**Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic** – Next Sunday, September 18 at 10:15 a.m. in the Woods, 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

**Adult Sunday School Begins September 25.** There will be a discussion of the Sunday lectionary texts at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School Room. All are welcome.

**Our Daily Bread devotionals** for October/November/December are available in the pamphlet rack in the narthex.

**Apple Butter and Candy Order forms are here!** Candy making – mark your calendars **Thursday 11/3/22 & Friday 11/4/22.** We will be making candy on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Keep Friday, November 4 open as an extra day of candy making if needed. Apple Butter & Candy Order Forms are in the newsletter or see Zoe Mummert for a copy. Apple Butter Order Forms will need to be turned in by Sunday, Oct. 9. **Candy Order Forms will need to be turned in by Sunday, Oct. 23.** We will **set up on Wednesday evening, November 2 at 6:30 pm.** Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Sunday School Room. Candy can be picked up Saturday, Nov. 5 10-12, and Sunday Nov. 6 after church.

**Apple Butter Orders:** Order forms need to be turned in October 9 and can be picked up with candy orders on Saturday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 10-12 or Sunday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> after church.

**Relay for Life** – With your help we raised a total of \$343.00 for our team. What a great kick off to our 2023 Relay event! The mums will be available for pick up at the Church on September 25, 2022. Thank you for your continued support.

**You're invited: Fall Picnic/Campfire – Saturday, Sept. 24 at 6:00 pm.** Christian Ed is hosting a Fall Picnic/Campfire in the Picnic Woods. Food will be provided: hot dogs, baked beans, mac & cheese, chips, s'mores, water & lemonade. Hot dogs and s'mores will be roasted over the campfire. Bring your chairs for a night of fellowship. Sign-up sheet will be on the table in the Sunday School room until after church on Sunday, Sept. 18.

**Upper Room & The Daily Bread Devotionals:** Both devotionals will be available in the narthex starting in September. The Daily Bread has been available for anyone over the past years. We are buying a few of the Upper Room Devotionals to see if there is an interest in them. Upper Room is two-month booklets & The Daily Bread is three-month booklets. Christian Ed has been giving them to the shut-ins over the past year.

**Choir Practice** - Thursdays at 7:00PM.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Power Pack Meals:** The power pack program has resumed 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.

**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.

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2022**  
**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



*God's promises overcome God's righteous judgment.*

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 15:1-10</b>	<b>The lost sheep and the lost coin</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Exodus 32:7-14</b>	<b>Moses pleads for the people</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1 Timothy 1:12-17</b>	<b>Gratitude for mercy</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>James 5:13-16</b>	<b>The prayer of faith</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Jeremiah 31:31-34</b>	<b>A new covenant</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Ephesians 5:25-32</b>	<b>Rules for the new life</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 51:1-10</b>	<b>A prayer for forgiveness</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 16:1-13</b>	<b>Parable of the shrewd manager</b>

**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I [the Apostle Paul] am the foremost. 1 Timothy 1:15 (NRSV)*

**PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

God of divine justice, we thank you for remembering your promise of mercy and forgiveness and bringing us back to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, just as we need this gift of food to survive, help us always to remember that we need your love to survive as well. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May the God who remembers you with love bless you with peace and joy.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**

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

- Some people feel that when something bad happens, it is God's judgment. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to know that God's mercy endures beyond God's judgment?

## HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*



## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Exodus 32:7-14.

There is plenty of wrath, divine repentance, even humor in this Old Testament Story. God wants to destroy the people who have turned away to worship a golden calf and won't even acknowledge them as God's people. God refers to them as Moses' people, the people whom Moses led out of Egypt. Moses refutes this and says they are God's people and God led them out of Egypt. Moses stands as a prophet speaking not to the people about God's word, but to God about God's promises that go back to Abraham, Isaac, and Israel (Jacob). Fortunately, Moses wins the debate and God repents, turning from the divine anger planned for the obstinate and unfaithful people. God saves the people by not destroying them. What is at stake? God's passion and mercy for the people does battle (through Moses) and wins the day by not letting God's judgment get the last word. Thanks be to God for promises to us that are from everlasting to everlasting.

*Discuss:* What do you find surprising about God's actions in this reading?

***Pray:* God of justice and mercy, we thank you that you know our weaknesses and failings and yet love us still through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how might you help and encourage others who feel the weight of their regrets?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Luke 15:1-10 Jesus tells parables about the lost being found. Our sin is a condition of being lost and apart from God. God rejoices when, through faith in Christ, we, as the lost, are found and restored to a relationship with God. Hide chocolate coins or other candies and have others find them. After the treats are found, talk about the joy of finding them and then about God's joy at searching for and finding us. **Pray: Thank you, God, for searching for us when we stray from you. Thank you for finding us and forgiving us. Amen.**