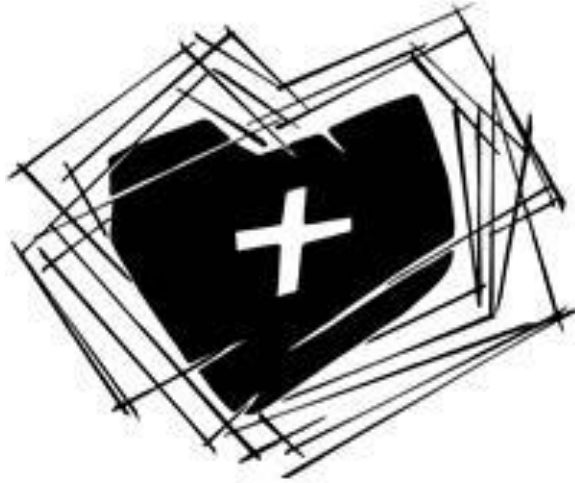


15th Sunday after Pentecost



Faith Lutheran Church
September 1st, 2024

The Reverend Margaret Brack, Presiding
Nancy Robbins, Music Director

Welcome Visitors! We are glad that you have joined us in worship today. Please sign our Guest Book in the lobby after worship if you have not already done so. If you have any questions, please contact one of our Worship Leaders. We will be happy to help.

Announcements and Prayer Requests

(*please stand as you are able)

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

For the Beauty of the Earth

LBW 558

v.1, 2, 4

*Kyrie

Refrain

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

Last time

*GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

C: **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.**

⊕ **WORD** ⊕

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of His people.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9

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.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 15

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 upon 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 against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading

James 1:17-27

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.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

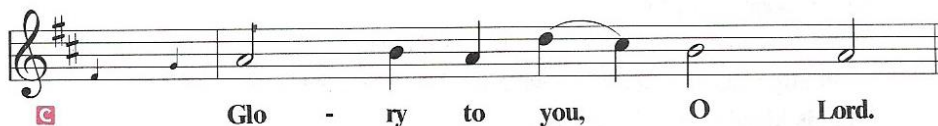


Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 6th Chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Gospel

John 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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. ²¹“For 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon “Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak”

The Reverend Margaret Brack

Blessings of backpacks, students, teachers, and administrators

Hymn of the Day *Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray* LBW 225

v. 1, 4, 5

***Nicene Creed**

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

A: Merciful God

C: Receive our prayer

***Sharing of the Peace**

You are invited to greet one another in the name of Christ

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering Collection

*Offertory

Let the Vineyards be Fruitful



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

*Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray.

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠ MEAL ✠

When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience his love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.



***The Great Thanksgiving**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

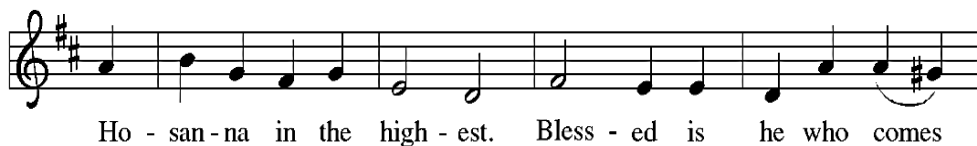
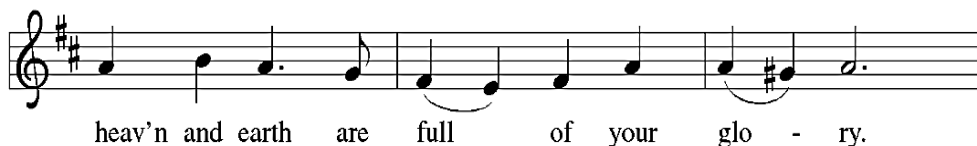
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

P: 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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to
eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the
resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***The Lord's Prayer**

P: And now, as Jesus has taught us, we pray:

C: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

***Invitation to Communion**

P: The table of life is spread before you. Feast on the Goodness and mercy of God.



P: For those unable to be present to receive Holy Communion, let us pray

C: Although I am not present physically in the church, I pray that I may receive the Body and Blood of Christ spiritually and be fed in the fullness of worship. Amen

***Blessing after Communion**

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***Song after Communion**



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

***Post Communion Prayer**

P: Let us pray,

C: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

We have heard the Word of God, offered our gifts, and been fed at the table. Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.

***Blessing**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn** *Take My Life, that I May Be* **LBW 406** *v. 1, 3, 5, 6*

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace, Christ is with you.

C: We will! Thanks be to God!

This Week's Volunteers

<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Reader</i>
<i>Karen Price</i>	<i>Olive Fowlkes</i>	<i>Edie Hooke</i>	<i>Cindy Mitchell</i>	<i>Ryan Malone</i>
		<i>Next Week's Volunteers</i>		
<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Reader</i>
<i>Ryan Malone</i>	<i>Jonathan Yamakawa</i>	<i>Paul Ward & Cindy Mitchell</i>	<i>Karen Price</i>	<i>Ryan Malone</i>

Please keep in prayer: Austin, Michelle, Ryan; Bill and Connie, Edie and family, Kathy Malone, The Dunkleburger Family, Pastor Harry and Carol Wolpert, Scott and Jaimie, Richie (Pr. Carol's Son for deployment), Brian Mitchell and Family, Pam (Bill and Connie's daughter), Linda Riehl and her husband; Wendy;, Richard Mitchell and Family;

Upcoming Events

- September 2** Pastor Margaret and Jim are hosting the congregation at their house again for a cookout from 1:00-5:00pm. Their address is 611 E. State Street, Delmar, DE
- September 4** Choir rehearsals begin each Wednesday
5:30-6:30
- September 8 11:30** A busy day!
- We return to our 11:30 am worship time
 - We celebrate “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday. We will have an informal service and work on our project to help our faith-based partner. Evening High School. We will gather supplies for students and staff. More information to come!
 - We will have a special congregational meeting to discuss the removal of the trees in the church’s front lawn. Proposals are available in the breezeway.
 - Blessings of the backpacks/ school supplies
- September 11** We will provide snacks for the EHS staff at their open house from 4-6
Council Meeting at 7pm
- September 13-23** Pastor Margaret will be away in Chartres, France for her DMin studies!
Pastor Carol will join us on the 22nd
- September 28, 2:30-5 pm** St. Alban’s invites us to join their event. Christian author, Whitney K. Pipkin, will share her story and her book, “We Shall All Be Changed: How Facing Death with Loved Ones Transforms Us”. See the invitation hanging on the bulletin board at the back of the Sanctuary.
- December** Fellowship activity with St. Alban’s Parish: cookie decorating or
Pencil this in! exchange. More information to come!

