

17th S. of Pentecost/World Communion

October 5th, 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 John Birch)

P: For the gift of faith which sees beyond the present moment and looks to an eternity, we thank You, O Lord.

C: **For the gift of faith small as a mustard seed, which has power within its simplicity, we thank You, O Lord.**

P: For the gift of faith bestowed on those who would simply come, hearts open in humility, we thank You, O Lord.

C: **Boundless God, help us to see the world differently — not with our own limited vision, but with the gaze of love and justice.**

P: Give us the foolishness to believe that we can change what the world says is impossible; and when we lose sight of the power of love to change the world, increase our faith. Amen.

*Opening Hymn #526

“God is Here”

*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. ~ Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ Habakkuk 1: 1-4; 2:1-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.

¹ The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. ² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? ³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴ So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment comes forth perverted. ^{2:1} I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ² Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. ⁴ Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

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

Psalms 39 (selective verses, read responsively)

- ¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- ² **For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**
- ³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
- ⁴ **Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.
- ⁶ **The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently. Do not be provoked
by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

**⁸ Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

The Second Reading ~ 2 Timothy 1: 1-14

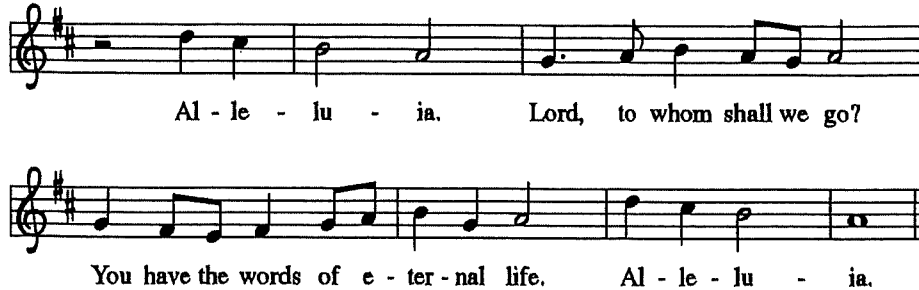
This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ² To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³ I am grateful to God — whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did — when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

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



***The Holy Gospel ~ Luke 17: 5-10**

The Holy Gospel according to the 17th chapter of St. Luke.

Glory to You, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs His followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls His disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. ⁷ "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

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

The Sermon

***Hymn #759**

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

***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 **"Come to the Table of the Lord"**

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 #545**

"Lord, Dismiss Us With ..."

*The 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 Alicia Baird for serving as our musician



To be remembered in prayer ... the family and friends of 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.

The altar flowers are placed in honor of Friedens' members who have birthdays in October.

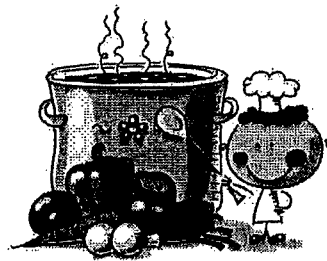




Confirmation classes for 1st & 2nd yr. students begin tonight from 6:15-7:30pm in the fellowship hall (upper level) at New Jerusalem, 3233 Apples Church Rd., Bethlehem.

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.

Thank you!



Soup & Bake Sale

Please mark your calendars for our next soup & bake sale and basket raffle:

Sat., November 8th from 9am-noon

Volunteers will be needed to provide a variety of soups and baked goods.



October 12th ~ Cancer Awareness Sunday