LUTHERAN CHAPEL



2 KINGS 25:1-21 AND MATTHEW 10:40-42 *"WELCOME"*

We are welcomed to Christ that we may welcome others.

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 2, 2023

lutheranchapelchurch.org (704) 864-6491

LUTHERAN CHAPEL JULY 2, 2023 **5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** SERVICE OF THE WORD

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

GATHER

WELCOME

Who are you? We are children of God (1 John 3:2). What is our mission? The mission of Lutheran Chapel is to share God's love.

PRELUDE

"Freedom Ring!"

arr. James Mansfield

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

P: We gather together in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.

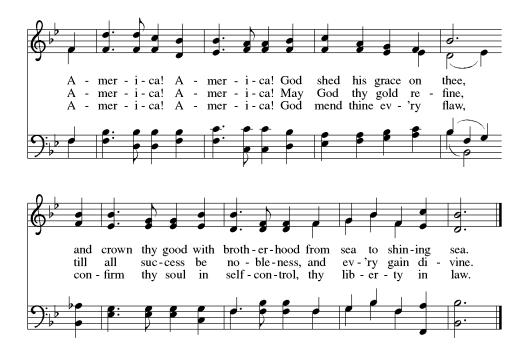
C: Amen.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

beau - ti - ful for spa-cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain, Ο 1 2 0 beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife, 3 pa - triot dream that sees be - youd the Ο beau - ti - ful for years pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit-ed plain: for who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer - cy more than life: thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:

ELW #888



Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859–1929 Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903

LITANY Psalm 145:1-2, 146:6-8, Philippians 4:19, 1 Peter 2:9-10, Numbers 6:26

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

C: for in your wisdom you have formed us.

P: You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

C: We bless you and praise your name forever.

P: You set free those who are bound.

C: We bless you and praise your name forever.

P: You raise up those whose courage falters.

C: We bless you and praise your name forever.

P: You provide for our every need.

C: Accept our grateful praises.

P: You have called us from all peoples.

C: We rejoice and bless your name forever.

P: You bless your people with peace.

C: We bless you and praise your loving grace.

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

C: for in your wisdom you have formed us.

*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.

L: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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.



Text and music © 1972 Contemporary Worship 5: Services of the Word, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

After centuries of prophetic warnings, the LORD uses Babylon to bring judgement on His rebellious people. Return to the LORD your God for judgement begins with His own.

¹And in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem, and laid siege to it; they built siegeworks against it all around. ²So the city was besieged until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. ³On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine became so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land. ⁴Then a breach was made in the city wall; the king with all the soldiers fled by night by the way of the gate between the two walls, by the king's garden, though the Chaldeans were all around the city. They went in the direction of the Arabah. ⁵But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho; all his army was scattered, deserting him. ⁶Then they captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah, who passed sentence on him. ⁷They slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, then put out the eyes of Zedekiah; they bound him in fetters and took him to Babylon.

⁸In the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month — which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon — Nebuzaradan, the captain of the bodyguard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. ⁹He burned the house of the LORD, the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem; every great house he burned down. ¹⁰All the army of the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down the walls around Jerusalem. ¹¹Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried into exile the rest of the people who were left in the city and the deserters who had defected to the king of Babylon — all the rest of the population. ¹²But the captain of the guard left some of the poorest people of the land to be vinedressers and tillers of the soil.

¹³The bronze pillars that were in the house of the LORD, as well as the stands and the bronze sea that were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces, and carried the bronze to Babylon. ¹⁴They took away the pots, the shovels, the snuffers, the dishes for incense, and all the bronze vessels used in the temple service, ¹⁵as well as the firepans and the basins. What was made of gold the captain of the guard took away for the gold, and what was made of silver, for the silver. ¹⁶As for the two pillars, the one sea, and the stands, which Solomon had made for the

2 KINGS 25:1-21

house of the LORD, the bronze of all these vessels was beyond weighing. ¹⁷The height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits, and on it was a bronze capital; the height of the capital was three cubits; latticework and pomegranates, all of bronze, were on the capital all around. The second pillar had the same, with the latticework.

¹⁸The captain of the guard took the chief priest Seraiah, the second priest Zephaniah, and the three guardians of the threshold; ¹⁹from the city he took an officer who had been in command of the soldiers, and five men of the king's council who were found in the city; the secretary who was the commander of the army who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the city. ²⁰Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah. ²¹The king of Babylon struck them down and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. **So Judah went into exile out of its land.**

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>. A memory verse for the week is in bold. Claim the gift for yourself!

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

PSALM 89:1-4, 15-18



¹ Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

- ² For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- ³ "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- ⁴ 'I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.'"

Refrain

¹⁵ Happy are the people who know the festal shout! They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence. ¹⁶ They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.

¹⁷ For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

¹⁸ Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD; our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Refrain

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 6:12-23

Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

Response after announcement:

C: Glory to you, O Lord

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

POSTIL

"Welcome"

Welcome in Christ

Our American Heritage and Call to Action

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: I will welcome only who I want to welcome. Don't I get to decide who is in the Kingdom of Heaven? No, only our Lord Jesus does.

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: God's love is free. Jesus freely welcomes all believers into His eternal Kingdom.

So What? Practice hospitality to God's glory. Pray and support America. Celebrate this 4th of July, 2023.

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"*



Text: William Whiting, 1825-1878, alt. Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 LORD'S PRAYER

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. Matthew 6:9-13

1 Timothy 2:1-4

MUSICAL OFFERING

Let us join together and sing Songs of our Nation in celebration of Independence Day 2023.

"This Land is Your Land"

This land is your land and this land is my land From California to the New York island, From the redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters. This land was made for you and me.

As I went walking that ribbon of highway, I saw above me that endless skyway; I saw below me that golden valley. This land was made for you and me.

I roamed and rambled and I followed my footsteps, To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts, And all around me a voice was sounding. This land was made for you and me.

When the sun come shining, and I was strolling, And the wheat fields waving and the dust clouds rolling, As the fog was lifting, a voice was chanting, This land was made for you and me.

"God Bless America"

God bless America Land that I love Stand beside her and guide her Thru the night with a light from above.

From the mountains, to the prairies To the oceans white with foam God bless America; My home, sweet home.

God bless America Land that I love Stand beside her and guide her Thru the night with a light from above. From the mountains, to the prairies To the oceans white with foam God bless America, My home, sweet home.

God bless America; My home, sweet home. NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE





SENDING

***BENEDICTION**

Numbers 6:24-26

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, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"



Text: Samuel F. Smith, 1808–1895 Music: NATIONAL ANTHEM, *Thesaurus Musicus*, London, 1744

*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 Sylvia Fogle.

THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY

Ministers	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant	Kim Rundzieher
Director of Music Ministries	Kathie Riebe
Assistant Minister	Sylvia Fogle
Lector	
Acolyte	Luke Hoffman
Crucifer	Christian Mull
Head Ushers	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR	Peery Linkous
Council Members of the Month	Crown Hoffman & Steve Ritchie



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.

WHAT IS A POSTIL?: A **Postil** is a commentary or homily on a biblical text that may be read for private devotions or for corporate worship. Our Assistant Minister, Sylvia Fogle, will read a postil on Matthew 10 prepared by Pastor Michael during today's service. May it prove a blessing for the gathering. Tremendous thanks for Sylvia serving this day.

OWLS: Our next *OWL-standing* time of fellowship will be held at <u>Ole Carolina BBQ</u> on Union Rd. in Gastonia on **Thursday, July 20** at **11:00am**. We hope you'll join us.

LITTLE CHURCH AND THE TABLE OF DUTIES: Little Church is a way to worship weekly (just in case one may miss Sunday) for whenever two or three gather together in Jesus' Name. This summer the gift of the Word will focus on the Table of Duties. Mysteriously this part of the Small Catechism disappeared from many printings of it back in 2006 and before. Duty is not a particularly fun topic, right? However, understanding one's duty, the situation in life, and season of life is key to being faithful in our journey through this broken world. Topics will be shared in our weekly bulletin. In addition, the *Simple Way to Pray* by Luther will be utilized week by week. Consider coming to one or all of these opportunities as we go through the summer months for prayer and fellowship.

CAN TABS FOR KIDS: The preschool is collecting soda pop tabs for Shriners Children's Hospital of Greenville, SC until <u>September 8, 2023</u>. All tabs collected will be donated to help the Shriners improve the lives of children by providing pediatric care and innovative research.

SAVE THE DATE: The Men of the Church would like you to save the date for the <u>Ladies</u> <u>Night</u> dinner on **December 2, 2023 at 6pm**.

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: Faye Anne Boyette, Kathy Finch, Henry Hoffman, Leon Moretz, Janie Peak, Betty Petty, Nancy Rankin, Trish Ratchford, Doug Rhyne, Bill & Kay Robinson, Pat & Barbara Robinson, Bob Thornburg, Joe Veale, and Myra Weaver

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Sheila Abernathy, Fran Angstadt, Sam Bell, Rick Belton, Carol Bridges, Deborah Carpenter, Doris Coggins, Genise Collins, Mary Collins, Tucker Doyne, **David Edwards**, Kyle Fletcher, Jameson Franklin, Alice Hanks, Jonnie Heavner, Wade Huss, Rick Knowles, Ralph Morales, Deane Morehead, Rita Pasour, **Philip**, Don Proctor, Brooks Reeder, **Randy Reel**, Paul Rundzieher, Frank Sanders, Dakota Shuford, Diane Shytle, Bishop Tim Smith, Christy Carpenter Smith, Charlene Sorenson, and Jeannie Trayband

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).

	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		
FEAST OF PSALMS: Psalter Book Five									

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 27 July 2 to July 9, 2023

07/02 Morning Reading: Acts 11—Evening Reading: Job 22, 23, 24
07/03 Morning Reading: Acts 12—Evening Reading: Job 25, 26, 27
07/04 Morning Reading: Acts 13:1-25—Evening Reading: Job 28, 29
07/05 Morning Reading: Acts 13:26-52—Evening Reading: Job 30, 31
07/06 Morning Reading: Acts 14—Evening Reading: Job 32, 33
07/07 Morning Reading: Acts 15:1-21—Evening Reading: Job 34, 35
07/08 Morning Reading: Acts 15:22-41—Evening Reading: Job 36, 37
07/09 Morning Reading: Acts 16:1-21—Evening Reading: Job 38, 39, 40
Traditional Song: "Amazing Grace" ELW #779
Sing a New Song: "Thy Word" W&P #144

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.



Wednesday, July 5 ~ NO Evening Service Thursday, July 6 ~ NO Story of Salvation Bible Study Sunday, July 9 ~ Service of the Word Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-5 and Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 *"Woe"*

CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK SUNDAY, JULY 2 - SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023

- Sun-028:30 amFellowship9:00 amBible Study/Sunday School10:00 amWorship (Sanctuary)8:00 pmFaith Group (Fellowship Hall)
- Mon-03 Office Closed
- Tues-04 Happy Independence Day!
- Wed-05 8:30 am Preschool
- Thur-06 8:30 am Preschool
- Sat-08 9:30 am Hungry Peeps Support Group (Fellowship Hall)



It is for *freedom* that Christ has set us free.