

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6th, 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: Lord Jesus, You call us to live as one family and to seek peace with one another. When division or hurt arises among us, give us the courage to follow Your way of love.

C: Lord, guide our hearts and heal our relationships.

P: When a brother or sister sins against us, keep us from gossip, bitterness, and silent resentment. Give us the grace to go and speak the truth in love.

C: Lord, give us gentle and courageous words.

P: If we are not heard, give us the humility to seek wise counsel, bringing trusted witnesses to help bridge the divide and establish peace.

C: Lord, soften our hearts to listen and to change.

P: You have given Your church the authority to bind and to loose, to declare Your forgiveness and to call us back into fellowship.

C: Lord, bind us together in Your grace. Amen.

*Hymn #731 (vss. 1, 3, 5)

“Earth and All Stars”

*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, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ Ezekiel 33: 7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God — who is about to attack Jerusalem — gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

Psalm 119 (selective verses, read responsively)

³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶ **Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.**



⁴⁰ Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 18: 15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals — and the church as a whole — should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

Sermon

***Hymn #603 “God, When Human Bonds Are Broken”**

***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 "Love Divine, all Loves Excelling"

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

*Closing Hymn #836 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

*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 Kay Sheerer for serving as our lector

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



To remember in prayer ... Ronald Black, Bob Brown, Shauna and Dan Brucker, Caitlin Carfagno, Richard Eisenhart, Faye, Chris Geist, Harlan, Jeanne Logan, Lori Remaly, Barb Shanenberger, 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. †



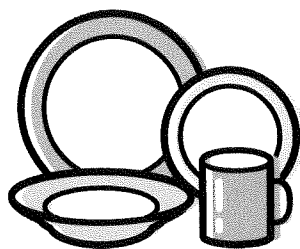
The altar flowers are placed in honor of great niece, Madelynn Kaintz's, "Sweet 16th" birthday by her great Aunt Nancy.



Sunday School classes for children & youth resume next
Sunday at 8:30am.

Coffee Hour get togethers will also resume after worship
next week. Join us!

Settings of church dishware
are available to anyone who is
interested. Please see Nancy
Filler for pick up!



We will be celebrating Harvest Home next Sunday.

We are looking for donations of canned vegetables,
fruit, soup, peanut butter and jelly, brownie/cake mixes,
tuna/canned meat, hamburger & tuna helper, pasta &
sauce, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc. for our display.

All donated items will be given to Betty Lou's Pantry to
benefit their clients. We thank you for blessing others!



**A Confirmation Orientation for 1st & 2nd year
students and their parents** will be held in
Friedens' sanctuary on Sun., September 27th at
6:30pm. Important information will be shared.



Mark the date and
place your order!



FRIEDENS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

PIZZA SALE

Freshly Baked Neapolitan Pizza

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

4:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Choose Your Pizza

GREAT VALUE

Margherita

\$10

PER PIZZA

Pepperoni

\$12

PER PIZZA

Buffalo Chicken

\$14

PER PIZZA



SCAN TO PREORDER

LIMITED QUANTITIES!

Our pizzas will be available **while supplies last.**

Preordering is strongly encouraged!

friedenscentervalley.com/pizza-sale

Join Us for Pizza!

Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church

2451 Saucon Valley Rd

Center Valley, PA 18034

*Come hungry. Bring your friends.
Support your local church!*
