

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 15, 2024 –8:00 and 10:45 AM

Thursday, September 19, 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 533
Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure

Divine Service Setting Three

Lutheran Service Book p. 167

The Introit

Psalm 31:14-16; antiphon: v. 24

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

Be strong, and let your heart take | courage,*

all you who wait | for the LORD!

But I trust in You, | O LORD;*

I say, “You | are my God.”

My times are | in Your hand;*

rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my perse- | cutors!

Make Your face shine on Your | servant;*

save me in Your | steadfast love!

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.

Be strong, and let your heart take | courage,*

all you who wait | for the LORD!

Kyrie

p. 168

Gloria in Excelsis

p. 170

Salutation and Collect of the Day

p. 172

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 50:4-10

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.

Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

⁸He who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.

⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

¹⁰Who among you fears the LORD
and obeys the voice of his servant?

Let him who walks in darkness

and has no light

trust in the name of the LORD

and rely on his God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading

James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

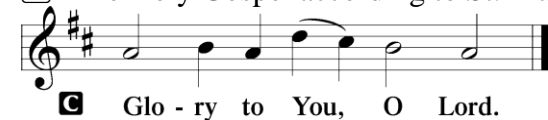
The Alleluia and Verse

p. 173

The Holy Gospel

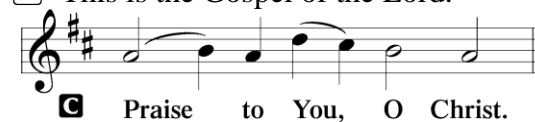
Mark 9:14-29

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



¹⁴When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵And immediately all the crowd, when they saw Him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted Him. ¹⁶And He asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” ¹⁷And someone from the crowd answered Him, “Teacher, I brought my son to You, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked Your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” ¹⁹And He answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me.” ²⁰And they brought the boy to Him. And when the spirit saw Him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. ²²And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” ²³And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” ²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” ²⁵And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” ²⁶And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸And when He had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” ²⁹And He said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Hymn of the Day

LSB 849

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

The Sermon

Text:

“Help My Unbelief”

Mark 9:14-29

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 559, 537, 755

Nunc Dimittis

p. 182

Collect

Benediction

Announcements

Closing Hymn

LSB 754

Entrust Your Days and Burdens

✠ *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	9/5/24	6:30 p.m.	34
Sunday	9/8/24	8:00 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	78 47

FLOWERS are given by the Sieverts in celebration of Dean and Amy’s 32nd 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 began last Sunday. You can still sign up to attend. We welcome all children ages 3 through 6th 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.

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) for more details.

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT Come and cheer on our 7th/8th grade girls’ team during the Volleyball Tournament here at Our Father’s this weekend, September 20-21. They play at 4:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Friday, and then more matches with time TBD on Saturday. Go Trojans!

VOLLEYBALL HELP NEEDED Our Father's Lutheran School is looking for help during Home Volleyball games this fall and the tournament this weekend. Volunteers are needed for Concessions, Score Table and Admissions. No experience necessary. Please contact Ben Janetzke, bjanetzke@ourfatherslutheran.org, for more information or to sign up.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE The Call Committee is in the process of gathering information for the call documents to forward to the District Office. After they are

submitted, the district will provide us with candidates. We are still taking candidate nominations from the congregation. Nomination forms are in the narthex on the ledge in front of the cry room.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE The church directory has arrived! 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.

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.

TROJAN HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK Many were in attendance last Sunday for the annual Our Father's picnic and they were blessed with a beautiful day! There was no shortage of smiles as young and old gathered for food, fun, and Christian fellowship. Huge thanks go to the members of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) for organizing and hosting this wonderful event!

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 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!

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.

THE CHAPEL PROGRAM at the *Lutheran Home* (76th & North Ave.) needs your help. Friendly faces are needed to help residents get to worship service, Bible class, and fellowship opportunities. Volunteer times for assisting residents move within the complex are Sunday mornings 9:30-11:30 a.m., Tuesdays mornings 11:15-12:15 p.m., Wednesday mornings 9:45-10:45 a.m., and Wednesday/Thursday/Friday afternoons 1:00-2:00 p.m. If you would like to help or need more information, please contact Chaplain Derek Wolter at 414-258-6171 ext. 349, or derek.wolter@thelutheranhome.org.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday	9/15	DIVINE SERVICE	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Tuesday	9/17	Handbell Practice	5:45 p.m.
Wednesday	9/18	CHAPEL SERVICE No Morning Bible Study	8:10 a.m.
Thursday	9/19	DIVINE SERVICE	6:30 p.m.
Friday-Saturday	9/20-9/21	Girls Volleyball Tournament at Our Father's	TBD
Sunday	9/22	DIVINE SERVICES Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	8:00 & 10:45 a.m. 9:30 a.m.

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

“Help My Unbelief”
September 15 through September 21, 2024

Each week I have included an outline for the weekly rhythm of your prayers. This week I want to point out that there is also a daily rhythm. In the beginning (Genesis 1) God speaks of a day as evening and morning. In our busy daily schedule we usually move from morning to evening. This approach to time has you awake refreshed and leads you to exhaustion each evening. God constructed time so that you would move from darkness to light, from exhaustion to being refreshed, from darkness the time of light to light the time of life. Morning and evening prayers reflect this sense of time. The morning is a time to give thanks for being brought safely through the night even as our Lord brings us safely through death to resurrection. Each morning that you awake is a comforting reminder of the resurrection from the sleep of death. In the evening you rightly pray for those who protect you from the dangers of the hours of darkness when sin runs rampant: police, firemen, and the angels who watch over you while you are asleep.

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

THE CREED

VERSE: Do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? **Matthew 6:25**

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK: Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

PSALM OF THE WEEK: 32

PSALMODY PRAYER: Cover over all my iniquities, O Lord, for I try to hide my sin in vain. Hide me from all the attacks of the Evil One for You are my Deliverer. Though I am as stubborn as a mule, guide me with Your own teaching. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	2 Samuel 7:18-29
Tuesday	2 Samuel 9:1-13
Wednesday	2 Samuel 11:1-17, 22-25
Thursday	2 Samuel 11:26-12:15
Friday	James 3:1-12
Saturday	Mark 9:30-37

CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: The Ten Commandments

The Ninth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

The Tenth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

Luther on Luke 7:11-17: Therefore, there is no help against this [death's power] in any creature, except that God Himself had to take pity on our misery and think of a plan for this, as He says in the same prophet (Is. 49:25): "Now the captives will be taken away from the giant, and the prey set free from the strong." Christ, God's Son, Himself had to do this. For this reason, He became man, that is, took on Himself our death and its cause (sin and God's wrath), so that He could rescue us from it and bring us out of it into life and righteousness. ... For this reason, we are called "Christians"--that is, righteous, living, and blessed people--because we have this Lord and partake of Him through faith in His Word and Sacrament. He is the true sin-slayer and death-eater (I am speaking about our sin and our death which had slain and eaten us) through His own strength and power [cf. 1 Cor 15:54]. He did both of these things in His body when He took our sin and death upon Himself. However, because He was not only without sin and the guilt of death but also in Himself was full of eternal righteousness and life, sin and death had no claim on Him but were condemned and blotted out in Him, so that for our sin and death He gave us nothing but righteousness and life. (*Church Postil V*, LW 79:139-140)

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 537 "Beautiful Savior" (stanza 1)*

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE WEEK OF THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"Afraid to Ask Him"

September 22, 2024

HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: 454, 851, 594, 597, 438, 730

READINGS

Jeremiah 11:18-20

James 3:13-4:10

Mark 9:30-37

What are you to learn from Jesus' words about serving? Sometimes this is moralized into words about helping everyone, but the context suggests something different. The question to be asked is: What does it mean to serve? In this text Christ defines serving by His own suffering, death, and resurrection for the forgiveness of your sins. Christ's greatness is seen in His willingness to purchase the forgiveness of sins with His own blood and give the gift of forgiveness to His children. Jesus addresses His words to the apostles and so to those who bear the apostolic office, the pastors of the Church. To be the servant of all is to offer the gifts which Christ has purchased and won for the Church. The good servant always provides what is necessary for the one he serves. Thus, the good servant receives the children of God as members of the body of Christ through the washing of Holy Baptism. It is in baptism that even the littlest is received in Christ's name, because Christ has poured the waters of life upon him. Yet, these words are not just for pastors. How are you to serve or distribute the gifts of God? As parents you are to serve the fruits of righteousness to your children, that is, guide them in the baptismal life. As Christ joined them to Himself you are to daily apply the law of God that they might die to sin and then offer them the forgiveness of sins that they might be raised up. Is this not what it means to train up a child in the way he should go, that is, the way of the baptized? Teach them the wisdom that a friend of the world is an enemy of God.



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

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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

Thursday-Ben Culli

September 15, 2024



Pentecost

About the Cover: After the disciples could not cast out the demon from the boy, an exasperated father pleaded with Jesus to see if He could do anything. When Jesus said, "If you can't! All things are possible for the one who believes," it is without question that Jesus can accomplish this. When the father says, "I believe; help my unbelief" (Mark 9:23-24), it is also without question that Jesus has compassion on all who call upon Him, no matter how weak their faith. His compassion to save depends solely on His love, which is shown in the giving of Himself to conquer sin, death, and the devil for us.