

19th Sunday of Pentecost

October 19th, 2025 ~ 8:30am



+ Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church +

2451 Saucon Valley Rd. Center Valley, PA 18034

Office: 610-865-4144

The Rev. Lisa K. Borrell, Pastor ~ 610-762-2139

Quinette Brucker, Dir. of Music/Organist

WELCOME

() Please stand as you are comfortable and able*

Prelude Music, Welcome & Announcements

*Opening Litany (written by Jan Sutch Pickard)

P: God of Justice, we know that in this hard world there are judges that neither fear God nor respect their fellow humans.

C: **But You call us to remember the woman who gave one a hard time, crying out to him day and night, until he changed his mind because of her sheer stubbornness.**

P: We celebrate all those who persist in the cause of right; who will not keep quiet; who insist on raising the issues, and who campaign for unpopular causes.

C: **We celebrate them: steadfast, down-to-earth, blessed with both stubbornness and courage, to change the world. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn #773 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

*The Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.**

P: Let us pray. ~ O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, You are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ Genesis 32: 22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."

²² The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121 (read responsively, lector then congregation)

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

² **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³ The LORD will not let your foot be moved

nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵ the LORD watches over you;

the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

The Second Reading ~ 2 Timothy 3: 14 - 4: 5

The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. ^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)**



***The Holy Gospel ~ Luke 18: 1-8**

The Holy Gospel according to the 18th chapter of St. Luke.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge

will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while the judge refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, God will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Jerel Gade

*Hymn #769

"If You But Trust in God ..."

*The Apostles' Creed (professed together)

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.

*Prayer of the Church

After each prayer petition, please respond:

God of grace ... Receive our prayer.

Anthem

“Standing in the Need of Prayer”

The Blessing of the Communion Elements

P: 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.”

The Lord’s Prayer (traditional ~ prayed by all)

+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

Communion will be distributed by method of intinction; that is, the wafer will be dipped in the chalice so that both elements are received together.

Post Communion Prayer and Benediction

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation You have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

P: The God of all grace + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn #624

“Jesus Still Lead On”

*The Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love. ♥

Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music

*thank
you*

... to Alicia Baird for serving as our lector

... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech

... to Pastor Jerel Gade for leading our worship service



To be remembered in prayer ... Richard Eisenhart, Hope Geary, Jeanne Logan, Barbara Shaneberger, Kathleen Tuomela May, Darrell Tuomela, Joe Ulmer, people living in war-torn countries, victims of oppression, injustice, violence, and natural disasters, and other dear ones whom we name before God. †

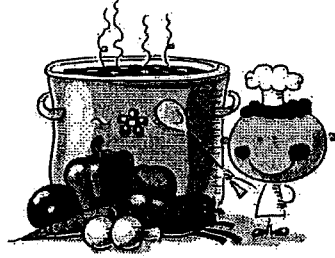
The altar flowers are sponsored by
Rebecca Callahan Ridgick in loving
memory of her mother, Leona K. Callahan.



The additional arrangement is also placed in loving memory
of Leona Callahan by her many friends.



Pastor Lisa will be away on vacation (out of the country) from October 18th-26th. If you have an emergency during that time, please call Pastor Phil Spohn or Josh Gulotta from Christ Lutheran Church in Hellertown at 610-838-0400 for assistance.



Soup & Bake Sale

Volunteers are needed to provide a variety of soups and baked goods for our event on November 8th.

Please sign the sheet on the narthex table if you are able to help in this capacity. Thank you!



Coats for Kids!

The collection of children's gently used & new coats to benefit the clients of Betty Lou's Pantry continues throughout the month of October. Please bring any donations to church and place the coats in the plastic bin located in the narthex.

... ALSO ...

There are information sheets available on the narthex table indicating the needed items for our Mission District Christmas Ingathering event. Items may be brought to church during the month of November.