

The 20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 11th, 2026 ~ 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

610-428-3838

WELCOME

() Please stand as you are comfortable and able*

Prelude Music

Welcome & Announcements

*Opening Litany

P: Gracious God, in love You open wide the doors and welcome us into Your presence — saints and sinners alike.

C: **You spread a table before us, filled with the richest fare — a feast of love and mercy for the body and soul.**

P: We come with joy to meet You here, to eat and drink at Your table, to taste and see Your goodness, to celebrate Your grace and mercy in our lives.

C: **We're glad that You invite us to share in a celebration banquet that reveals your heavenly kingdom.**

P: Yet, Lord, we confess when we have ignored your invitation or failed to extend it to others, choosing our own distractions over wholehearted commitment to your grace.

C: **Forgive us and keep us faithful to the call we have received in Christ Jesus, extending Your loving invitation to the world around us. Amen.**

*Hymn #553

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

*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. ~ Lord of the feast, You have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ Philippians 4: 1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the

things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

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



***The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 22: 1-14**

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

The Holy Gospel according to the 22nd chapter of St. Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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

The Message in Song



We warmly welcome the “Good News Traveling Band” to Friedens’ congregation this morning as they share uplifting songs of faith. With us today are Brian Miller (rhythm guitar), Donna Miller (vocals), Gene Heffner (guitar), and Dave Smith (bass guitar). The group is based out of Hamburg and has been sharing their musical message for 21 years. ~ Enjoy!



***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

***The Prayers of Intercession**

Hear us, O God ... **Your mercy is great.**

Blessing of the Communion Elements

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



+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

This morning, the sacrament will be distributed by method of intinction; that is, the Pastor will dip the wafer into the chalice, hand it to the recipient so that they may place it in their own mouth.

Post-Communion Blessing, Prayer, and Benediction

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation You have made 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.

***Closing Hymn #547 “Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”**

***Dismissal**

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love.♥ Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music

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No formal offering is taking during the worship service. Two plates are located out in the narthex hallway to receive your financial gifts to Friedens. Thank you.

*thank
you*

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



The altar flowers have been sponsored in honor of Pastor Lisa Borrell on this “Clergy Appreciation” Sunday. ✝



The congregation is cordially invited to celebrate Pastor Lisa's ministry and retirement next Sunday following the worship service. Please sign up in the narthex.



To remember in prayer ... Ronald Black, Bob Brown, Shauna & Dan Brucker, Caitlin Carfagno, Richard Eisenhart, Faye, Harlan, Bill Hechler, Jeanne Logan, Lori Remaly, Barb Shaneberger, Andrew Trump, Kathleen Tuomela May, Darrell Tuomela, Joe Ulmer, Leon Warmkessel, George Weiser, people living in war-torn countries, victims of oppression, injustice, violence, and natural disasters, and other dear ones we name before God. †

Our coat collection to benefit the clients of Betty Lou's Pantry continues throughout this month. Please bring new or used (adult/children/youth) coats in good condition to church and place in the designated bin in the narthex. Thanks! ☺



Soup and Bake Sale & Basket Raffle

Saturday, October 31st

9am-12 noon in the fellowship hall

Stock up on your favorites for a tasty autumn treat!



~ Oct. 25th, Cancer Awareness Sunday ~

Giving thanks for those who have survived and remembering those who fought the good fight.

