

**You will show me
the path of life.**

Psalm 16:11

**June 26, 2022, AD
Third Sunday after Pentecost
8:15 am**

Saint Paul Lutheran Church
250 Trinity Road
York, PA 17408
www.saintpaul-trinity.org

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 26, 2022, AD 8:15 am

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

Gathering Music: Be Thou My Vision – Traditional Irish, arr. Martin

(At this time, you may wish to reflect on the following prayer: Almighty God, your power is so great that our minds cannot fathom it and yet you choose to come to us, to speak to us and to strengthen us for the journey of life. Open our ears that we may hear your word of love to us and be encouraged to follow you more faithfully and joyfully in Jesus' name. Amen.)

Welcome, Announcements, Prayer Concerns, Joys, and Concerns

(Acolytes light the candles during the prelude music.)

Prelude: Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring - Bach

*Invocation and Order of Confession and Forgiveness

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

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Please kneel or stand and observe a moment of silence for self-examination.)

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage 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: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn:

523

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

1 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er dwell - ing In the ho - liest
2 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er liv - ing As the Church's
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er work - ing Through the Church's

realms of light; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood - ing
ver - y life; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing
min - is - try; Quick - 'ning, strength-'ning, and ab - solv - ing,

O'er a world of gloom and night; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er
Through us in a cease - less strife; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er
Set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er

rais - ing Those of earth to thrones on high; Liv - ing, life - im -
form - ing In the Church the mind of Christ: You we praise with
bind - ing Age to age and soul to soul In com - mu - nion

part - ing Spir - it, You we praise and mag - ni - fy.
end - less wor - ship For your gifts and fruits un - priced.
nev - er end - ing, You we wor - ship and ex - tol.

© Text: Timothy Rees, 1874-1939, alt. IN BABILONE

Tune: Dutch folk tune, 18th cent.

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*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.

*Responsive Dialogue +

P: Holy is the Lord, the Almighty.

C: He was, he is, and he is to come.

P: He is worthy of glory, honor, and power.

C: He created all things. By his will they came to be.

P: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain;

C: worthy to take the scroll and break its seals.

P: By his blood he purchased for God

C: people of every race and tongue, of every folk and nation.

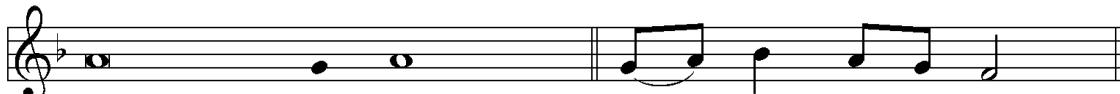
P: Christ made for them a kingdom

C: and priests to serve our God.

P: And they shall reign on earth forever.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

*Salutation (sung)



□ The Lord be with you.

○ And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray.... Lord of all power and might, you are the author and giver of all good things. Graft into our hearts a love of your name. Increase in us true faith, nourish us with what is good, and watch over all who are in your care. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: **1 Kings 19:9-21**

(The prophet Elijah mourned the disobedience of Israel and sought the Lord in the wind, fire, and earthquake, but the Lord was not present there. The Lord God came to Elijah in a whisper and told him to go and anoint Elisha to be the next prophet of Israel. Elijah found him working with his team of oxen and cast his cloak upon him.)

⁹There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of the Lord came to {Elijah}, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." ¹¹And he said, "Go out and stand on the mount before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong

wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹²And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. ¹³And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." ¹⁵And the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. ¹⁶And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. ¹⁷And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him." ¹⁹So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. ²⁰And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" ²¹And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 16 (read responsively)

(There is no good apart from God, says the psalmist. In him is a beautiful inheritance. He makes known the paths of life and brings joy through his presence.)

L:¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

C:²All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.

L:³But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

C:⁴Their libations of blood I will not offer, nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

L:⁵O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

C:⁶My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

L:⁷I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night.

C:⁸I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

L:⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

C:¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the Pit.**

L:¹¹You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Lesson: **Galatians 5:1, 13-25**

(Through Christ Jesus we have true freedom, but this freedom is not meant to be an excuse to live in sin. When we are called by Christ, we are called into service in his name. Our freedom in Jesus is not something we take for granted, cheapening it through our own justifications. We are called to love as Jesus loved, and to walk by the Spirit of the Living God. Our lives in Christ exhibit the fruits of the Spirit.)

¹For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Alleluia Verse+



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.

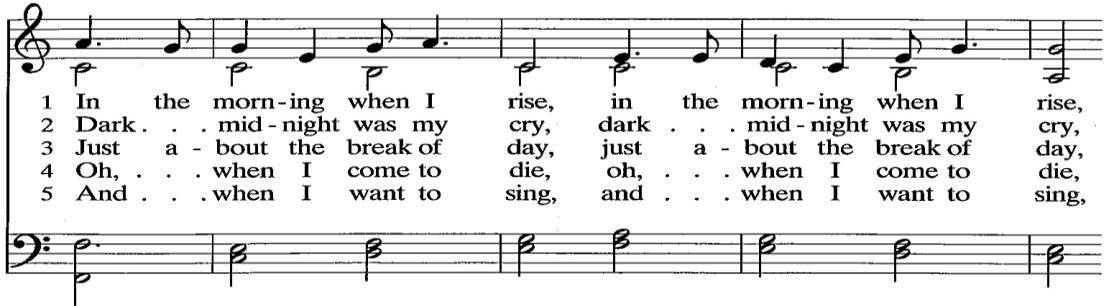
*Hymn of the Day:

TRUST, GUIDANCE

In the Morning When I Rise

Give Me Jesus

777



1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
2 Dark . . . mid - night was my cry, dark . . . mid - night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: African American spiritual, arr. L.L. Fleming, b. 1936
Arr. © 1973 Augsburg Publishing House

GIVE ME JESUS
777 4 and refrain

Reception of a New Member:

P: We rejoice in receiving Tiffany Jones into membership today. We give thanks to God that she has found a church home among us, and desires to fully share in the worship, ministry, and fellowship of Saint Paul Lutheran Church. I ask you, having determined to live out your baptismal covenant as a member of this congregation; will you strive to pattern your life and service after that of our Lord Jesus Christ?

New Member: Yes, with God's help.

P: And I ask you, the congregation gathered this day on behalf of all our members, will you welcome Tiffany into this congregation, supporting her in her Christian pilgrimage and viewing her as a fellow member in the body of Christ and as a worker with us in the kingdom of God?

C: We do, and we give thanks for her presence among us.

*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.)**

*** 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.

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

C: Amen.

Offertory: Teach Me Your Ways – Catherwood

The Hoffman Sisters: Sandy Albright, Diana Fake, Linda Sherman,
Brenda Slagel and Barb Sloat

*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.

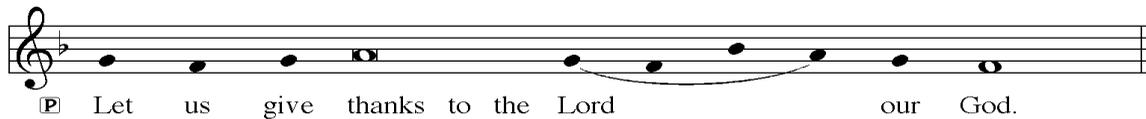
*Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

C: Generous God, you have given us treasures too numerable to count. Grant us faith to be generous with all that you have first given us: our time, our resources, and our possessions. May we boldly trust that your providence, presence, and care are a never-ending reality in our lives through Christ our Lord. Amen.

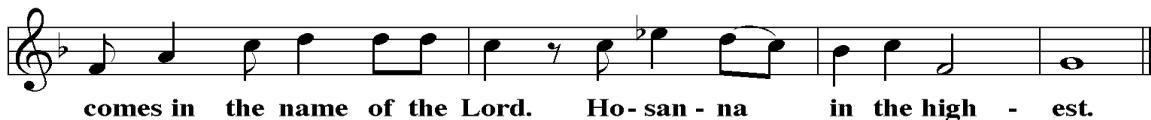


*The Great Thanksgiving,



* 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 alone is worthy of honor and glory for His victory over death and the grave. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



*Eucharistic Prayer: #33 +

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world, you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

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, 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 (Hymn sung during distribution):

503

O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised To serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; The world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing In ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised To all who fol - low you

Re - main for - ev - er near me, My mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, The tempt - ing sounds I hear.
A - bove the storms of pas - sion, The mur - murs of self - will.
That where you are in glo - ry Your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle If you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, A - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, To has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised To serve you to the end;

Nor wan - der from the path - way If you will be my guide.
But, Je - sus, then draw near - er To shield my soul from sin.
Now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
Oh, give me grace to fol - low, My mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt.
Tune: Neu-vernichtetes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693

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*Blessing

*Post Communion Canticle:



☩ 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. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 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:

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

731

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . . near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: George N. Allen, *The Oberlin Social and Sabbath School Hymn Book*, 1844; adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey,

1899-1993

Music: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

© 1938 Unichappell Music Inc., © renewed; admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD
irregular

OL-A-713240

*Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude. Praise to the Lord - Walther

Theme of the Day: Freedom in Christ is a paradox. On one hand, Jesus' grace and mercy frees us from the law that kills; on the other hand, obedience to God's call is the way of the cross. How are disciples of Christ meant to balance these seemingly contradictory ways of being? Paul reminded the Galatians that following Christ meant walking in the Spirit and turning away from the flesh. Jesus proclaimed a singular focus in life.

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

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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

Today, we welcome new members: At first service, Tiffany Jones joins us by affirmation of faith. **At second service, we welcome into membership** Carole Dormuth. Carole is joining us from Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Renovo, PA. We thank God for bringing them into our congregation!

SPONSORSHIPS to the Glory of God:

ALTAR FLOWERS in memory of Eugene & Carolyn Naylor by their family

BASKET: thinking of Allen with good memories we enjoyed over the years by Carole Dormuth & the immediate family.

BULLETIN: in honor of our children and grandchildren by Dave & Deb Smyser

BREAD & WINE: to the Glory of God by John & Esther Jacobs

MAILING: in loving memory of Mary by her husband, John Rebert

SANCTUARY LAMP: in loving memory of Mary Rebert by her husband, John

PARISH MESSENGER: in loving memory of Bernie & Clair Martin by Ron & Brenda Lentz, Jay, Amy, Kyle & Jamy Lentz & Amy & Rick Gardner

Our Lord's Helpers on June 26, 2022

Greeters: Rita Shotzberger

Altar Guild: Jill & Erica Jones

Acolyte: Donna Rinehart

Head Usher: Donna Rinehart

Lay Reader: Daphne Conn

Sound: Samantha Krebs

Communion Assts.: Daphne Conn / Becci Stair

Activities for the Week of June 26, 2022

- Sun. 6/26 **Third Sunday after Pentecost**
8:15 am Divine Worship with Holy Communion
9:40 am Faith Builders
10:45 am Divine Worship with Holy Communion
6:30 pm Vacation Bible School
- Mon. 6/27 6:30 pm Vacation Bible School
- Tues. 6/28 6:30 pm Vacation Bible School
7:00 pm Hilltop AA
- Weds. 6/29 6:30 pm Vacation Bible School
- Thurs. 6/30 9:30 am Pastors' Text Study – Camp Hill, PA
6:30 pm Vacation Bible School
- Fri. 7/1 7:00 pm Hilltop AA
- Sun. 7/3 **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**
8:15 am Divine Worship with Holy Communion
9:40 am Faith Builders
10:45 am Divine Worship with Holy Communion



SPECIAL APPEAL FOR JUNE - SHALLOW WELLS

Once again, we are supporting the Shallow Wells Project to support the construction of wells in Tanzania and other African regions. To make a donation, use an envelope and include your name and 'water' on it & drop it in the offering plate please. To receive credit on your giving statement, please make checks payable to "Saint Paul Lutheran Church." Thanks for your support of this worthy cause!
Funds to date: \$2,011

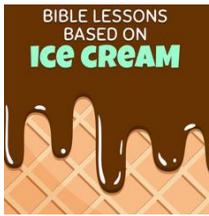
BIG FISH BAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL BEGINS TONIGHT!

(Children ages 3–12 & Adults too!)

June 26 – June 30, 2022, from 6:30 – 8:00 PM



OUR DAILY BREAD: Our dessert for July is Ice Cream Dixies. Anyone who wishes to make a monetary donation for this snack, please mark an envelope "Our Daily Bread Dixies" and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!



CHILDREN'S SUMMER FAITH BUILDERS

The Children's Faith Builders for ages 3 through grade 5 has an exciting summer curriculum we are using during the months of July and August. **BIBLE LESSONS BASED ON ICE CREAM!**

Grades 6-12 will meet in the small conference room for *Donuts, Devotions and Discussion*.

Sermon Notes

"There he came to a cave and lodged in it..." I Kings 19:9a

What is your experience with caves?

Elijah was hiding in the cave – afraid (of Jezebel) and depressed (because he was trying to do God's will but didn't want to end up dead like so many of the prophets before him.)

We might not be cave dwellers, but we do hide due to fear (Covid), depression (the economy) or just because we want to avoid people or circumstances.

Two ways to deal with depression and fear etc.:

1. Talk it out (confession)
2. Get to work (serving)

What does Elijah find when he starts to respond to God's call to come out of the cave: wind, earthquake, fire... but God wasn't there – God was coming to him gently with a quiet comforting word.

Elijah had three jobs: He was to go anoint the next king of Aram. He was to anoint the next king over Israel, and he was to anoint the man who would succeed him.

Two important teachings:

1. This was not the end of the road for the people of Israel. (When we think the world/our lives are over, God says, "not yet, in my time.")
2. We need to be mentoring those who will take over our jobs when our time is done. (Who can come along side us to learn?)

Elijah, just a few verses before all this, had been so depressed that he prayed to die, but God told him what he tells each of us. Elijah would not die until his work was finished. God will determine when our work on earth is over. Until that time, he consoles us with his still small voice. He comes to us in the morsel of bread and the thimble of wine. He comes to us in a broken body and shed blood. He comes to us in the promise of a life given and shed for you.



TAKING FAITH HOME – June 26, 2022, AD

**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 Luke 9:51-62 The cost of following Jesus
Monday Luke 9:21-27 Following Jesus
Tuesday Luke 14:25-34 Considering the cost
Wednesday Luke 5:27-31 Levi follows Christ
Thursday Matthew 13:1-8 A crop is produced
Friday Ephesians 5:1-8 The fruit of the light
Saturday Psalm 92 The fruit of the righteous
Sunday Luke 10:1-11,16-20 Jesus sends out the Seventy-Two

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy, and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. **Galatians 5:22-23a (NIRV)**

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

O God, set us free to serve each other with love. Amen. (Galatians 5:13)

Mealtime Prayer:

Thank you, Lord, for the fruit of the earth. Produce in us the fruits of your Spirit, so that our lives are ripe with love. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's Spirit be at work in you, producing fruits of love. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is something that you “put off” doing? Why?
- Jesus asked people to follow him, but sometimes they put it off, saying “I need to do this or that first” (Luke 9:59-61). Is it hard for you to follow Jesus sometimes? If so, in what ways?
- If Jesus asked you to move somewhere else to do his will, what would be hardest for you to leave behind?

DEVOTIONS

Make a “tree” shape out of cardboard or colored paper and cut out “fruit” shapes marked with the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit from Galatians 5. In your home devotion times this week, talk about and pray for these fruits in your lives. As you do, place the fruit shapes on your “tree.”

SERVICE

Some followers of Jesus today still give up “home, family, and means of income” to share him with others. Do you know of anyone who has done this (such as missionaries in other countries)? If not, ask your pastor or church friends to suggest someone to you. Find his/her address and write a note of encouragement and thanks.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

As a fun household activity, work together to make a fruit salad. Buy a selection of different fruits and work together to peel and slice them up. As you enjoy eating the salad, affirm each other for the fruits of the Holy Spirit you see revealed in them. For example, “I saw the fruit of love in you when . . .” or “I saw you being patient when . . .”

People and issues to pray for in your devotions this week: For our new members and a successful Vacation Bible School, and for other people and issues that are mentioned in worship today including _____ and _____.