

**First English Lutheran Church  
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion  
15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
September 1, 2024  
10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

- David Cherwien, arr.

“Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word”

- Camil Van Hulse

“Now We Pray to the Holy Spirit”

- Dietrich Buxtehude

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  $\text{✝}$  of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

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.

*The congregation may sit, kneel, or adopt another posture appropriate for confession.*

Most merciful God,  
**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.**

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 in 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.

*The congregation may stand.*

## **GATHERING HYMN**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Red Book #879

## **GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

## **GLORIA**

*page 99 in the front of the red book*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. 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.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## **THE WORD**

### **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

#### **FIRST READING**

**Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

*The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children’s children.*

<sup>1</sup>So 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. <sup>2</sup>You 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.

<sup>6</sup>You 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!” <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call

to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But 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.**

**PSALM 15**     (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

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

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

<sup>4</sup>**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.**

<sup>5</sup>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**

*The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.*

<sup>17</sup>Every 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. <sup>18</sup>In 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.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore 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.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive

themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But 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.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Hallelujah



Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,



hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Traditional

Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

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

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, the seventh chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the

Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and 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.) <sup>5</sup>So 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?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

<sup>6</sup>This people honors me with their lips,  
<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

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

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

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

*The congregation may sit.*

## **SERMON**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

Red Book #772

## **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.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*The congregation may kneel or sit.*

We pray for the whole church. Make us quick to listen to you and to one another. Guard our speech so that everything that we say reflects your love for this world and open our hearts in understanding to those who differ from us. Merciful God,

**Receive our prayer.**

We pray for peace: in Gaza, in Lebanon, in Ukraine and Russia, and in all places that suffer conflict. Replace greed and the desire for revenge with a hunger for justice and commitment to sharing. Merciful God,

**Receive our prayer.**

We pray for this nation. In a time of division and anxiety, help us to see the good in our neighbors and interpret their actions in the best possible light. Bring an end to violent speech and violent action in the political realm.

Merciful God,

**Receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who have hurt us with their words and for those whom we have wounded with ours. Heal persistent pain and help us forgive as we have been forgiven. Merciful God,

**Receive our prayer.**

We pray for children who suffer emotional and verbal abuse, for those who are bullied, and for those who bully them. Send people into their lives to break the cycle of trauma, repair the harm, and show love. Merciful God,

**Receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation. Help us place our energy and attention only on that which serves you and our neighbors and help us avoid distractions and needless controversy. Merciful God,  
**Receive our prayer.**

We remember before you those who have died this week, especially Beth, and all others who are on our hearts. Give us the faith to entrust them to your safekeeping. Merciful God,  
**Receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.  
**Amen.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **THE MEAL**

### **PEACE**

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

*The congregation may sit.*

### **OFFERING**

#### **ORGAN OFFERTORY**

“Adagio”

- Benedetto Marcello

*The ushers present the offerings and gifts of bread and wine for communion.*

*The congregation may stand.*

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

*led by the assisting minister*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn titled 'GREAT THANKSGIVING'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

We praise you, all-holy God,  
for you have made this whole creation,  
Even the universe beyond our knowing...*(the prayers continue)*  
And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again...***(the prayers continue)*



We praise you, all-holy God,  
the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,  
today, tomorrow, and forever.  
**Amen.**

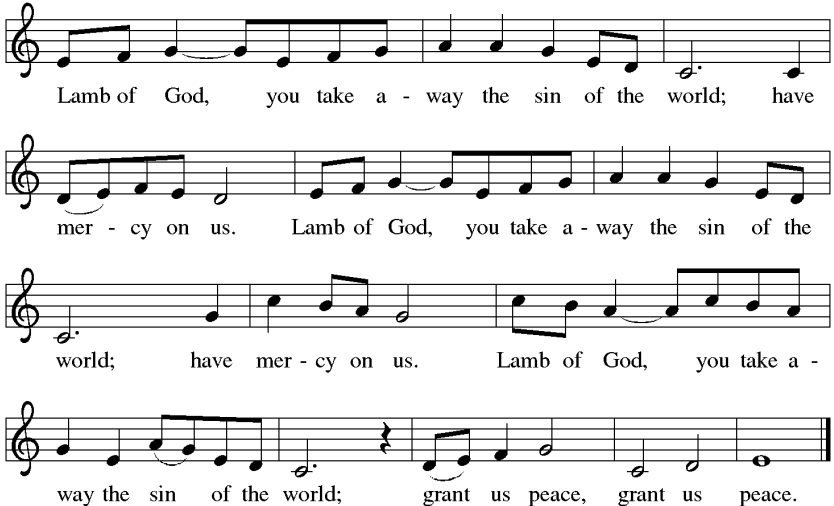
### LORD'S PRAYER

As Jesus our Savior has taught us, let us 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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

#### 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, grant us peace.

*The congregation may sit.*

## SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

*All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.*

*After all have received, the congregation may stand.*

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am”

Red Book #814

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*led by the assisting minister*

## THE SENDING

### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look with favor upon you and give you peace.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

“We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

Red Book #681

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

“Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen”

- Timothy Strand

“Scherzetto”

- Rachel Laurin

### **SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

|   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| The Rev. Kimberly van Driel             | <b>Presiding Minister</b>    |
| Lois Trimbur                            | <b>Assisting Minister</b>    |
| Jim Cunningham                          | <b>Communion Assistant</b>   |
| Jeanne Graff                            | <b>Reader</b>                |
| Amelia O'Rourke                         | <b>Crucifer</b>              |
| Shane Kamerer                           | <b>Acolyte</b>               |
| Signe Mitchell                          | <b>Organist</b>              |
| Sue Morrow                              | <b>AV Assisting Minister</b> |
| Gracie Love                             | <b>PowerPoint Minister</b>   |
| Bob and Karen Domanski; Brenden Stevens | <b>Ushers</b>                |
| Jeanette and Jim Cunningham             | <b>Counters</b>              |
| Roxanne Glagola                         | <b>Altar Guild</b>           |

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by  
the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.*

*All are welcome to join us for social hour following the worship service.*

### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH**

|            |           |                          |
|------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Mon., 9/2  | Labor Day | No Community Dinner      |
|            | 8:00 PM   | NA Meeting (Social Hall) |
| Tues., 9/3 |           | Church Office Closed     |

|             |             |                               |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Thurs., 9/5 | 10:30 AM    | Bible Study (Social Hall)     |
|             | 7:00 PM     | Chor Rehearsal                |
|             | 7:30 PM     | NA Meeting (Downstairs)       |
| Sat., 9/7   | 10:30 PM    | ACA Meeting (Social Hall)     |
|             | 2 – 5:00 PM | Butler Symphony (Sanctuary)   |
|             | 12:00 PM    | NA Meeting (Downstairs)       |
| Sun., 9/8   | 10:00 AM    | Bible Study (Pastor’s Office) |
|             | 10:00 AM    | Worship                       |
|             | 5:30 PM     | AA Meeting (Downstairs)       |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sunday 9:00 a.m. Bible Study** resumes next week, September 8. Please join us! In September, we will look at the gospel reading appointed for each week.

**Intergenerational Events Series: Comfort Food for the Spirit** starts Sunday, September 15 after worship. The world we live in is anxious. This nation, as it heads into an election season, seems to be in a constant state of division. Even so, God is constantly present here! We cannot control the anxiety all around us, but we can become more deeply aware of God’s presence which calms our spirits and offers us hope. This series of events will explore different practices that feed our spirits. There’s no one-size-fits all approach to prayer, and we’ll be exploring different ways that work for different personalities. For all ages!



BUTLER COUNTY  
*Symphony*  
ORCHESTRA

# CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

**FEATURING**  
**BRASS QUINTET NO.1 BY VICTOR EWALD**  
**CLARINET QUINTET IN A-MAJOR BY**  
**WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART**

**Saturday, September 7, 2024 3PM**  
 First English Lutheran Church, Butler

**Sunday, September 8, 2024 3PM**  
 Hope Lutheran Church, Cranberry Township

**FREE ADMISSION**

## **PRAYERS**

Family of Beth Chambers; Don Eckels; Valerie Kurth; family of John Mileski; Cindy Halin; Mike Gibson; Dennis; Debra Williamson; Amy Waldron; Evelyn Shaulis; Bill Brown; Ben & the Keeler family; Tracy Tucci; Iman; Aryl Bashline; Jack and Amy Beiler; Julie, Greg & family; family of Kenneth Mathias; Nissa Rappaport & family; Pr. Jim Dollhopf & family; Bruce Solomon; Tracy Gullickson; family & friends of Walter Szczurek; Paul Eicholtz; Frank Miller; Tad Sellers

## **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

### **Isaiah 35:4-7a**

Like streams in the desert, God comes with healing

### **Psalm 146**

*I will praise the Lord as long as I live. (Ps. 146:2)*

### **James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17**

Faith without works is dead

### **Mark 7:24-37**

Christ healing a little girl and a deaf man

*Liturgical portions of today's service are reprinted with permission under Augsburg  
Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS028762.*

*One License Licensing Permission: Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under  
One License #A-734698. All Rights Reserved.*



## Emily Brittain Shopping Guide

### Pants

**No Jeans, Please! Elastic Waist Only!**

**Boys: Size XS (6) thru XL (18-20)**

Sweatpants, Full-length Athletic pants, and  
Knee-length Athletic shorts

**Girls: Size XS (6) thru XL (14-16)**

Yoga pants, Leggings, and Sweatpants

### T-Shirts

**Plain Colors, Please! No Graphics!**

**Boys: Size XS thru XL**

Short-sleeve tees, Long-sleeve tees, and Hoodies

**Girls: Size XS thru XL**

Short-sleeve tees, Long-sleeve tees, Tank tops to  
layer, and Hoodies

### Sneakers

**Children Sizes 11-13 and Youth Sizes 1-5**

Unisex Black or White Sneakers

### Socks

**Boys and Girls Sizes Medium and Large**

Unisex Black or White Socks