LUTHERAN CHAPEL



ACTS 15:3-21 AND LUKE 16:1-13

"WHO IS YOUR MASTER?"

Jesus' parable of the dishonest manager shocks and enlightens. The LORD gives us opportunity to be shrewd, wise managers with all He entrusts to us. Be shrewd in Christ.

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

lutheranchapelchurch.org (704) 864-6491

LUTHERAN CHAPEL SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

BOLD indicates congregational responses.
* Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.

GATHER

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 John 1:8-9

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.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:1-17

- 1. You shall have no other gods.
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
- 4. Honor your father and mother.
- 5. You shall not murder.
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.
- 7. You shall not steal.
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

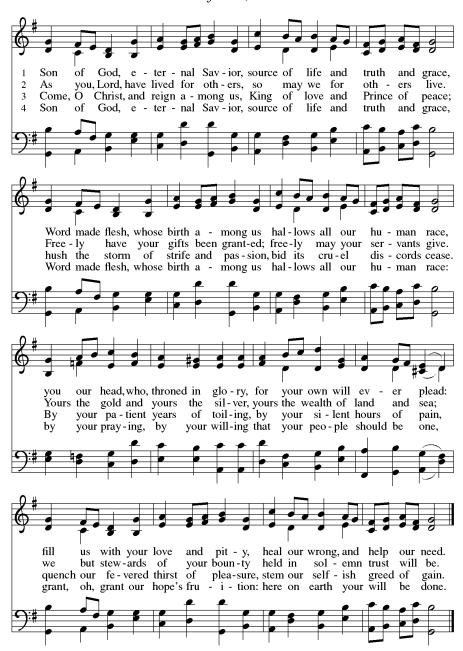
P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

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

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God 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.



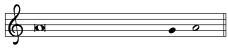
Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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.

*THE KYRIE Mark 10:47

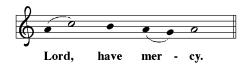


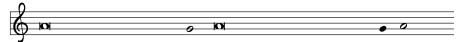
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



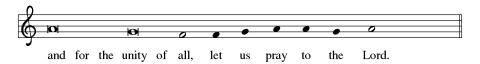


For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.

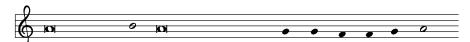




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







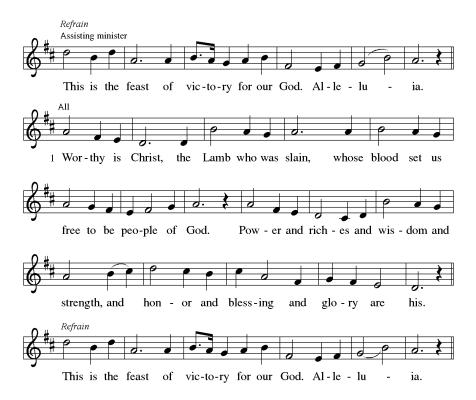
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

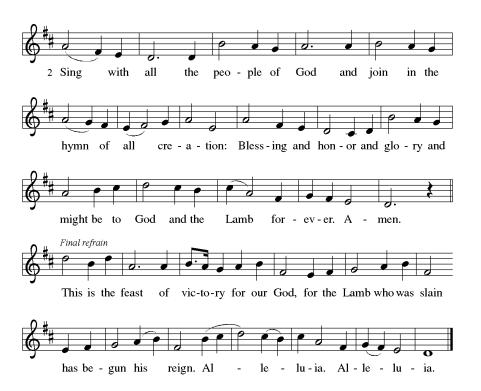


Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

*THIS IS THE FEAST

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9





PRAYER OF THE DAY

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

C: God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children who want to come forward for the Children's Message at the front of the church are welcome to do so. Let the little children come unto our Lord always!

FIRST LESSON AMOS 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over

so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 113 (In Unison)

The LORD lifts up the poor from the ashes. (Ps. 113:7)

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants | of the LORD; praise the name of the Lord. ²Let the name of the | LORD be blessed, from this time forth for- | evermore. ³From the rising of the sun to its | going down let the name of the LORD be praised. ⁴The LORD is high a- | bove all nations; God's glory a- bove the heavens. ⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who sits en- | throned on high, ⁶but stoops | to behold the heavens | and the earth? ⁷The LORD takes up the weak out | of the dust and lifts up the poor | from the ashes, ⁸enthroning them | with the rulers, with the rulers of the people. ⁹The Lord makes the woman of a | childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

GLORIA PATRI (In Unison)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

³So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. ⁴When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses."

⁶The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. ⁷After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. ⁸And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; ⁹and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. ¹⁰Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

¹²The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. ¹³After they finished speaking, James replied, "My brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. ¹⁵This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written,

¹⁶'After this I will return,

and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen;

from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up,

¹⁷so that all other peoples may seek the Lord —

even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called. Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things ¹⁸known from long ago.'

¹⁹Therefore I have reached the decision that we should not trouble those Gentiles who are turning to God, ²⁰but we should write to them to abstain only from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from whatever has been strangled and from blood. ²¹For in every city, for generations past, Moses has had those who proclaim him, for he has been read aloud every sabbath in the synagogues."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

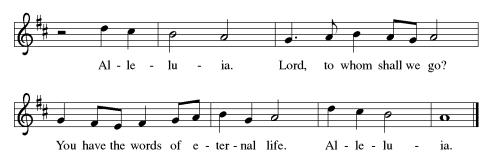
STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson and Bible in a Year readings from Genesis to Revelation. <u>The + marks where we are now</u>. Claim the gift for yourself!

Creation: Fall: Promise: Exodus: Conquest: Judges: Kings and Prophets: Exile: Restoration: 2^{nd} Temple: JESUS: + Apostles: Last Day: New Creation

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Joel 2:13



*GOSPEL LUKE 16:1-13

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel. Response after the announcement:



Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what

belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

"Who Is Your Master?"

On the Council of Jerusalem

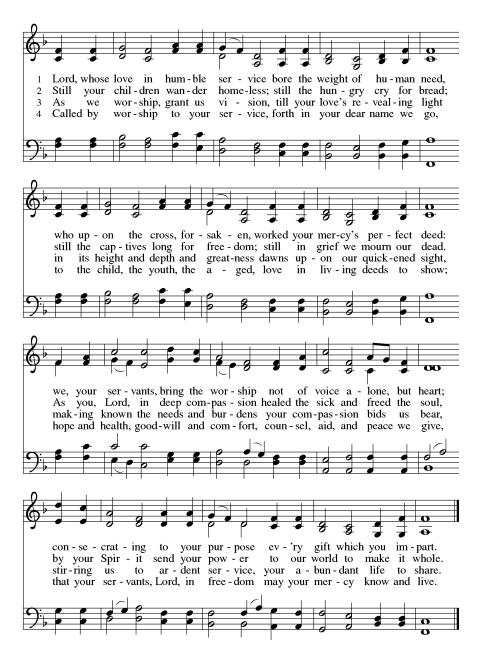
Commending Shrewdness

The Law is an aspect of God's Word that shows sin and brokenness: Too often I serve the anxieties and worries of money and this broken age forgetting God's big picture.

The Gospel is an aspect of God's Word that comforts and saves in Christ: The LORD calls and gives us opportunities to be smart and shrewd managers of all we have. Let us serve the LORD wisely with our time, talent, and treasure.

So What? Practice shrewdness. Conversion is real - people can change and you will know real change by their fruits (Matthew 7:20). Do the next right thing day by day following His will.





Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984 Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985 Text © 1961 Oxford University Press. Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

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*THE APOSTLES' CREED

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life + everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers.**

Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

2 Corinthians 13:11

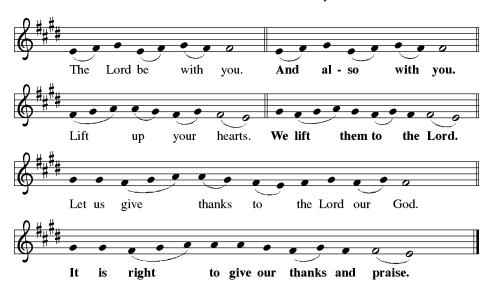
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

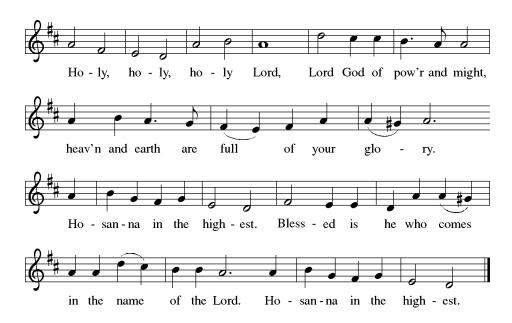
THE MEAL AND SENDING

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136



*PREFACE FOR THE DAY AND THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9



Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22, 1 Corinthians 11

*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

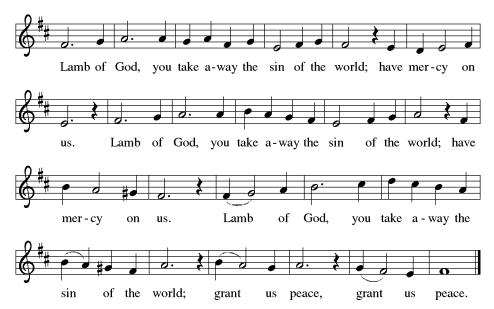
*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

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 John 1:29



*DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to Holy Communion. Here we receive forgiveness, the gift of abiding in Jesus, the remembrance of His sacrificial love for us on the Cross, and the promise of eternal life (Luke 24:13-35, John 6:22-59, 1 Cor. 11:23-26). Please request grape juice or gluten free bread if needed. Taste and see the LORD is good (Psalm 34:8)!

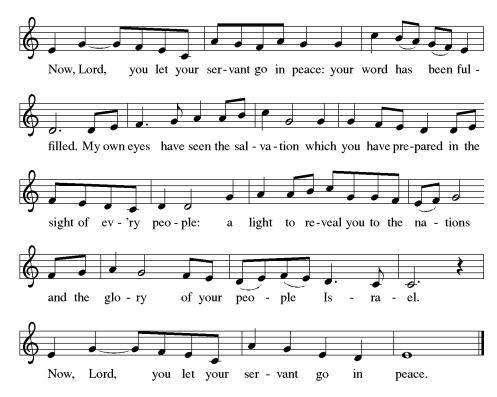
Please take your communion cup as you leave and discard in trashcan.

P: This is the body of Christ given for you. This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

SENDING

*THE BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

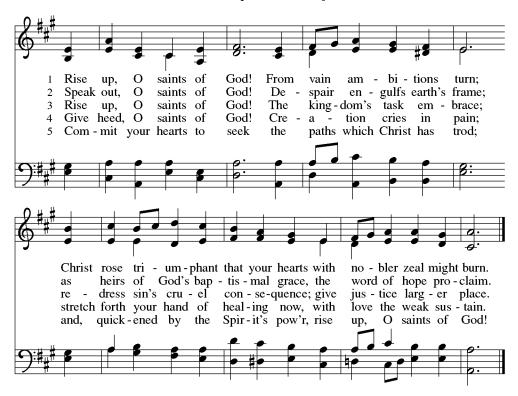


*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

AM: God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

*BENEDICTION



Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

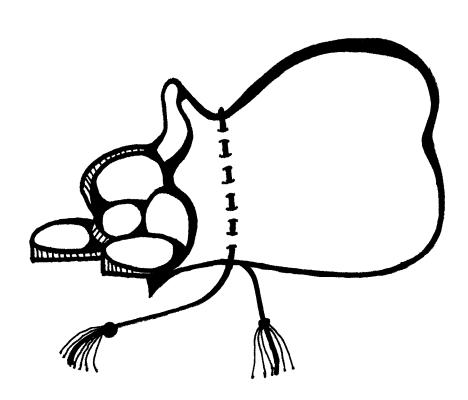
POSTLUDE

+ + + + + + + +

OUR ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Wanda Anthony.

THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY

Ministers	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant	Kim Rundzieher
Organist	Lisa Burch
Acolyte	Renwick Royston
Crucifer	Ethan Lineberger
Lector	
Head Ushers	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman



PARISH NEWS

NURSERY ATTENDANTS BY REQUEST: If your family is in need of a nursery attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our standby attendants.

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN: Please join us for a time of fellowship immediately following today's worship. We will have lemonade and sweet treats for everyone to enjoy!

NEWSLETTER: Articles for the October newsletter need to by submitted to the church office by **Wednesday**, **September 21**.

CLOTHES CLOSET GIVEAWAY: The Outreach Committee will be hosting a Clothing Giveaway on **Saturday, October 1**. Set-up begins at 8am. Breakfast, snacks, and drinks will be provided for volunteers. Please prayerfully consider helping us in this service to our community.

AN INVITATION: The congregation of Lutheran Chapel is invited to celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Steve and Eula Ritchie following worship on Sunday, October 2 in the Family Life Center. Let us celebrate life together and give thanks for the faithful friendship and service of Steve and Eula. Hope to see you there. (No gifts please!)

ESTHER CIRCLE: Esther Circle will gather for their first meeting since the beginning of the pandemic on **Monday, October 3** at **10am** in the **Fellowship Hall**. All women of the church are welcome.

PHONE TREE: If you haven't been receiving the weekly phone tree messages, please contact the church office to make sure we have the correct contact information in the database.

STORY OF SALVATION BIBLE STUDY: Are you interested in a Bible Study apart from Sunday School? Pastor Michael is offering a Story of Salvation Bible Study. The Story of Salvation lessons offer an overview of major Bible stories from Genesis to Revelation annually. A Bible study on these lessons can be a blessing for those interested in taking up such a spiritual discipline. Some potential times may be Thursday from 11am to noon or Sunday from 5pm to 6pm. Please share if you are interested in attending such a study and what time would be best for your schedule by indicating on the registry of attendance, sharing with Pastor Michael (call/text 704-787-6439 or email Michael.comer@lutheranchapelchurch.org) or contacting the church office at 704-864-6491.

COVID TESTS: A large box of Covid test kits has been donated to the church. Please feel free to take some from the box located in the Narthex.

NEW ADDRESS: BT Bradley has moved to a skilled nursing care facility. <u>His new address is The Greens of Gastonia</u>, 969 Cox Rd., Room 405, Gastonia, NC 28054. Cards, visits, calls, any form of encouragement are much appreciated.

DAILY PRAYER

EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD. (*Psalm 1:2*) Prayer lists and roster, Psalter readings, daily Bible lessons, and a song of praise are below.

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: B.T. Bradley, Todd Carpenter, Larry Collins, Kathy Finch, Paulette Hale, **Tim Henderson**, Pr. Peter & Nancy Homovich, Mark McCauley, Betty Petty, Doug Rhyne, Bill & Kay Robinson, Ed Robinson, Pat & Barbara Robinson, Katherine Sanders, Joe Veale, and Myra Weaver

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Harry & Fran Angstadt, Sam Bell, Eula Brazell, Bill Bridges, Carol Bridges, Sherry Cantrell, Deborah Carpenter, Mary Collins, Evelyn Dixon, Tucker Doyne, Baby Eli, Brooke Ensley, Craig Evanoff, Gordy Folse, Jamison Franklin, Mona Fulton, Ann Gaddy, Brenda Heins, Denise Imhoff, Paula Kadel, Jackie Mango, Lee Norris, Rita Pasour, Brooks Reeder, Renee Rice, Anna Rider, Dakota Shuford, Charlene Sorenson, and the family of Pr. Bill Zima

To share concerns and updates for the prayer list you can contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439).

FEAST OF PSALMS: Psalter Book Five

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM	107-110	115-118	119:105-152	124-127	131-134	138-140	145-147
PM	111-114	119:1-104	120-123	128-130	135-137	141-144	148-150

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 38: September 18 to September 25, 2022

- 09/18 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 11:1-15—Evening Reading: Proverbs 30, 31
- 09/19 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 11:16-33—Evening Reading: Ecclesiastes 1, 2, 3
- 09/20 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 12—Evening Reading: Ecclesiastes 4, 5, 6
- 09/21 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 13—Evening Reading: Ecclesiastes 7, 8, 9
- **09/22** Morning Reading: Galatians 1—Evening Reading: Ecclesiastes 10, 11, 12
- 09/23 Morning Reading: Galatians 2—Evening Reading: Song of Solomon 1, 2, 3
- 09/24 Morning Reading: Galatians 3—Evening Reading: Song of Solomon 4, 5
- 09/25 Morning Reading: Galatians 4—Evening Reading: Song of Solomon 6, 7, 8

Songs of Praise: "Amazing Grace" ELW #779
"Thy Word" W&P #144

Wednesday, September 21 \sim Evening Prayer & Fellowship

"Thy Kingdom Come"

Sunday, September 25 ~ Service of the Word ~ Youth Sunday

Matthew 5:16 - "This Little Light of Mine"

The "Our Daily Bread" devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily e-mail, or podcast. Visit odb.org/subscribe.

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022

Sun-18	8:30 am	Fellowship
	9:00 am	Bible Study/Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:00 am	Lemonade on the Lawn
	11:45 am	Chancel Choir
	3:00 pm	Vision Team Meeting (Conference Room)
	4:00 pm	Congregational Council Mtg. (Conference Room)
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
Mon-19	8:30 am	Preschool
Tues-20	8:30 am	Preschool
	10:00 am	Clothing Closet Workday
Wed-21	8:30 am	Preschool
	7:00 pm	Evening Service & Fellowship (Chapel)
Thur-22	8:30 am	Preschool
Sat-24	9:00am	Via de Cristo Team Meeting Hello Fall