

Salem Lutheran Church

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AUGUST 29th, 2021 ~ SEASON OF PENTECOST LECTIONARY 22

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

GATHERING & WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY: Psalm 15 *We read responsively by whole verse*

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**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.**

⁵They 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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 7th chapter. **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.”

²¹For 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

For the Beauty of the Earth.

ELW 879 vs 1 & 5

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

Refrain

Christ, our God, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine,
to our world so freely giv'n: *Refrain*

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.

Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

Tune Name: Dix

Public Domain

APOSTLES' CREED

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

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.

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.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

PEACE

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

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

*******ANNOUNCEMENTS*******

We give thanks to you Salem Choir for leading us in music! And, we give thanks for Cathy Hoefler and the gift of music she adds to the worship service.

Altar Flowers are given by Judy & Richard Newsome in remembrance of their daughter.

Our Daily Bread ~ Thank you for caring for the less fortunate and for your generosity. Next casserole pick-up will be Friday noon September 3rd.

September 12 – Celebration of God's Work Our Hands - Grandparents and Church Picnic Sunday! More details about this day is in September's Newsletter. Check the Picnic sign-up list in Narthex today and also the Personal Care Kit basket.

September 19 - Rally Day & BackPack Blessing & Ice Cream

Mason Dixon Food Pantry ~ Thank you for donating non-perishable food items for folks in the community. The collection bin is located under the coat rack in the Narthex. Thank you Sarah for delivering the food items!

Interested in online giving to Salem and her ministries? Check out Salem's website

Salem's Fall Craft Fair and Flea Market is slated for Oct. 2nd ~ Contact Lynn Cox. Signup sheet is in the narthex

Want to spread encouragement? Let's send notes / cards of care to:

Sterling Care Riverside
C/O Charles Phoebus
1123 Belcamp Garth ~ Room 219A* Note room change
Belcamp, MD 21017

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Paul Faust, David, Mila & Maddox, Mary Anne Hollman, Mary Jane Fignisky, Ray Hebert, Daisy Lukens, Steve Awalt, Tony Garner, Ed Insel, Jumela Beecher, Lauren, John Dorsett, Cathy Preston, Elfriede Kiesling, Lance Graham, Debbie Connor, Judy Newsome, baby Diana, Gloria Mallard, Brent Przychoda, Cathy Marowski, Georgia Coleman, Cindy Miller, Charlie Phoebus, Austin Phoebus (military), Deana Vanhart, Faith LeBrun, Howard Kramer, James Rickman, Thelma Preisinger, Brenda Baker, Donna Glorioso, John Bragg, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Donna Miller, Bruce Greer, Debbie McDonald, Michelle Harshman, Lisa Barwick, Nick Carmichael, Walt Karoll, Marianna Putnam, Dawn Weaver, Joan Burleigh, Donald Rembert, Betty Burnet, Carrie Claus, Dorothy Long, Bailey Law, Pr. Myers, Maurice Grove, Nancy Roschli, Margaret Shank, Jim McNicholas, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, Margret Krebbal, Frank Gailitz, Dolly Suiratt, Talu Elvove Arikan, Joyce Craig, Kattie Hale, Ray Morrison, Nicole Phelps, Kim Scott, Natalie Szparza, Pat Ward, Curtis Waters, Jason Whitney, Karen Wiley, Nick Wingate, and Jeanie Z., Will & Bernadine Boyce, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl.

Contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates to prayer list.

Please contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates concerning the prayer list.

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