LUTHERAN CHAPEL



ACTS 15:3-21 AND MATTHEW 22:15-22

"THE QUESTION OF PRIORITIES"

Who comes first? What are the right priorities? Consider this coin. In Whom do you trust?

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 22, 2023

lutheranchapelchurch.org (704) 864-6491

LUTHERAN CHAPEL OCTOBER 22, 2023 21ST 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

"Andantino"

Cesar Franck

ELW #824

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"This Is My Father's World"

my Fa-ther's world, 1 This is and to my lis-t'ning ears all 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car - ols raise; the 3 This Fa-ther's world; oh, not for - get is my let me that, na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres. morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er praise. yet.



Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858–1901 Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930, adapt.

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: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955 Tune: ST. PETER'S NORWALK, Stephen R. Johnson, b. 1966 Setting: Steven F. Wente, b. 1952

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through 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

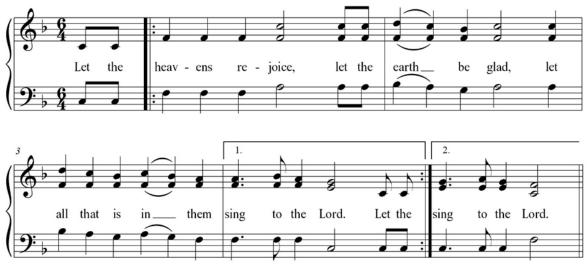
ISAIAH 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before himand the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains. I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things. L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96



Words: Evangelical Lutharan Worship @ 2006 Admin. Augsburg Fortress Publishers Music: Tim TenClay @ 2010 admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

- 1. Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2. Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
- 3. Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
- 4. For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

Refrain

- 5. As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.
- 6. Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
- 7. Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8. Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.
- 9. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

Refrain

- 10. Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12. Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord, for you come to judge the earth.
- 13. You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Refrain

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

ACTS 15:3-21

Is it right for new followers of Christ not to be circumcised and to keep the various laws of the Torah? Are we really saved by Grace? God speaks through His apostles.

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>. 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

*GOSPEL

MATTHEW 22:15-22

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

Response after announcement:

C: Glory to you, O Lord

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Council of Jerusalem

The Coin

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: Why can't You leave me alone so I can do what I want?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: The steadfast love of the LORD provides and gives in the most unexpected ways. God shows us the right priorities.

So What? In much counsel, the Council will succeed! Love the LORD your God first then family, neighbor, stuff, etc.

*HYMN OF THE DAY "All Who Believe and Are Baptized"





Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860–1943, alt. Music: ES IST DAS HEIL, *Etlich christlich Lieder*, Wittenberg, 1524

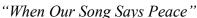
PRAYER

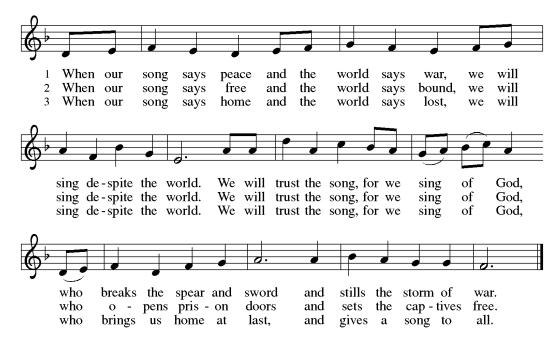
TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

MUSICAL OFFERING

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN ELW #709





Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953 Music: JENKINS, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962 Text © 1997 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. www.selahpub.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

your sal - va - tion, and up-hold with your free Spir - it. me (In Unison) ***OFFERTORY PRAYER** C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed

us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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.



"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

*OFFERTORY

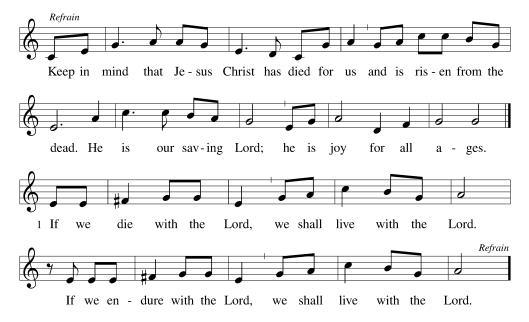
1 Timothy 2:1-4

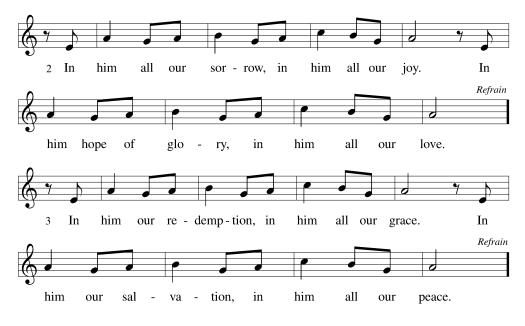
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

"Keep in Mind that Jesus Christ Has Died for Us" 2 Timothy 2





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.

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

ELW #705



Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932 *DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

"Prelude BWV558" J.S. Bach

+ + + + + + +

OUR ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Rhonda Putnam in honor of Doug & Marion Rhyne's 67th anniversary.

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	
Lector	Kelly Andrews
Acolyte	Luke Hoffman
Crucifer	Olivia Berghello
Head Ushers	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR	Mark Thornburg
Council Members of the Month	Debra Hoffman & Jason Sanders



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.

RESTROOMS: Restrooms are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

LOVE OFFERING: The Love Offering for the month of October is the <u>Backpack Weekend</u> <u>Food Program</u>, a ministry of the Outreach Committee. The program provides food for school children who may otherwise have nothing to eat over weekends and holidays. We are partnered with Hawks Nest and Robinson Elementary. The support of the congregation is necessary to continue this ministry and with your generous donations we can provide food to the children.

DONATION OF NEXGRILL TO THE CHURCH: Lutheran Chapel has received a donation of a large Nexgrill from Skip and Shirley Bradley. It was used on Tuesday, October 10th for the congregational cookout of hamburgers and hotdogs where we served approximately 97 members and guests. Because of the grill's size we were able to serve the meal in record time. We look forward to using the grill for many functions in the future. Thanks for your generosity!

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES: We will have boxes available <u>today</u>, <u>October 22nd and next</u> <u>Sunday</u>, <u>October 29^h</u> so that you can fill your boxes early and get ahead of the Christmas rush. The boxes contain all information you will need to fill it along with the mailing labels. *Collection week for Samaritan's Purse Christmas shoeboxes will be November 13th – 19th*. **Boxes <u>must</u> be returned to the church by Sunday November 19th so that we can deliver them to the drop-off location for Gaston County.**

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY: The *Outreach Committee* will be hosting an indoor/outdoor Clothing Giveaway on **Saturday, November 4**.

SOUP LUNCHEON: Make plans to come and enjoy your favorite soup at our annual Soup Luncheon on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 5th immediately following worship</u>. Several delicious soups will be served along with sandwiches and desserts. We always look forward to serving you! If you would like to make a donation for Food Lion Cards to help families in need in our community, you can make your donations anytime or bring to the soup luncheon. If you write a check, please make sure that you make a note on your check for Thanksgiving Meals. Social Ministry will purchase the gift cards when we have a total of how many are needed. Thank you so much for your help with this ministry!

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS: In keeping with the protocol approved by the LCC congregation regarding Church Council elections, Council is accepting nominations for

persons interested in serving a three-year term on the LCC Church Council. This is a selfnominating process. All interested members should contact Crown Hoffman -DrCrownDc@gmail.com, Jason Sanders - Jason.Sanders@cBEYONData.com or Pastor Comer - 704-787-6439 or michael.comer@lutheranchapelchurch.org. **Deadline for nominations is November 12.** At its November 19 meeting, Council will determine the list of persons for the Church membership to consider. Council election is held in December.

WORK DAY AT THE CHURCH: The Men of the Church are sponsoring a fall work day at the Church on **Saturday November 11th**. Plans are to have coffee, juice, donuts beginning at 8:30. The work will begin at 9AM and run until noon. There are several areas on our campus that need to be spruced up. If you are physically able we would appreciate very much if you will come and help for these 3 hours. We have quite a lot to be accomplished and need as many youth, men, and women that possibly could help. Areas needing help include:

- Picnic shelter and fire pit areas
- Electronic sign area
- Columbarium area
- Trash and small limb removal
- Pruning small limbs in front of Church
- Weed eating in cemetery
- Replacing rotten wood on maintenance building

As you can see, we have quite a bit of areas that need our attention. Our Dirty Collar Workers, though small in numbers, continue to keep our grass mowed and weeds trimmed throughout our campus. Unfortunately there is very little time left for them to work on the other tasks listed above. We sincerely thank you for your consideration in helping for these 3 hours.

DAILY PRAYER

A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!: Each morning and evening, pray to the LORD. Sunrise, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1*). A simple order is: Sign of the Cross + Psalms +Bible in a Year + Canticle + Hymns +Prayers + Blessing.

FEAST OF PSALMS: Psalter Book One

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM	1, 2, 3	7, 8, 9	13, 14, 15	19, 20, 21	25, 26, 27	31, 32, 33	37, 38, 39
PM	4, 5, 6	10, 11, 12	16, 17, 18	22, 23, 24	28, 29, 30	34, 35, 36	40, 41

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 43 October 22 to October 29, 2023

10/22 Morning Reading: 1 Timothy 2—Evening Reading: Isaiah 65, 66

- 10/23 Morning Reading: 1 Timothy 3—Evening Reading: Jeremiah 1, 2
- 10/24 Morning Reading: 1 Timothy 4—Evening Reading: Jeremiah 3, 4, 5
- 10/25 Morning Reading: 1 Timothy 5—Evening Reading: Jeremiah 6, 7, 8

10/26 Morning Reading: 1 Timothy 6—Evening Reading: Jeremiah 9, 10 11

- 10/27 Morning Reading: 2 Timothy 1—Evening Reading: Jeremiah 12, 13, 14
- 10/28 Morning Reading: 2 Timothy 2—Evening Reading: Jeremiah 15, 16, 17
- 10/29 Morning Reading: 2 Timothy 3—Evening Reading: Jeremiah 18, 19

Morning: "Song of Simeon" (Luke 1:68-79) Evening: "Song of Mary" (Luke 1:46-55)

Traditional Song: "Now Thank We All Our God"ELW #840Sing a New Song: "Give Thanks"W&P #41

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Faye Anne Boyette, Buddy Carothers, Henry Hoffman, Susan Jackson, Leon Moretz, Carlton Peacock, Nancy Rankin, Doug Rhyne, Bill & Kay Robinson, Pat & Barbara Robinson, Joe Veale, and Myra Weaver

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Baby Aaron, Sheila Abernathy, John Austin, Sam Bell, Rick Belton, Deborah Carpenter, Doris Coggins, Mary Collins, Carol Coutant, Tucker Doyne, Jameson Franklin, Mark Harrelson, Jonnie Heavner, Joyce Hoffman, Wade Huss, Michael Jemison, Rick Knowles, Bill Lankford, Pastor Terrell Long, Joyce Lowery, Pastor Charles McManus, Sherry Meek, Rita Pasour, Randy Reel, Frank Sanders, Dakota Shuford, Christy Carpenter Smith, and Charlene Sorenson

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).

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



Wednesday, October 25 ~ Holy Communion

Psalm 7 "The Just Judge"

Thursday, October 26 ~ Story of Salvation Bible Study

Acts 15:3-21 "The Council of Jerusalem"

Sunday, October 29 ~ Reformation Sunday ~ Holy Communion

Romans 3:10-26 and John 8:31-36 "The Continuing Reformation of the Christian Church"

CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023

Sun-22	8:30 am	Fellowship
	9:00 am	Bible Study/Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:00 am	Confirmation Class (Youth Room)
	11:00 am	Congregational Council Mtg (Conference Room)
	11:05 am	Luther Choir
	11:35 am	Chancel Choir
	1:00 pm	Instrumental Rehearsal
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
Mon-23	8:30 am	Preschool
Tues-24	8:30 am	Preschool
	10:00 am	Clothing Closet Workday
	5:15 pm	Worship & Music Committee Mtg. (Conference Room)
	7:00 pm	CBS (Conference Room, Chapel, Classrooms)
	7:00 pm	Cantamos Choir (Fellowship Hall)
Wed-25	8:30 am	Preschool
	5:30 pm	Chapel Ringers
	7:00 pm	Evening Service (Chapel)
Thur-26	8:30 am	Preschool
	11:00 am	Bible Study (Library)
Fri-27	9:00 am	CBS (Fellowship Hall)
Sat-28	9:30 am	Hungry Peeps Support Group (Fellowship Hall)