

**October 24, 2021, AD
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
8:15 am**

Saint Paul Lutheran Church
250 Trinity Road
York, PA 17408
www.saintpaultrinity.org

(P=Pastor, C=Congregation, AM= Assisting Minister. Please silence all electronic devices as we give our attention to God's presence in this holy place.)

Gathering Music: Here in This Place - Honore

Welcome, Announcements, Prayer, Joys and Concerns

(Acolytes light the candles during the prelude music.)

Prelude: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty - Manz

(During the Prelude you may wish to reflect on the following prayer. Thank you, Lord for giving us access to your holy presence in this worship service. Open our eyes to see the wonders of your love and give us such a vibrant faith that we enthusiastically follow your path of life through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

*Invocation and Confession and Absolution

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The signs are all around us that our God has provided for us abundantly and yet we fail to give thanks with our lives or to trust in Him fully. Because God is generous and forgiving, we can say: Our help is in the name of the LORD.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

P: Reflecting on God's mercy and our sin we bow before him now.

(Please kneel or stand and observe a moment of silent confession.)

P: Merciful God.

C: we confess that we are in the darkness of the fallen world by our own sin, our failure to keep Your holy Commandments in our thoughts, words, and deeds, as well as the good we have failed to do. Deliver us from the darkness of death by the light of Your Son's saving death on the cross and the power of His resurrection. Speak now Your divine Word of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!

P: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

551

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, Prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, All who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain Call us to re - joice in thee.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the joy di - vine!

***Apostolic 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.

***Hymn of Praise:**



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

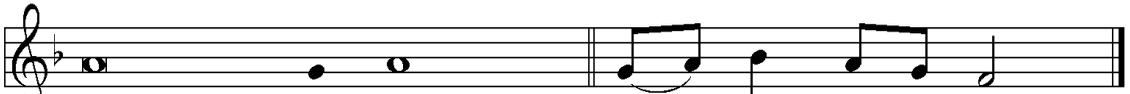


you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men

*Salutation



♩ The Lord be with you.

♩ And al - so with you.

*Prayer of the Day:

P: Forgive the faults of your people, O Lord, that our slavery to sin, into which we fell in our weakness, may be overcome by your liberating work; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:7-9

(There will be joy at the end of the exile as God brings Israel home to stay in Jerusalem. God's people will return with cries for mercy, and he will lead them on a straight and safe path. There will be singing, shouting for joy, and praising the God of Israel.)

⁷ Thus says the Lord: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O Lord, save your people, the remnant of Israel.' ⁸ Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the pregnant woman and she who is in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with pleas for mercy I will lead them back, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble, for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 126 (read responsively)

(The psalmist recalled how joyful it was when the Lord restored his people in the past. This psalm is a plea to the Lord to repeat that action and restore his people once more. There will be singing and shouts of joy when God shows his mercy again.)

L:¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

C:² Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.

L:³ Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

C:⁴ The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

L:⁵ Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negev.

C:⁶ Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

L:⁷ Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 7:23-28

(The author of Hebrews describes how Jesus came from the line of Judah, not the line of Levi as did the priests of old. The Levitical priests were appointed by birth from the tribe of Levi, but Jesus is a priest according to the order of Mechizedek (Genesis 14:18), king of Salem and the first priest to be mentioned in the Old Testament. Just as Melchizedek's priesthood was superior (and preceded the Levitical priests), so Jesus' priesthood is superior because of his holiness and righteousness.)

²³The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, ²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. ²⁶For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. ²⁸For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon: Pastor Paul

*Alleluia Verse+ (sung)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line of text. The lyrics are written below the notes.

*Gospel Announcement

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the 10th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The melody is written above the staff, and the lyrics are written below it.

***Gospel: Mark 10:46-52**

(Jesus is approached by a blind man as he is leaving Jericho. When the man heard that it was Jesus passing by him, he called out to him, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus healed Bartimaeus' sight and commended his faith. After that, Bartimaeus followed Jesus on his way out of town.)

⁴⁶Jesus and the disciples came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting

by the roadside. ⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you." ⁵⁰And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." ⁵²And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Sally

*The Votum

*Hymn of the Day:

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

309

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, Nor let me go a - stray;
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, That, when the flood is past,

From self - ish pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.
 Let me your lov - ing ser - vant be And taste your prom - ised rest.
 Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out your cho - sen way.
 I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see And share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, c. 375–430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–1896, alt.

Tune: Daman, Psalms, 1579

Public Domain

*The Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

*The Prayers (Please respond "Hear our prayer.")

C: Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you. (We share the peace with one another.)

Offertory: Open Our Eyes, Lord - Cull

*Offertory Response:



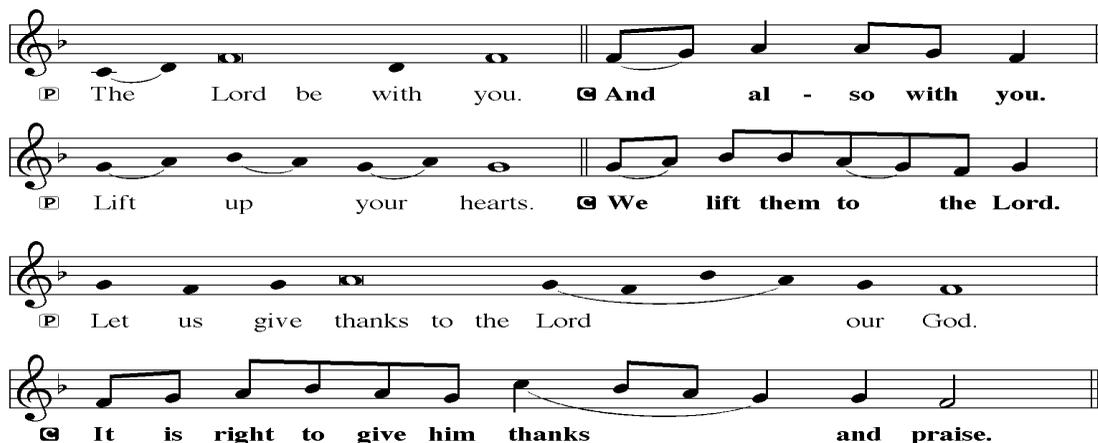
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***Offertory Prayer:**

P: Let us Pray. Lord God,

C: we give you thanks for the wondrous gifts you have so freely given us. You are the source of our lives, our work, and our possessions. In an act of worship, we offer back to you what you have first given to us, that our sacrifices in some small way, might express our devotion to you and be used to spread the Good News of Christ to the world. We pray this in the strong name of Jesus. Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving**



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two phrases: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff has two phrases: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has one phrase: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has one phrase: 'It is right to give him thanks and praise.'

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

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

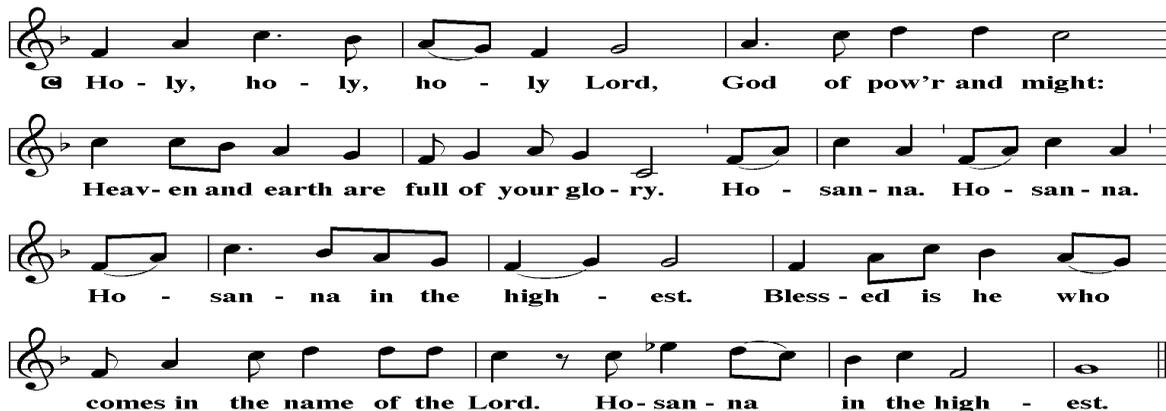
☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***Preface: §**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who opens both blind eyes and hearts to see and believe in the wondrous salvation He came to bring by means of His cross and resurrection. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing.

***Sanctus**



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has one phrase: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:'. The second staff has one phrase: 'Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.' The third staff has one phrase: 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who'. The fourth staff has one phrase: 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

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.

*Eucharistic Prayer §

P: Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. By His coming, He proclaimed good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, even to such as blind Bartimaeus, and even to such as we who call upon You here and now. By Your powerful Word, draw us to Yourself. Grant that we who partake of Your holy body and blood see You more clearly and be strengthened to deny ourselves, bear our own cross, and follow You.

C: Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

*The Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray...

All: 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.

Lamb of God

♩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

*Blessing

*Post Communion Canticle



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



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice 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: Grant that Your Son's body and blood, O Lord, which You have given us to eat and to drink, would abide in us, and grant that Your divine blessing attend us each hour of the day, that we live joyfully to praise You and faithfully to serve our neighbor; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



(Acolytes extinguish the candles during the hymn)

*Recessional Hymn:

356

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, The fount of life, the
2 Your truth un - changed has ev - er stood; You plead with all to
3 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, And long to feast up -
4 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, Wher - e'er our chang - ing

light of all; From ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
call on you; To those who seek you, you are
on you still; We drink of you, the foun - tain -
lot is cast; Glad, when your smile on us you

parts We turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
good; To those who find you, life is new.
head; Our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
turn, Blest, when by faith we hold you fast.

5 O Jesus, ever with us stay!
Make all our moments fair and bright!
Oh, chase the night of sin away!
Shed o'er the world your holy light.

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Jesus, Priceless Treasure - Bach

~ © 2019 – Sola Publishing (www.solapublishing.com); §Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish

Theme of the Day: How can blind folks find their way home, when they are captives in remote countries? Only the Lord can bring it to pass, and when he does, we feel as though we are in a dream, that something like this could not really happen. Yet, he does it without our assistance. All we could do was weep, but he brings us home with shouts of victorious joy. God has accomplished this through his Son. Jesus, our great high priest, has made a one-time sacrifice, good for the sin of the world. All approach God through him, then, will be saved. This is the faith that makes us well.

WELCOME! Thank you for joining for worship! **In the name of Jesus Christ, Saint Paul Lutheran Church is committed to praising, praying, and proclaiming the Word of God.** All baptized Christians who have received their first communion are invited to join us for Holy Communion believing as we do that Christ is truly present in this holy meal. Please join us again.

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

250 Trinity Road York, PA 17408 717-792-1650

PASTORS Rev. Sara “Sally” Gausmann e-mail: pastorsally@saintpaultrinity.org

Cell phone: 717-487-1790

Rev. Paul Gausmann

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Cell phone: 717-495-6582

ADMIN ASST: Jean Strine

Church office: 717-792-1650

E-mail: parishadmin@saintpaultrinity.org

Website: www.saintpaultrinity.org

WIFI: John3:16

OFFICE HOURS

M-Th 8:00am-2:30pm, Fri 8:00-12 noon

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Carol Moscony

musicdirector@saintpaultrinity.org

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Carol Frey

financialsecretary@saintpaultrinity.org

MINI SEXTON: Jack Hall

minisexton@saintpaultrinity.org

CYC DIRECTOR: Malinda Grube

CYCdirector@saintpaultrinity.org

Missionaries: Andy Stump in Haiti, Luke & Ruth in the Philippians

SPONSORSHIPS to the Glory of God: ALTAR FLOWERS in memory of Gene & Carolyn Naylor by their family / in memory of Jake Walter Jones by your family

BULLETIN in memory of Robert T. Beal by his wife, Bernice **BREAD & WINE** in honor of our family by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Keller **MAILING** in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs.

Cletus Hoffman by Charlotte Hoffman & family **PARISH MESSENGER** in honor of family and friends and in memory of loved ones by Kenny, Lisa, Nathan, & Kara Hoke

SANCTUARY LAMP in loving memory of Delores by Carl Smyser

Our Lord's Helpers on October 24, 2021

Greeter: OPEN

Acolyte: Ava Masemer

Head Usher: Daphne Conn

Sound: Matt Conn

Lay Reader: Greg Greco

Altar Guild: Joyce Hall & Lyn Greco

Communion Assts.: Donna Rinehart / Terri Masemer

Activities for the Week of October 24, 2021

- Sun. 10/24 Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost
8:15 am Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:30 am Faith Builders
10:45 am Divine Service with Holy Communion
5:30 pm Trunk or Treat
- Mon. 10/25 9:00 am Office Staff Meeting
9:30 am CYC Director Meeting
- Tues. 10/26 7:00 pm Hilltop AA
- Weds. 10/27 9:15 am Pastors Visit CYC 3s Classroom
- Thurs. 10/28 9:00 am CYC Halloween Celebration
6:30 pm Communion Class
6:30 pm Bell Rehearsal
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
- Fri. 10/29 7:00 pm Hilltop AA
- Sun. 10/31 Reformation Sunday / First Communion
8:15 am Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:30 am Faith Builders
10:45 am Divine Service with Holy Communion

Our Lord's Helpers on October 31, 2021

Greeter: Barb & Dean Eisenhart

Acolyte: Colton Masemer

Head Usher: OPEN

Sound: OPEN

Lay Reader: Janie Smyser

Altar Guild: Diane Workman

Communion Assts.: OPEN / OPEN



SPECIAL APPEAL FOR OCTOBER - North American Lutheran Seminary

Since the Institute of Lutheran Theology has suspended its development of courses for Christian education, we will be switching our support to the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS). This seminary is operated by the North American Lutheran Church (NALC), in which our pastors are co-rostered.

Located in the Pittsburgh area, NALS offers short courses and seminars for pastors, seminarians, and laity in theological and liturgical topics. Funds collected for this month's appeal will be used to support attendance of our seminarian or other members at one of these seminars. If the money is not requested for such use by December, it will be donated to NALS in support of their work. Funds to date: \$851.

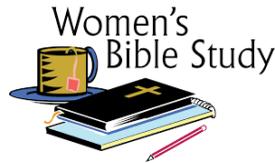


OUR DAILY BREAD

Our donation for November is pumpkin bars (no nuts please.) Use your favorite recipe and cut in 15 squares and wrap individually. We need 24 pans by **9 am on Friday, Nov. 20th**. If you are able to make some, look for the sign-up sheet in the library area, or call Jean Strine (717) 792-1650. Thank you!



Our Greatest Gift: A wonderful Life in Christ. Join us for a fun and Inspirational Bible Study on Tuesdays, November 2, 23, 30, and December 2, at church at 10 am, or at 7 pm via Zoom. Based on the classic film *"It's a Wonderful Life,"* and with references to it, this is bound to get you into the mood for Advent and for Christmas. Sign up in the library area or contact the church office. The suggested price for the study booklet is \$7.



WOMEN OF THE WORD

Women of the Word will meet for Bible study on Wednesday, November 17 at 1:00 pm. We will continue our bible study, *"Adventurous Prayer"*. Deb Abrecht will lead our study *"Teach Us to Pray"*. We invite any woman to join us for bible study and fellowship.

CROP WALK UPDATE

We had 18 walkers, and 1 dog, participate in the CROP walk on October 17. Your generous donations provided us with approximately \$1,000 raised for the cause. Thank you so much!



MEN'S GROUP

Men of Faith will meet on Saturday, November 6 with breakfast and program from 8 am until 9:30 am. We will meet in the Parlor. Breakfast will be provided. Besides good chatting, we will take a look at another aspect of Pennsylvania history, the Oil Boom in northwestern Pennsylvania and its impact even to this day



Sympathy is extended to Karen Knight upon the recent death of her husband. You may remember Karen from her participation in our Women's Retreats and other visits to our church. Should you wish to send a card, her address is: 11 Whirlwind Court, Fishersville VA 22939.



Are you able to help a community member with lawn mowing for a few weeks in October and November? If so, please call the church office for details. Thank you for your consideration!



SCARF MINISTRY

Our scarf ministry helps those less fortunate. We knit, crochet, or sew scarves for youth and adults to be distributed through Harvest of Hope Food Pantry at Thanksgiving time. Scarves may be 2' by 4" for small, 3' by 5" for medium youth and 4' by 6" for large adult. There is yarn available for use in the quilters closet clearly marked "yarn". Contact Donna Rinehart for more information.



If you are filling a Samaritan Shoe Box for **Operation Christmas Child**, please know that all boxes must be completed and brought in any time to the church by Wednesday, **November 17, 2021**. They must be labeled as boy/girl and age appropriate. If you have any questions, you can find answers at samaritanpurse.org or call Connie Dunklebarger at (717) 487-0492. Connie will be collecting all boxes and delivering them to a local drop-off church center Nov. 18, 2021. Also know, that **Build a Shoebox Online** can be done if you so choose. It is easy to do and provides believers in remote regions a creative way to share the Good News in a culturally sensitive manner. If you choose online boxes, please let Connie know. It will be helpful in knowing the total number of boxes our church sends! This ministry is an excellent way to send the Gospel to the ends of the earth without leaving home! Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)



A LOOK *at the* BUDGET

Our Annual Church Budget Meeting is on **November 21st** at 9:30am. Please plan to attend. We will have modified Faith Builders classes that day with activities for the children in the Library/Gathering Area. Please remember that we need to have a quorum in order to conduct an official meeting.



We are having a bowling event for all ages on November 21st. We will meet at the church at 12:30. Bumpers will be available for the little ones. Look for the sign-up sheet in the library area. All are welcome to join us!



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

It is good to give thanks to the Lord every day, but we especially want to gather in worship and praise for the Thanksgiving holiday. **Join us Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00 pm** for a service of Holy Communion. **Come at 6 pm and join us for pizza!** Look for the sign-up sheet in the library area.



Friends in Christ is a group for widows, widowers, and anyone who wants to join us for a time of fellowship. Our December activity will be on **Sunday, December 12** when we'll go out for lunch together after second service. More details to come.

Sermon Notes

Here are just a few of the resources that God has given us for troubled times:

1. His Word – We have God’s holy word, which is full of hope and promise. God is always pointing us to that brighter day. Each day brings us the opportunity to repent and be forgiven. Each day brings the reminder that God wants us to live with him in paradise forever.

This is all possible because of the Word made flesh. Jesus Christ who has won us forgiveness, new life and life eternal through his blessed death and resurrection.

2. His Church – We have been given a community of faith with which to gather. In this community, we have the opportunity to support one another, to pray for one another and to gather together in worship and fellowship.
3. His Holy sacraments – In this place as we gather, we get to experience God’s living presence in his holy meal. His holy community is strengthened by His holy communion.
4. Prayer – In our gospel lesson today, we see this lived out so clearly. The blind man has a need and Jesus asks him to talk to him about it. Name the need; Jesus will listen. The man called out to Jesus. Jesus stopped and through the conversation, healing occurred. Jesus addressed the need. The man was healed and given direction.
5. A Mission – For blind Bartimaeus, Jesus said, “Go on your way”. In other words, quit sitting there waiting for the world to come to you. I made you well, now go. And what does Bartimaeus do? He gets up and follows Jesus. What is your mission?
6. A Witness – Today’s psalm says: “Then they said among the nations, The Lord has done great things for them”. That’s what our work in this place and out in the community is meant to do, produce a witness, so that those who are touched by our love, learn not just what God has done for us, but what God wants to do for them. Remember the woman at the well, who had that amazing encounter with Jesus, and then went back and told others? Then they ran and met Jesus and they said, “We no longer believe because of what you said, but we have now seen with our own eyes”. This is what we pray will happen as we work together for the sake of the kingdom. Hearts will be warmed, lives will be encouraged, people will be changed for the sake of the kingdom.



TAKING FAITH HOME – October 24, 2021, AD

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.
We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday Mark 10:46-52 Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus
Monday 2 Kings 6:8-23 Blind servant healed
Tuesday Mark 8:22-26 Jesus heals a blind man at Bethsaida
Wednesday Matthew 9:27-31 Jesus heals two blind men
Thursday John 9:1-11 Jesus heals a man born blind
Friday John 9:24-41 Spiritual blindness
Saturday Psalm 119:17-24 Open my eyes
Sunday Mark 12:28-34 Love God and neighbor

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

“Jesus is able always to save those who come to God through him because he always lives, asking God to help them.” **Hebrews 7:25 (NCV)**

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

O God, you have done great things for us. Our hearts are filled with joy (Psalm 126.3).
Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God our Savior, we give you thanks for food so good, food so tasty, food so full of flavor!
Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus hear all your prayers, meet all your needs, and give you faith to
always follow him (Mark 10:48-52). Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you felt “put down” by others. How did you respond?
- When blind Bartimaeus called out to Jesus, others told him to be quiet (Mark 10:46-52).
What did Bartimaeus do? What did Jesus do?
- Is it sometimes hard for you to stand up for your faith? Explain.

DEVOTIONS:

October 31 is observed as “Reformation Day” by many churches, a day to remember the reform that came to the Christian Church in the 1500s. As part of your family devotional times this week, learn together about the life story of the great reformer Martin Luther. Discover how he took a stand for the truth of the Gospel (a good website to look at is <http://www.luther.de/en/leben.html>). Give thanks to God for people who have influenced members of your family and household through their Christian witness.

SERVICE:

There are approximately 50 million people in the world who are blind. Ninety percent of these people live in the world’s poorest countries. 1.5 million children in the world are blind and another half million go blind every year, many because of vitamin A deficiency. Founded in 1908, Christian Blind Mission International (CBMI) is an independent Christian development organization dedicated to preventing and curing blindness and to the education and rehabilitation of people who are blind or have other disabilities. CBMI has over 1000 ongoing projects in 110 countries. Visit www.cbmi.org to find out more about the work of this organization, and how you can support their work.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

In celebration of the Reformation, make this week “Red Week” in your home. Decorate your home with red and enjoy red drink and food. If suitable, make time to watch the Luther movie together (2003, rated PG-13). Share this quote from Martin Luther on parenting: “Most certainly father and mother are apostles, bishops, and priests to their children, for it is they who make them acquainted with the gospel. In short, there is no greater or nobler authority on earth than that of parents over their children, for this authority is both spiritual and temporal. Whoever teaches the gospel to another is truly their apostle and bishop.”

People and issues to pray for in your devotions this week: For parents and grandparents as they help their families deal with the disruptions caused by the coronavirus and for those mentioned today including, _____ and _____.

