

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."

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
VBS CELEBRATION
JUNE 25, 2023

June 25, 2023
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
VBS Celebration

This morning we celebrate the time children and adult volunteers spent learning about God's word through Vacation Bible School. This isn't a program to watch but a worship service where the children and youth are the worship leaders. Please join in the service with a spirit of prayer and wonder. "And a little child shall lead them."

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

PRELUDE *VBS children and youth*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We know we haven't lived as Jesus would want us to live. Let us tell God all about us leaving nothing out. When you heard the words "hear our prayer" answer "Lord, I'm sorry!"

Loving God, we've forgotten that we are your children and that you love us. We've forgotten to trust you with all that's going on in our lives. Hear our prayer. **Lord, I'm sorry!**

Loving God, we get busy with all our activities and forget to make time for you. Hear our prayer. **Lord, I'm sorry!**

Loving God, you ask us to love as you love us. Sometimes, we don't notice when someone is hungry or needs love. Sometimes, we don't want to share our money, our stuff, or our time to serve your people. Sometimes we're unkind to our family, friends, and neighbors. Hear our prayer. **Lord, I'm sorry!**


Hear this good news! Our God is a God who loves and forgives. Even when you try again and again and fail, God loves you! There is nothing that will separate you from God's love.

GATHERING SONG *Shine His Light*

GREETING

We gather in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**


CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Shout to the Lord* (ELW 821)



My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.



All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of your might - y love.




My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;



let ev - ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.



Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise



to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the



sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;



for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.



Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Repeat after the Pastor

Jesus, you are the light of the world!

Jesus, you are the light of the world!

When good things happen, we shine Jesus' light.

When good things happen, we shine Jesus' light.

When people are sad or need help, we shine Jesus' light.

When people are sad or need help, we shine Jesus' light.

Thank you for sending Jesus to show us how to live.

Thank you for sending Jesus to show us how to live.

FIRST READING: Romans 12: 9-19 from The Message translation

⁹⁻¹⁰ Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.

¹¹⁻¹³ Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.

¹⁴⁻¹⁶ Bless your enemies, no cursing under your breath. Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down. Live in harmony. Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody.

¹⁷⁻¹⁹ Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it."

PSALM: Psalm 100

Repeat after the lector

¹Shout to the Lord, all the earth.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth.

²Worship the Lord with gladness.

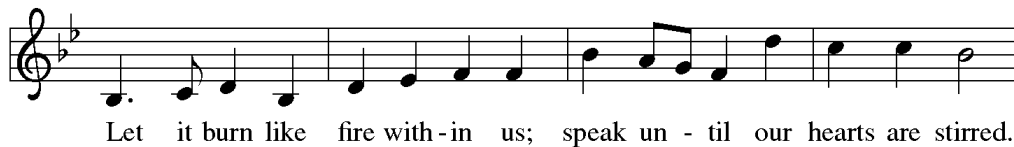
Worship the Lord with gladness.

³The Lord made us; we are His.
The Lord made us; we are His.

⁴Give thanks to Him and bless His name.
Give thanks to Him and bless His name.

⁵His steadfast love is forever.
His steadfast love is forever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:14-15 from The Message translation

¹⁴⁻¹⁶ (Jesus says) “Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, our generous Father in heaven.

RESPONSE TO THE READINGS: Children and Youth from VBS

HYMN OF THE DAY *He Is the Light*

CREED

Repeat after the Pastor

I believe in God the Father Almighty.

I believe in God the Father Almighty.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son.

Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

And life everlasting. Amen

And life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *(Please respond)*

P: Caring God, **C: bring your light.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

As the VBS children and youth present the regular Sunday offering, the special offering for the Power Pack Meals and the Communion elements we offer our lives in praise of the many blessings we've received from God.

OFFERATORY *Give Thanks*



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!

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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OFFERING PRAYER

Repeat after the Pastor

Loving Jesus,
Loving Jesus,

Thank you
Thank you

for all you've given us.
for all you've given us.

Help us share
Help us share

with those who are in need. Amen
with those who are in need. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

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

PREFACE

It is right to give thanks and praise to you, loving and awesome God. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise you and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, 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

We're all brothers and sisters in God's family. Let us pray the prayer 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

Jesus is present here in the bread and cup. Come on down and join the party. There is enough for everyone!

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

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

Light of the World

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, we gathered around your table to receive Jesus. Thank you for blessing us with these gifts of bread and cup. Thank you for filling us with your light and love so we might live as you want us to live. When we feel overwhelmed or scared remind us that you love us. Send us out to share your light and love to the people around us. **Amen.**

BLESSING

We have gathered together as God's family. Remember God loves you no matter what. May Jesus' love for you and all the world, flow through you. May you shine Jesus' light in the dark places of our broken, hurting world. God bless you in the name of the Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

SENDING SONG *This Little Light of Mine*

SENDING FOR MISSION

Go in peace. Shine Jesus' light!
Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE/SILENT PRAYER

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SERVING TODAY

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Organist	Doug Mummert
Head Usher	Janice McEntire
Acolyte	VBS
Lector.....	VBS
Securing Offering.....	Becky Mull & Doug Mummert
Communion Set-Up.....	Peggi & Wayne Norman
Communion Clean-Up	Peggi & Wayne Norman
Communion Bread	Becky Mull
Communion Assist	Ilona Laney & Peggi Norman
Attendance last Sunday.....	53

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in honor of our grandchildren Annabelle, William, and Austin given by Gramma and Pap Pap.

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!

Prayer requests for the following: *Chris Reichard, Catherine Plummer, Bonnie Hudson, Billy Autry, David Gettle, Cody Banks, Tana Vance and Deanna Vance, Marty Wenger, Virginia Detwiler, Terry Fell, Callie Mummert, Bernie Harris, Matthew, Lexi and Brooke Bowen, Jim & Carole Darr, Beth Floyd, Sarge and Barb Weaver, Tina Smith, Patricia Yetter, Nancy Marshall, Darrell Veilleux, Linda Wepking, Bill and Jane Brindle, Esther Gift, Jean Jackson, Marjorie McMullin, Joe Mock, Ina Shreiner, Genny Grant, Frances Kramer, Linda Russ, Carol Locke, Betty Amt, Ukrainian Nation, Peace for the World.* If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. **Please Be Aware: 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.

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

June 28 - Psalms Study 10:00am
QI gong, Tai Chi

"THANK YOU TO EVERYONE" for your help and support throughout this past week of VBS. It is greatly appreciated!

Do you like to knit, crochet, sew or just work with material and yarn in general?

Chaplain Ellen Doughty at UPMC Memorial is looking for crafters to assist with making items to use for the Dementia Items program. It is growing and more hands are needed to make things. She is looking for people who are willing to make fidget blankets (cloth and knitted) and heavy (weighted) lap blankets. Basically, Fidget blankets are any type of blanket with safe items attached for someone to fidget with. Things like pockets, zippers, plastic cooking utensils, strings with beads, pompoms, snaps, etc. We try to steer away from things that patients could use to hurt themselves or someone else. If interested in assisting, please contact Chaplain Ellen Doughty at 717-815-2386 or via email at doughtyed@upmc.edu. Thank you so much for considering!

SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg auxiliary has discount cards available for \$5.00. Cards are good until Sept. 1, 2024. All proceeds go to support programs at Luther Ridge. Lots of great places to save. See Becky Pecha if you'd like to have a card.

If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, the following Sundays in July are still available: 7/2, 7/16, 7/23, 7/30.

SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg auxiliary is continuing their membership drive throughout the summer. You may join for \$1.00. Information is in the file at the end of the mailbox or see Becky Pecha. Benefits programs at the village at Luther Ridge. We thank you for your support.

Richard Graven is teaching Adult Bible School every other Sunday. Study material is taken from the book, "Navigating Genesis" by Hugh Ross. The dates for the class are: May 7, 21, June 18 (June 4 is outdoor worship, there will be no class.) July 2, 16, 30, August 13, 27.

Music @ the Ridge - The summer concert series at SpiriTrust Lutheran, The Village at Luther Ridge will begin on **Wednesday, May 31** with a concert featuring **Tina Marie** who will perform a variety of country, 50's, and patriotic music. **Silver 63 Band** will perform on **Wednesday, June 21**. **The Flying Matlocks** will close out the concert series on **Wednesday, July 19**. Music begins at 6:00pm. The SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary will be hosting a food stand starting at 5:00pm. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy! In case of inclement weather, the concert will move inside.

Sign-up Sheets for worship assistants for July – December 2023 are on the bulletin board 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 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.

JUNE 25, 2023
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Freed from fear, we live in newness of life.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 10:24-39	The call and cost of discipleship
Monday	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Jeremiah denounces his persecutors
Tuesday	Romans 6:1b-11	Dying and rising with Christ
Wednesday	Ephesians 4:17-24	The old life and the new
Thursday	Isaiah 12:1-6	Thanksgiving and praise
Friday	Romans 8:9-17	Life in the Spirit
Saturday	Psalms 69:7-18	God can be trusted
Sunday	Matthew 10:40-42	Receiving and serving others

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:4 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we thank you for the power and gift of baptism and our new life in Christ that frees us from fear so that we can be Christ's faithful followers in the world. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, with this gift of food give us strength to overcome our fears and to serve others through the power of Christ's love. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of steadfast love, bless you with mercy all the days of your life. (Psalm 69:16)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- How do you describe your own life's goals, values and beliefs?
- If someone were to ask you about your faith and what you believe, how would you respond?

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Take My Life, That I May Be



DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 6:1b-11.

Just before this reading, Paul writes: *“where sin increased, grace abounded all the more”* (Romans 5:20b). Paul responds to this statement in Romans 6:1b with an understandable question, *“Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound?”* Then he answers, *“By no means!”* (v. 2a). Paul is emphatic that seeking a life of sin is out of the question. He describes this conviction by using the language of baptism. We are joined with Christ through baptism. In baptism, we die with Christ and are raised with Christ *“so we too might walk in newness of life”* (v. 4b). We are joined to Christ’s life. His story of death and resurrection is now our story. We die to a way of living and thinking that finds pleasure in sin and separation from God. The power of sin over our lives dies with Christ through baptism. Our lives are then freed from the power of sin and death to live a new life filled with love and grace for our neighbor and world.

Discuss: What questions do you have about baptism?

Pray: **God of abundant love, we thank you for the gift of baptism that binds us to Christ and gives us new life filled with hope, joy, and love for all. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you be freed from fear to joyfully serve those in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

“Do not fear” is a recurring theme in Matthew 10:24-39. Think or talk about things that you are afraid of. Naming and talking about your fears can be helpful. Draw a cross on a sheet of paper. Write the fears you named around the cross. Take a moment to look at your list of fears and say them out loud.

Pray: **Dear God, may our life in Christ draw us nearer to you and free us from our fears. Amen.**