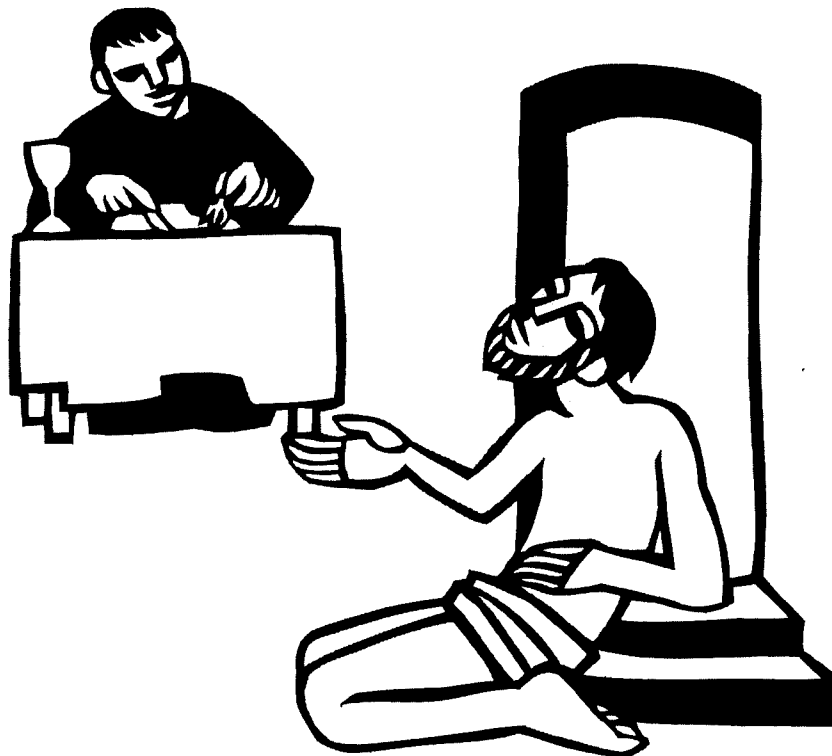


# 16th Sunday of Pentecost

September 28th, 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

### \*Prayer of Confession (by Christine Jerrett)

- P: God of resurrection power, You have called us to be your people, a community living by faith in You and obedience to You.
- C: **You summon us into a world where the poor are held in high regard, those who suffer are blessed, and those who mourn are honored for the truth they tell.**
- P: You persist in offering us gifts that we do not welcome. It is hard for us to trust You and your strange way of saving us.
- C: **Yet, You do not abandon us to our confusion, our doubts, or our stubborn pride.**
- P: Here, in the time of worship, open our eyes and ears to the presence of your Son and turn us again toward the life You offer. Amen.

### \*Opening Hymn #719 “Where Cross the Crowded ...”

### \*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, rich in mercy, You look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from You, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## The First Reading ~ Amos 6: 1a, 4-7

*The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.*

<sup>1a</sup> Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria. <sup>4</sup> Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall, <sup>5</sup> who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David improvise on instruments of music, <sup>6</sup> who drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! <sup>7</sup> Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

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

Psalm 146 (read responsively, lector then congregation)

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> **I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

<sup>3</sup> Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

<sup>4</sup> **When they breathe their last, they return to earth,  
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

<sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup> **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps promises forever;**

<sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who  
hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those  
who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and  
widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD shall reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

## The Second Reading ~ 1 Timothy 6: 6-19

*Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.*

<sup>6</sup> Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, <sup>8</sup> but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup> But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. <sup>11</sup> But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness.

<sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which he will bring about at the right time — he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup> It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup> As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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

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



## \*The Holy Gospel ~ Luke 16: 19-31

The Holy Gospel according to the 16th chapter of St. Luke.

### Glory to You, O Lord.

*Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is "lifted up" and the rich one is "sent away empty." Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new, but is as old as Moses and the prophets.*

Jesus said: <sup>19</sup> "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup> And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup> who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup> The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

<sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' <sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' <sup>27</sup> He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers — that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup>

Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' <sup>30</sup> He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup> He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

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

The Sermon

**\*Hymn #729      "The Church of Christ in Every Age"**

**\*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

**"Majesty"**

The Blessing of the Communion Elements

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 Blessing, 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 #536

“God Be With Us Till ...”

\*The Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude Music

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*thank  
you*

... to Maureen Wagner for serving as our lector

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

... to Janet Heckman for serving as our organist



The altar flowers have been sponsored by  
Pat Hosler in memory of loved ones. ♥



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

Betty Lou's Pantry will be collecting gently used & new kids' winter coats from now until November. They may be brought to church at any time.



Confirmation classes for 1st & 2nd yr. students will begin on Sunday, October 5th from 6:15-7:30pm in the fellowship hall (upper level) at New Jerusalem, 3233 Apples Church Rd., Bethlehem.

