

15th Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, September 1, 2024
Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
2725 Concord Drive
Florissant, MO 63033

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Details are on the slides and at the end of bulletin*)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. We struggle to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

ELW#879

GREETING

P: Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

L: Word of God, Word of Life

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 15

L: LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

C: **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

L: they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

C: **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

L: They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

L: Word of God, Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING - *Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the gospel.*

P: The holy Gospel according to **Mark, the 7th chapter (verses 1-8, 14-15, 21-23)**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?"

⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**
Following the reading the assembly is seated.

SERMON Pastor Matt

HYMN OF THE DAY “Oh That the Lord Would Guide” ELW#772

PROFESSION OF FAITH – Responsive - *The Apostles’ Creed*

P: Do you believe in God?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**C: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God’s good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of creation, where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Bring relief and justice to people and places suffering from climate catastrophe. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers, therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to our hearts (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions and establish fair wages so that all people may thrive. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Comforting God, console us as we mourn our departed (*especially*). We hold fast to the promise that death has been defeated by our Savior Jesus Christ. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Inspire those in authority or service, especially Principal Dr. Maclin, to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God, creator of generations, you have worked through families to bring faith, hope, and love since creation. Continue to nurture, guide, and inspire our family of faith, especially our brothers and sisters in the J. Crawley, R. Kaepfel & D. Sebastian families. Guide, protect, and build these families up in faith. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - Do you enjoy the Ministry Spotlight? Thank you to Marilyn and Jeanne for putting this together each week.

Please stand as you are able

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Share God's peace in whatever way you are comfortable. Following this please be seated.

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise. Hosanna in the highest!

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. **C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Remember us and teach us to pray,

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

C: Amen.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine. Additional verbal directions will be given.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Lord Jesus, Think on Me "

ELW#599

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God's grace unto eternal life.

C: Amen.**PRAYER**L: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **C: Amen.****BENEDICTION**P: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD'S face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.** *(Num. 6:24)***SENDING HYMN**

"Take My Life"

ELW#685

DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**POSTLUDE****ANNOUNCEMENTS****This Week at LCLC**

Sunday (9-1)	8 AM Breakfast Club 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Adult Ed
Monday (9-2)	Happy Labor Day - Church Office Closed
Tuesday (9-3)	10 AM Bible Study - Exodus (Great Room) <i>* No Exercise Class this week</i>
Tuesday (9-3)	6 PM Strategy Meeting
Thursday (9-5)	6 PM Bells Practice
Friday (9-6)	9 AM - 11 AM Quilting Create Day
Saturday (9-7)	10 AM - 4 PM Walter Haynes Annual Car Show

- 1. SEPTEMBER LUNCH BUNCH September 5, 11:30 am** - The lunch bunch is for anyone wanting to enjoy a nice lunch and social time with others! We will meet at *Irma Jeans* at 2109 Charbonier Rd. in Florissant. Please contact Joyce Meyer at 314-374-4135 or 314-838-3741 to attend.
- 2. BELL CHOIR** will start **September 5, 6pm**
- 3. QUILTING CREATE DAY - Friday, September 6, 9-11am**
- 4. CAR SHOW & BOOK SALE** - We will be selling books during the **Car Show on September 7**. To donate, please bring them to church any time before Sep. 7. You can contact Randy Henning with any questions. **Car Show sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Please sign up**
- 5. GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY, September 8th** with Great Rivers Collaborative - Beginning at **12 PM** at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. We will gather for a blessing and sending before engaging in service opportunities with partner churches.

6. **VOCAL CHOIR** September 15 at 8am.
7. **CELEBRATE FALL** with a mum for your deck, patio, porch, a friend, etc. Fill out a form and return it with your payment by September 15. Checks should be made out to Living Christ and indicate Mums in the memo line.
8. **FIFTY PLUS** September 18 outing to Powder Valley Conservation Center...*more details will follow.*

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Angela Bennett

Lector: Dave Endorf

Live Streaming: Gary & Laurie Brown

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Jann & Glenn Mueller

Greeter: Levaughn & Sheila Smart

Altar Guild: Karen Haynes & Sheila Smart

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Randy Henning

Lector: Angela Bennett

Live Streaming: Rod Wallace

Musician:

Ushers: Glenn Albers & Ann Schultz

Greeter: Jim Stoechner

Altar Guild: Joyce Wolf & Ann Schultz