

The 11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9th, 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: O God, we confess that we do not always understand Your ways. We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing.

C: **We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult and quick to question Your presence and power.**

P: Grant us patience to wait for Your good timing. Open our eyes to recognize Your leading in our lives — to listen for Your gentle whisper when we least expect it.

C: **And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience, trusting in Your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome.**

P: We praise You for Your faithful love, and pray that You would make us worthy to bear Your name. Amen.

***Hymn #822 (vss. 1, 2, 5) “Oh, Sing to the Lord”**

***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 God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from

P: despair, deliver your daughters and sons from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ 1 Kings 19: 9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence — earthquake, wind, and fire — Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

⁹ At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰ Elijah answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹ He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴ Elijah answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵ Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed

to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

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

Psalm 85 (selective verses, read responsively)

⁸ I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ **Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God
a pathway.**

The Second Reading ~ Romans 10: 5-15

This A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)



The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 14: 22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

²² Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, Jesus was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning Jesus came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught Peter, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you

doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Sermon

***Hymn #763 "My Life Flows On In Endless Song"**

***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**

Merciful God ... **Receive our prayer.**

Anthem "I've Got Peace Like A River"

(duet by Carolyn Tuomela Wallace and Bill Shoudt)

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 and Benediction

P: May the Lord Jesus bless you with courage, hold you fast when the storms of life rise around you, and keep your eyes fixed firmly on Him. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #756 "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

*Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love.♥

Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music 🎵

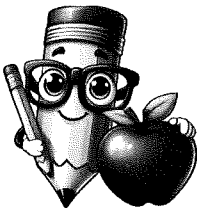
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*thank
you*

... to Lisa Kurtz for serving as our lector

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

... to Janet Heckman for leading our music this morning



**School Supplies
COLLECTION**

Needed items include:

#2 Pencils, Colored Pencils, Pens, Markers

Expo/Dry Erase Markers

Scissors, Rulers, Folders



To remember in prayer ... Ronald Black, Bob Brown, Shauna and Dan Brucker, Richard Eisenhart, Faye, Hope Geary, Harlan, Janet Heckman, Jeanne Logan, Lori Remaly, Barb Shaneberger, 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. †



The altar flowers have been sponsored by Carolyn Tuomela Wallace in loving memory of her parents, Al and Shirley Tuomela.



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.



Though you may go on vacation this summer, Friedens does not. Please remember the church with your regular offerings and financial gifts.

Thank you!

