

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



JOHN 8:31-47 AND MATTHEW 18:21-35

"On Forgiveness"

**ANTE COMMUNION
16th Sunday After Pentecost
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026**

**lutheranchapelchurch.org
(704) 864-6491**

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
SERVICE OF ANTE COMMUNION**

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

"Blessed Holy Trinity"

Dennis Eliot

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Recognition of Worth and Aline Kiser Memorial Fund

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. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of slavery; 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

Mark 12:28-31

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.

***THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

2 Corinthians 13:13

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, ELW pg. 147

AM: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

***GLORY TO GOD**

Luke 2:14, John 1:29, ELW pg. 148

AM: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

C: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 50:15-21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

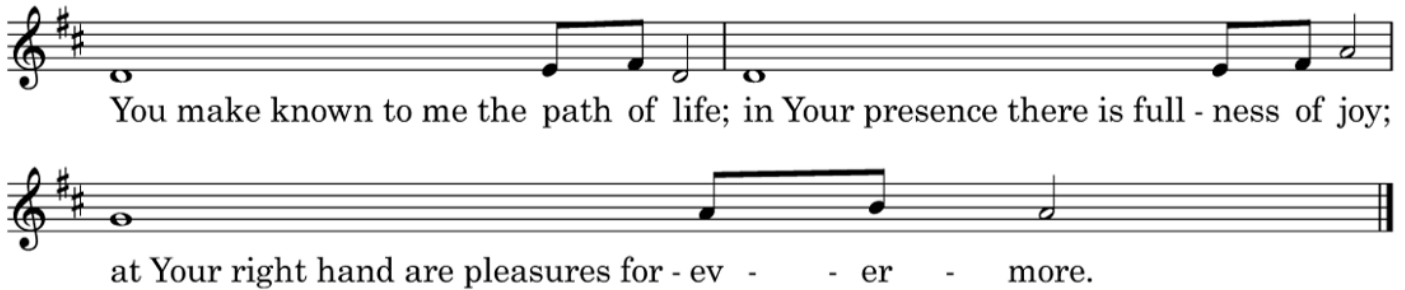
L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

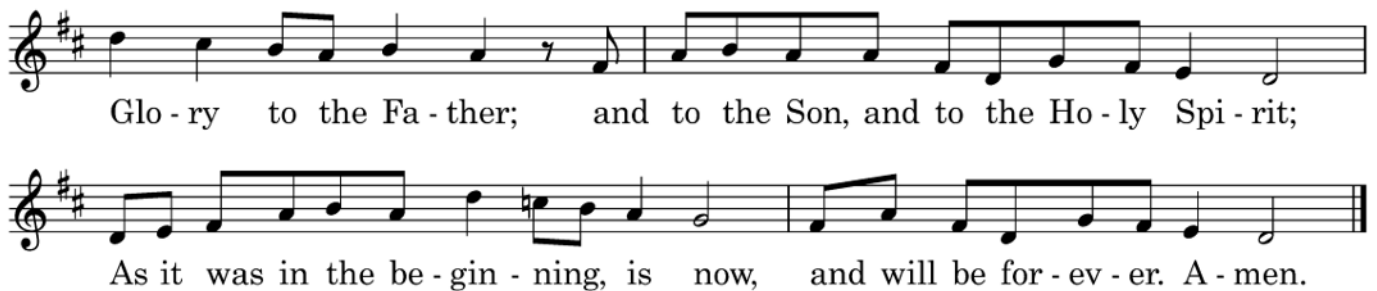
PSALM 103:8 - 13

Antiphon (sung at beginning and end)

Psalm 16:11



- 8 The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
9 He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
10 He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
12 as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
13 As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.



SECOND LESSON

JOHN 8:31-47

³¹ Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever.

³⁶ **So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.** ³⁷ I know that you are descendants of Abraham, yet you look for an opportunity to kill me because there is no place in you for my word. ³⁸ I declare what I have seen in the Father’s presence; as for you, you should do what you have heard from the Father.”

³⁹ They answered him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you are Abraham’s children, you would do what Abraham did, ⁴⁰ but now you are trying to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. ⁴¹ You are indeed doing what your father does.” They said to him, “We are not illegitimate children; we have one Father,

God himself.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God, and now I am here. I did not come on my own, but he sent me. ⁴³ Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot accept my word. ⁴⁴ You are from your father the devil, and you choose to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵ But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. ⁴⁶ Which of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? ⁴⁷ Whoever is from God hears the words of God. The reason you do not hear them is that you are not from God.”

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 from Genesis to Revelation. The + marks where we are now. Memory verse is in bold.

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

FAITH SHARING

Ginny Comer

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68

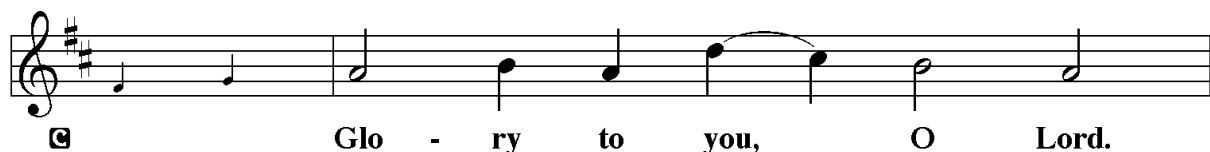
Alleluia. Lord to who shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

*GOSPEL

MATTHEW 18:21-35

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

Response after the announcement:

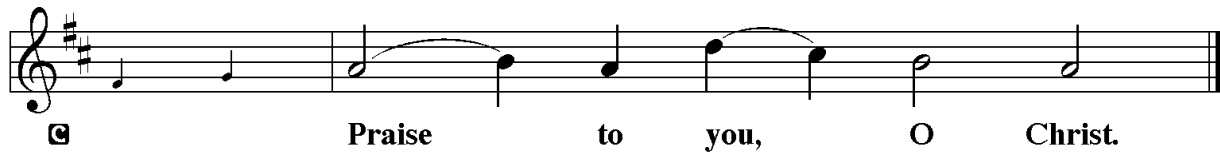


²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵

So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

“On Forgiveness”

The Truth Sets Us Free
Wrestling with Forgiveness

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power: I cannot forgive as our Lord Jesus forgives. I need help!

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus’ ultimate saving power: I am a forgiven sinner by the gift of Jesus. Lord, strengthen me to forgive.

So What?/Plain Sense: What is going on in your life? Where is God in all this? What one thing did you learn from the Word of the Lord? What one question do you have from the Word of the Lord? Ask for forgiveness in daily prayers. Let go of hurt and give to God.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“Change My Heart”

ELW #801

*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.

*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Philippians 4:7

P: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Flowers"

Samantha Ebert

Offered by Elena Hoffman

Well, blue skies and hillsides feel so far away
And I wrote in my notebook that I've seen better days
Than the ones as of late
I can't bear the weight

The rain won't stop pouring out my windowpane
And I haven't left my bedroom in 76 days
I wish something would change
'Cause I'm losing faith

So I brought it up in a desperate prayer
Lord, why are you keeping me here?
Then He said to me, "Child, I'm planting seeds
I'm a good God and I have a good plan
So trust that I'm holding a watering can
And someday you'll see that flowers grow in the valley"

So whatever the reason, I'm barely getting by
I'll trust it's a season knowing that you're by my side
Every step of the way
And I'll be okay

'Cause I brought it up in a desperate prayer
Lord, why are you keeping me here?
Then He said to me, "Child, I'm planting seeds
I'm a good God and I have a good plan"
So trust that I'm holding a watering can
And someday you'll see that flowers grow in the valley

When I'm on the mountain and looking down below
I'll see a valley of flowers that needed time to grow
And I'll thank you for the rain
The hurt and days of pain

And I'll bring it up in a grateful prayer
Thank you, Jesus, for keeping me there
You know just what I need, and you've planted seeds
'Cause you're a good God with a real good plan
And you hold my world in a watering can
So I can have peace 'cause flowers grow in the valley

*OFFERTORY

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Psalms 51:10-12

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER** (In Unison)

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 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 LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

AM: 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.**

SENDING

***BENEDICTION**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN** *"All Creatures, Worship God Most High"*

ELW #835

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Jubilant Gigue"

Iouri Grichetchkin

† † † † † † †

In Honor & MEMORY



OUR ALTAR FLOWERS: Are flowers are given by Pat Lindler, to the Glory of God in memory of Gary Lindler.

Serving the CHURCH



Ministers.....	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor	Michael Comer
Activities Director.....	Brit Borders
Administrative Assistant.....	Susan Hibschi
Director of Music Ministries.....	Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist.....	Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister.....	Adam DeLuca
Acolyte.....	Renwick Royston
Lector.....	Terry Ratchford
Crucifer.....	Hunter Clark
Head Ushers.....	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR.....	Matt Hoffman
Council Members of the Month.....	Debi Jean Wankel & Jenny Williams

Upcoming EVENTS



GENERAL INFORMATION: 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 attendants. **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.

TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS ONLINE: This QR code goes straight to the “Easy Tithe” page on the website that accepts tithes and offerings electronically.



OWLS: We hope you’ll join us for our OWL-standing time of fellowship on **Thursday, September 17** at 11:00 am at Dino’s, Bessemer City.

WELCA: The Circles meet up again starting on Monday September 14. Esther Circle meets at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall and Rebecca Circle meets at 5 pm at Ann Edwards home.

FREE MOVIE FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY: 🎬 Gather your family and friends for a fun-filled afternoon at the movies! Lutheran Chapel Church is hosting a FREE Movie Friends & Family Day at Regal Franklin Square, 3778 E Franklin Blvd, Gastonia on Saturday, September 19, Early Afternoon — Specific Time TBA.

Enjoy a family-friendly movie with popcorn, fun, and fellowship—all at no cost! Bring the people you love and make some great memories together. Feel Free To RSVP. For more information, contact Brit:activities@lutheranchapelchurch.org

We hope to see you there! 🎁 🎬 ❤️

HOMEcoming/FRIEND SUNDAY: The Worship & Music and Outreach teams invite you to join Homecoming/Friend Sunday on **Sunday, September 27th**. Lunch will follow the worship service, and we invite you to bring a dish to share.

SPEAKER CAITLIN REESE KILLIAN: The Esther Circle at Lutheran Chapel Church invites all ladies of the church and their guests to join us for our **October 5th meeting at 10:00 am**. We are honored to welcome Caitlin Reese Killian as our guest speaker, as she shares her inspiring cancer journey, faith, and message of hope and perseverance. Please call the church office or Judy Anton at **704-867-1309** by **September 27th** if you plan to attend. Be sure to let us know how many will be attending with you so we can plan accordingly.

LOVE OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER: September’s love offering will be donated to House of Mercy. The mission of House of Mercy is to provide care to persons living with advanced AIDS. They offers residential accommodations for individual experiencing housing insecurity or financial hardship. An environment of complete acceptance and love is provided in a home-like setting. House of Mercy delivers comprehensive residential support, ensuring residents receive structured nutrition, coordinated healthcare appointments, and professional medication management. The program offers individuals the opportunity to deal with spiritual issues and encourages family reconciliation when families are in disarray.

Weekly CALENDAR



Sunday, September 13	8:00 am	Morning Prayer (Chapel)
	8:30 am	Fellowship
	9:00 am	Sunday School / Rally Day Breakfast
	10:00 am	Worship Rally Day (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
Monday, September 14	8:30 am	Preschool Fall Session Begins
	10:00 am	Esther Circle
	5:00 pm	Rebecca Circle
	7-9 pm	Cantamos Choir
Tuesday, September 15	8:30 am	Preschool
	10:00 am	Clothing Closet Workday
	5:30 pm	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
Wednesday, September 16	8:30 am	Preschool
	6:00 pm	Suffrages and the Chosen (Chapel)
Thursday, September 17	8:30 am	Preschool
	11:00 am	Owls
Friday, September 18		Office closed
	9:00 am	Men's Community Bible Study
Saturday, September 19	9:30 am	Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)
	TBD	Movie Night
Sunday, September 20	8:00 am	Morning Prayer (Chapel)
	8:30 am	Fellowship
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)



The **Worth and Aline Kiser Memorial Fund** was recently given by their daughter, Mayada Besancon to help with on-going needs and ministries here at Lutheran Chapel. Worth and Aline Kiser served Christ faithfully at Lutheran Chapel for many years. Worth served on the Church Council and helped to make sure all was done in good order. Aline was part of the Circles and served on ministries to help others. Let us give thanks to God today for this gift!



DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME

Sunrise, noon, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1, 55:17*). May God bless you as you turn to Him day by day.

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - September 13 to September 20. Read the whole Bible

09/13 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 6—Evening Reading: Proverbs 16, 17, 18
09/14 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 7—Evening Reading: Proverbs 19, 20, 21
09/15 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 8—Evening Reading: Proverbs 22, 23, 24
09/16 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 9—Evening Reading: Proverbs 25, 26
09/17 Morning Reading: 2 Corinthians 10—Evening Reading: Proverbs 27, 28, 29
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

THE PSALMS (Book 4) - Pray the Prayer book the Holy Spirit gives!

God: Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit receives praise and worship from the Church and all angels. .

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	95, 90	95, 93	95, 96	95, 98	95, 100	95, 103	95, 105
Evening	94	94	97	99	102	104	106

Invitatory through St. Michael and All Angels: Glorious is God with His angels and saints: O come let us worship Him.

Antiphon through St. Michael and All Angels: You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore (*Psalm 16:11*)

STUDY GOD'S WORDS WITH OTHERS

Wednesday, September 16

Evening Suffrages and the Chosen - Psalm 119:57-64 "*Heth*" and The Chosen "*I Saw You*"

Sunday, September 20

Morning Prayer - Matthew 5:17-30 "*Fulfillment of Law and Prophets*"

Bible Study - Chapel Class – Hebrews 8 "*Better Promises*"

Fellowship Class – Joshua 3 and 4 "*Remembering God's Works*"

Joy Class – Romans 3 and 4 "*Saving Faith*"

Story of Salvation (Church Facebook Page) – Mark 15 "*The Cross of Jesus Christ*"

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP

Olivia Berghello, Shirley Bradley, Miles Carpenter, Todd Carpenter, George Cashion, Renee Dockery, Deborah Gault, Baker Hampton, **Leon Moretz**, family of Hannah Myers, Norman Overcash, Pat Robinson and Keith Yarborough.

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

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

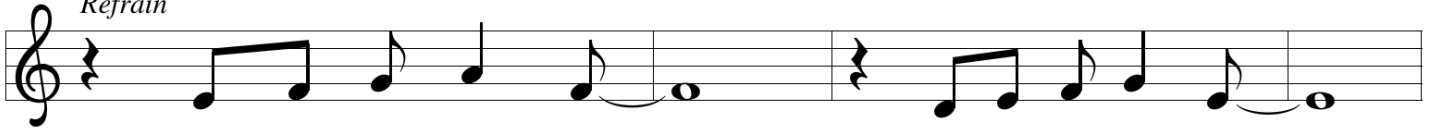
Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

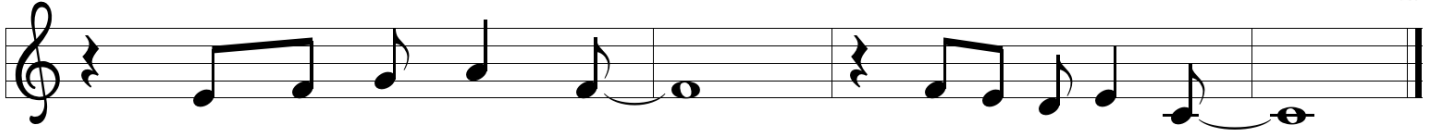
Change My Heart, O God

Refrain



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

End

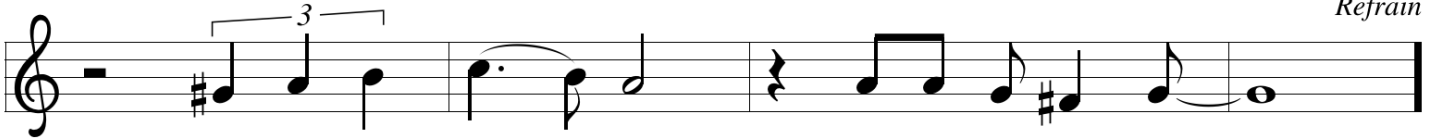


Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Refrain



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



1 All crea-tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad - ows, join the
 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
 grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
 throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
 grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
 clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear:
 care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
 fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
 Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.