

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16th, 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: Merciful God, we confess that, just like Jesus' disciples, we too sometimes lose patience with people who need our help and support.

C: Like the disciples, we find ourselves wishing that they would just go away and leave us in peace.

P: In Your mercy, forgive us. Remind us again of the deep love You showed toward us when we were still in need — a love so deep that it sent You willingly to the cross on our behalf.

C: Show us how to love others as You have loved us. Teach us Your compassion, so that we may be Your hands, feet, and heart to those in need. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Hymn #886 "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*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. ~ God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon You. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community — not race, nationality, or any other category.

¹ Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed. ⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant — ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸ Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

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

Psalm 67 (read responsively, lector then congregation)

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

The Second Reading ~ Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

Paul writes: ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)



The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 15: 21-28

The Holy Gospel according to the 15th chapter of St. Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from

their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

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

Sermon

***Hymn #612**

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

***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

"My Faith looks Up to Thee"

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 God hear your cries and deliver you; may Christ Jesus repay you with fullness of life; and may the Holy Spirit be with you always, nourishing you in love and hope.
Amen.

***Closing Hymn #434**

"Jesus Shall Reign"

***Dismissal**

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love. ♥

Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music



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.

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Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches.*

*thank
you*

... to Alicia Baird 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, 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 Don and Laura Trump in loving memory of their son, David.

Thank you for your donations of:

#2 Pencils, Colored Pencils, Pens, Markers

Expo/Dry Erase Markers, Scissors, Rulers, & Folders

for our school supply collection throughout August!

