

# THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 8, 2024 –8:00 and 10:45 AM

Thursday, September 12, 2024 – 6:30 PM

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing. If you arrive too late to do this before the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor after the service.

✠ *In Nomine Iesu* ✠

## Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book 768  
*To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray*

## Divine Service Setting Three

Lutheran Service Book p. 167

## The Introit

*Psalm 28:1-2, 6-7; antiphon: v. 8*

The congregation chants the verses in **bold** print.

The LORD is the strength of His | people;\*

He is the saving refuge of His a- | nointed.

**To You, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not | deaf to me,\***

**lest, if You be silent to me, I become like those who go down | to the pit.**

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to | You for help,\*

when I lift up my hands toward Your most holy sanctu- | ary.

**Blessèd | be the LORD!\***

**For He has heard the voice of my pleas for | mercy.**

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and | I am helped;\*

my heart exults, and with my song I give | thanks to Him.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

The LORD is the strength of His | people;\*

He is the saving refuge of His a- | nointed.

**Kyrie**

p. 168

**Gloria in Excelsis**

p. 170

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

p. 172

## The Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 35:4-7a*

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance,

with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle Reading

*James 2:1-10, 14-18*

<sup>1</sup>My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. <sup>2</sup>For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” <sup>4</sup>have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

<sup>8</sup>If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you are



committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. . . .

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? <sup>17</sup>So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

<sup>18</sup>But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**The Alleluia and Verse**

p. 173

**The Holy Gospel**

*Mark 7:24-37*

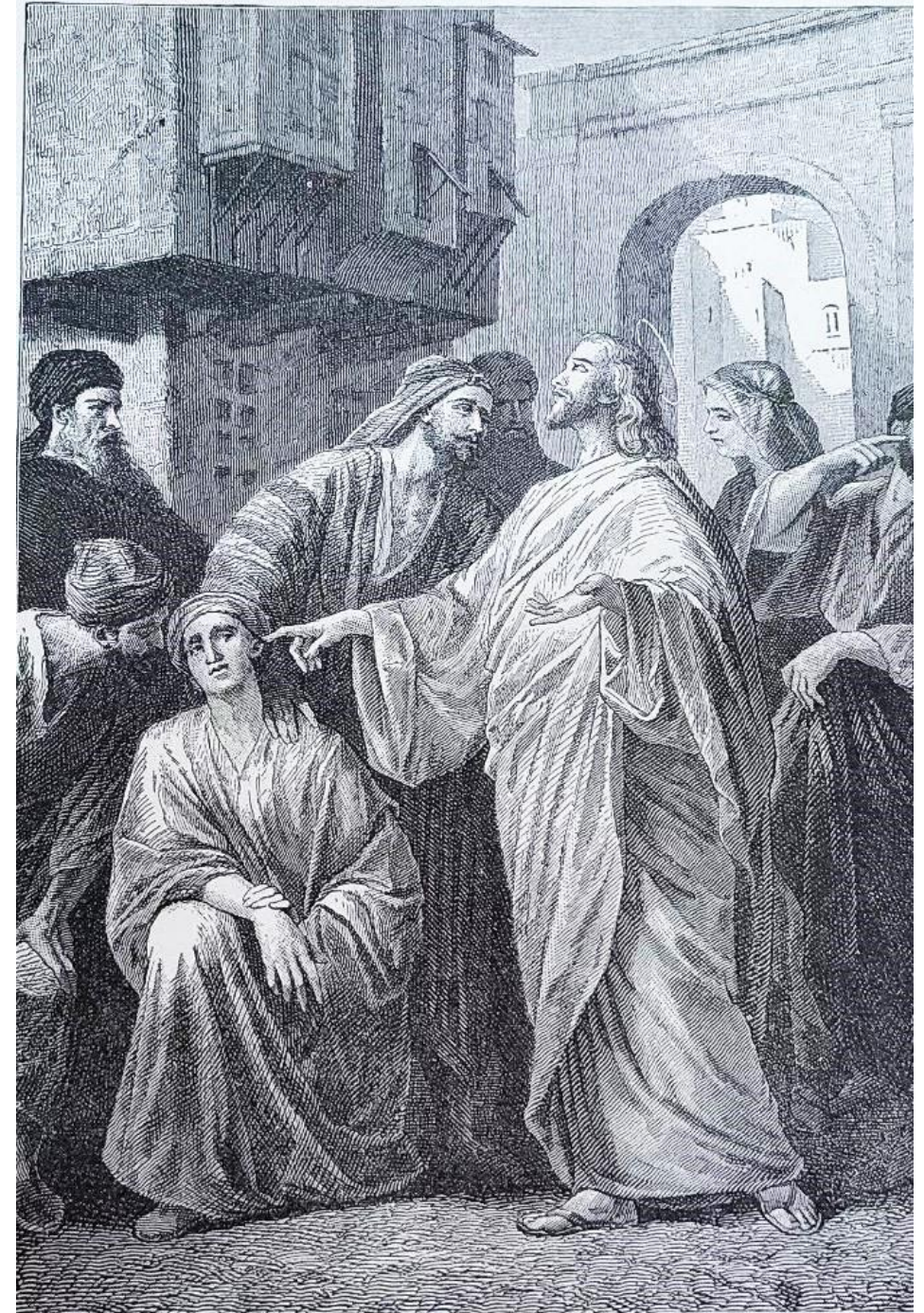
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>24</sup>From there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet He could not be hidden. <sup>25</sup>But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of Him and came and fell down at His feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged Him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>And He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup>But she answered Him, “Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup>And He said to her, “For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup>And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then He returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>And they brought to Him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged Him to lay His hand on him. <sup>33</sup>And taking him aside from the crowd privately, He put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>And looking up to heaven, He sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more He charged them, the



more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**Hymn of the Day**

LSB 797  
*Praise the Almighty*

**The Sermon**

Text:

*“The Heart of Man”*  
Mark 7:14-23

**The Nicene Creed**

p. 174

**Prayer of the Church**

p. 175

**The Preparation of the Altar**

**The Offertory**

p. 176

**Liturgy of Holy Communion**

p. 177

**Distribution Hymns**

LSB 551, 666, 841

**Nunc Dimittis**

p. 182

**Collect**

**Benediction**

**Announcements**

**Closing Hymn**

LSB 839  
*O Christ, Our True and Only Light*

✘ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✘

*Visitors, we welcome you. Please sign the guest book and introduce yourself to the Pastor. Also complete a blue attendance card located in the pews and put an X in the ( ) if you will be communing with us. We invite you to join us for Bible Study on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the school gym.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Thursday	8/29/24	6:30 p.m.	33
Sunday	9/1/24	9:00 a.m.	111

**FLOWERS** are given by Theresa Schwabe to thank the Our Father’s staff for their service to the school.

**BULLETINS** are given by Don and Donna Metzfeld in celebration of their 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**WE PRAY** for Daut Gaba, Gerald Garske, Randall Gray (brother of Linda Goetz), Richard Hanson, Elaine Jensen, Barabara Moore and Susan Sochowski (wife of Mark Sochowski).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** for 2024-2025 begins today, Sunday, September 8 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. We welcome all children ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Registration forms are located in the narthex and office, and may be returned to either the box (same location) or church office. If you are interested in helping out or becoming a Sunday School teacher, please call Christina Janetzke at (414) 975-4826 or email cwingy10@yahoo.com.

**ANNUAL PICNIC** for Our Father’s Lutheran Church, School, and Childcare is today, Sunday, September 8 following the 10:45 a.m. service. Burgers and hot dogs will be supplied, and asking attendees to bring a dish to pass. See the flyer in the narthex for more information. Please join us for fellowship and fun!

**SCRIP** Orders are due today, Sunday, **September 8**. A Scrip order box, order forms, and envelopes are located in the narthex and church/school office. Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

**TROJAN HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK** Camp Edwards hosted our 5th & 6th graders for their annual Outdoor Education experience last week. The students enjoyed a special time of bonding as they went canoeing, played Frisbee golf, performed original skits and tested their archery skills. We will begin our first full week of school on Monday, and, as always, we invite you to pray daily for the students, teachers, and staff.



**ADULT HANDBELLS** will be starting on Tuesday, September 17, beginning at 5:45 p.m. No previous bell ringing experience is required - although the ability to read music is very helpful. If you are interested - please reach out to Stephen Johnson ([sjohnson@ourfatherslutheran.org](mailto:sjohnson@ourfatherslutheran.org)) for more details.

**INVITE PASTOR FOR DINNER** The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex, if you would like to host a dinner for Pastor on Thursdays before church. If you have any questions, please contact LeAnn Lagerman at 414-333-7994.

**CALL COMMITTEE** The Call Committee will provide the congregation regular updates on its activities. In accord with our Bylaws, the call committee comprises the following persons: Dave Felber (Head Elder and Chair of committee); Mike Lagerman, Ken Christian, Richard Feller, and Dan Lesniewski (Elders); Steve Saunders (Church President); Dennis Hanley (Vice President); Dave Burgess (Chairman, Board of Christian Education); and Bob Cahill (Principal). Pastor Aaron Koch is the Circuit Visitor and is helping us in the process. In brief, the process entails seeking candidates from the District and others. After a list of candidates is compiled, the committee will evaluate candidates for potential fit with Our Father's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Ultimately, the Call Committee will present a short list of candidates to the congregation for consideration and a final determination of the call. Please note that any member of the congregation can submit names to any member of the Call Committee for consideration. **There are nomination forms in the back of church on the ledge in front of the cry room.** We likewise welcome any questions or suggestions.

**OFLS ALUMNI** If you or someone you know graduated from Our Father's and went into full-time church work, served in the US Armed Forces, or worked as a first responder, we would like to connect with you. Please contact Principal Cahill at [bcahill@ourfatherslutheran.org](mailto:bcahill@ourfatherslutheran.org) for more details.

**OUR FATHER'S LUTHERAN CHILDCARE** is now enrolling preschoolers ages 3 and 4 years old starting this September! Our Father's is a state licensed childcare facility which operates year-round Monday-Friday, 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Please contact Amanda McGraw or Michelle Sroka at (414) 282-9057 to learn more about this great opportunity to give your child a Christ-centered education in a family-like environment.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** on October 12 for the first Lutheran Classical Academy Cornhole Tournament and Hog Roast! This event, hosted by St John's Lutheran in Port Washington (217 N Freeman Drive), will include a delicious hog roast, sides, and beverages available for purchase; a fun 50/50 raffle; prizes for the top three teams! Please

sign up to play via the QR code on the poster. If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church – Lutheran Classical Academy. We invite you to join us for a fun time to help support the good cause of Lutheran Education!

**CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE** The church directory is in print right now. We anxiously await its arrival. When we receive it, please check your church mailbox for your copy. Reminder, if you had your picture taken, you will receive a free copy. If you did not, we will have a small amount available to purchase for \$15, first come, first serve.

**FLOWER SPONSORSHIP** There are a number of open spots available to sponsor flowers this fall. Please sign up on the chart in the narthex if you would like to celebrate an occasion or remember a loved one by sponsoring flowers. The cost is \$30 per bouquet.

**ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT** Mark your calendars for the Advent by Candlelight event on Saturday, December 14, 2024 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the school gym. This event has an Advent devotional opportunity as well as a lovely buffet of hors d'oeuvres. More information and sign-up sheets will be coming out in November. Looking forward to sharing the afternoon with you. The Fellowship Committee.

### **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

Sunday	9/8	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b> Church Picnic (after late service) Scrip Due	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:45 a.m.</b> 11:45 a.m.
Monday	9/9	BCE Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9/11	<b>CHAPEL SERVICE</b> Morning Bible Study	<b>8:10 a.m.</b> 9:30 a.m.
Thursday	9/12	PAC Meeting <b>DIVINE SERVICE</b>	5:30 p.m. <b>6:30 p.m.</b>
Sunday	9/15	<b>DIVINE SERVICES</b> Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:45 a.m.</b> 9:30 a.m.

---

**THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER  
FOR THE WEEK OF  
THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*“The Heart of Man”*  
September 8 through September 14, 2024

*Hezekiah comes face to face with death. In faith he cries out for God's mercy and the Lord hears him. The healing on the third day is a sign of that greatest healing of all which takes place on the third day, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Then Hezekiah asks for a sign which God will attach to this promise. Is this not the way God yet deals with His Church, through sign and promise, such as water and Word in baptism? God appoints signs to bring the power of the resurrection to His Church. The ten steps have the shadow removed from them just as the shadow of death cast by the Ten Commandments is removed from us through the death and resurrection of Christ. The stairs of Ahaz remind us that it was Ahaz who refused a sign of deliverance from God and God still offered him a great sign, "The virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14) The greatest sign God gave of His salvation for men is His Son who took on flesh and blood for us men and for our salvation.*

**INVOCATION:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**AMEN.**

**THE CREED**

**VERSE:** God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
**Romans 5:8**

**COLLECT FOR THE WEEK:** O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

**PSALM OF THE WEEK:** 31

**PSALMODY PRAYER:** My God in whom I trust, I call upon You for deliverance from the traps which the Evil One daily sets in my path. Do as You have promised that no evil may befall me. As You sent forth the angels to care for Your Son, send them to minister to me for His sake. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	1 Samuel 31:1-13
Tuesday	2 Samuel 1:1-16 (17-27)
Wednesday	2 Samuel 5:1-5, (6-8), 9-10, (11-25)
Thursday	2 Samuel 6:1-19
Friday	2 Samuel 6:1-17
Saturday	Mark 9:14-29

**CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: The Ten Commandments  
The Seventh Commandment**

You shall not steal.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

**The Eighth Commandment**

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

**Luther, Large Catechism, Eighth Commandment:** Such is human nature that no one wants another to have as much as he himself has. Everyone tries to get all he can and lets the next man look out for himself. Yet we all want to seem upright, we put up the best front we can, and we try to keep the scoundrel within us hidden. We think up subtle devices and under the guise of fairness use sly maneuvers (improved versions of which are devised every day). About this we dare to boast brazenly, insisting that it be called shrewdness and good business sense, not dishonesty. We are abetted in this by jurists and lawyers who bend and stretch the law to suit their case, straining and misapplying words with no regard for equity or the neighbor's needs. In short, he who is most adept and clever at such games gets the best advantage out of the law and, as the saying goes, "The law favors the alert." Thus this last commandment is not addressed to those whom the world considers scoundrels, but precisely to the most respectable--to those who look for approval as being decent and upright and who have not offended against the foregoing commandments. ... The situation to which this commandment applies occurs most often in lawsuits by which someone attempts to get or squeeze something out of his neighbor. When people, for example, squabble and wrangle over a large inheritance, a piece of real estate, etc., they drag in and put to use any argument that has the slightest semblance of right, and they blow it up so much and deck it out so elaborately that the law tilts to their side and assigns them the property with a title so secure that it will stand firm beyond question or dispute. ... This sort

of thing happens also in ordinary business. Someone slyly loosens something from another's grasp, and the victim gazes helplessly after the culprit as he disappears with it around a corner. Or seeing a chance of perhaps making a profit--for example, at the expense of someone in trouble or debt who can neither hold on to his property nor avoid a loss if he sells--he hurries and pressures his victim until he has taken over half of his property or more; and yet this is considered an honest acquisition, not highway robbery or fraud. Hence the sayings, "first come, first served" and "Grab yours while you have the chance" and let the next man take what's left. Who is clever enough to imagine the vast amounts one could get by such pretty pretenses of fair business dealing? The world, however, does not consider such practices wrong. It does not see that these are ways of taking advantage of the neighbor and forcing him to sacrifice what he cannot spare without being hurt. Yet no one wants others to do such things to him. From this it is clear that all these shifts and shams are hypocritical. (*LC*, 60-61, St. Louis: Concordia, 1978)

**PRAYER:** Each day a different aspect of Christian life is covered.

Monday	Our Baptism, calling, and daily work
Tuesday	Deliverance from sin and temptation
Wednesday	Marriage, family, and schools
Thursday	The Lord's Supper, the Church, and Her Pastors
Friday	The Preaching of the Cross, the persecuted, and missions
Saturday	True repentance and restoration of the withering
Sunday	The Hope of the resurrection and faithfulness to the Word

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

**OR**

**LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK:** *LSB 666 "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe" (stanza 2)*

## LOOKING FORWARD TO THE WEEK OF THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*"Help My Unbelief"*  
September 15, 2024

**HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** 533, 849, 559, 537, 755, 754

### READINGS

Isaiah 50:4-10  
James 3:1-12  
Mark 9:14-29

The confession of Peter is the centerpiece to each of the Gospel. With Peter's confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah, Jesus begins His march to Jerusalem and the cross. He defines what it means to be Anointed. The Anointed One goes in the way of the cross and anoints you in your baptism to walk in that same course. The question Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?," is the central question of the faith. This question divides those who believe from those who do not. Of course, your flesh is like the flesh of Peter. You do not want to hear about the cross for glory or success is much more pleasing. Thus, it is much more pleasing to the flesh to sing so-called "praise songs" than to sing of the cross of Christ and the bloody sacrifice which He bids us to follow Him in. Only through the cross will you attain true glory. This is not a theology of "feelings," but the way of faith which trusts in what is not seen or, we could add, felt. The way of the cross is the "things of God." Peter's confession is a gift to Him from the Father who reveals this Truth to His children, opening their eyes to see the unseen. This confession is "the tongue of the learned" as Isaiah records. Only with such faith which comes by the hearing which He bestows can we follow in the way of the cross. Our bodies suffer for our Lord suffered in the body and we eat that body in the Lord's Supper. Such eating means we share in the suffering as well as the glory. Faith in the incarnation leads to care for the bodies of all, rich and poor, who have been joined to the body of Christ.





## Our Father's Ev. Lutheran Church, School and Childcare

*A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

[www.ofls.org](http://www.ofls.org)

Rev. Dr. Mark Nuckols, Pastor

Church (414) 282-8220

Mr. Bob Cahill, Principal

School (414) 282-7500

Mrs. Amanda McGraw

Childcare (414) 282-9057

Mrs. Michelle Sroka

Childcare Co-Directors

Organists: *Sunday*-Stephen Johnson [sjohnson@ourfatherslutheran.org](mailto:sjohnson@ourfatherslutheran.org)

*Thursday*-Ben Culli

September 8, 2024



Pentecost

**About the Cover:** The beautiful picture of healing in Isaiah was literally fulfilled by Jesus. In His hands, "the deaf hear and the mute speak." Jesus has fulfilled all the prophecies about Him in the Old Testament. By His grace, He also has opened our ears to hear His Word, to repent, and to believe the Gospel of His forgiveness through His cross and resurrection. Moreover, He has opened our mouths to speak of how "He has done all things well" (Mark 7:37) for the sake of the world.