

6th Sunday of Pentecost

July 20th, 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 (by Keith Howard)

P: O God, we give You thanks for the gifts of new possibilities that await, in spite of our distraction.

C: **For those who see things we cannot because of our fear, our experience, our knowing.**

P: For those who wonder in ways that surprise us, invite us, and challenge us.

C: **For those who work so hard and continue to do so even when we take them for granted, or neglect to treat them with justice or respect.**

P: O God, we give You thanks that it is not all about us, that You continue to care and to love and to create possibilities of redemption and new life, not only here among us, but throughout the world.

C: **Help us get over ourselves enough to be able to sit in your presence, like Mary.**

P: Help us to have the humility and the courage to wonder, if only for a moment, if You are about something game changing

C: **Help us to carry that same spirit or curiosity and discovery beyond these walls into the world in which we serve and which You love. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn #834 “Immortal, Invisible, God ...”

*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. ~ Eternal God, You draw near to us in Christ, and You make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The First Reading ~ Genesis 18: 1-10a

The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

¹ The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. ⁹ They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a} Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

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

Psalm 15 (selective verses read responsively)

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your holy hill?

—————→

- ² **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**
³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.
⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those
who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their
health and do not take back their word.**
⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes
against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never
be overthrown.

The Second Reading ~ Colossians 1: 15-28

This letter offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is "Christ in you." Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in His life, suffering, and glory.

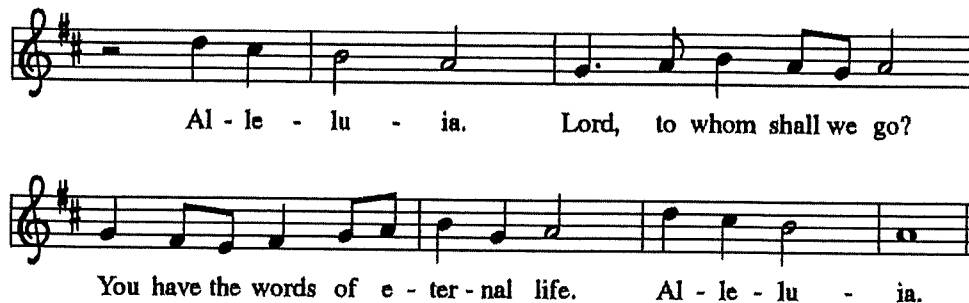
¹⁵ Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel. ²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is,

the church. ²⁵ I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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

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



***The Holy Gospel ~ Luke 10: 38-42**

During His visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

The Holy Gospel according to the 10th chapter of St. Luke

Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁸ Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed — indeed only one. Mary has cho-

sen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

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

The Sermon

***Hymn #754** “Jesus, the Very Thought of You”

***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 ... **Hear our prayer.**

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: We give You thanks, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward You and in fer-

P: vent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

When the work of discipleship leaves you weary or frustrated, rest in Christ's presence and listen to what He is saying. May the blessing of Almighty God — Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit — be with you today and always. **Amen.**

*Hymn #820

“O, Savior, Precious Savior”

*The Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love. ♥

Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music

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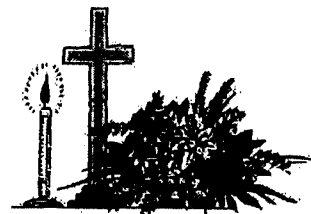
*thank
you*

... to Alicia Baird for serving as our lector

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

... to Ed Walakovits for serving as our organist

The altar flowers have been
sponsored by Jean Wetzel in loving
memory of her husband, Paul.





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

Pray and work for peace in our world.



**Lutheran Disaster
Response**

You've likely seen the devastating news about the catastrophic flash floods in South Central Texas. Our hearts break as we learn of the damage, loss of life, and ongoing search for survivors. As ever and with your support, our church stands ready to walk with our neighbors in the Texas hill country as the floodwaters recede and rebuilding begins.

What can we do to help? We can give financial gifts to LDR which works with its partners to provide immediate relief, such as water, food, clothing, gift cards, tarps. LDR also provides support on the long road to recovery with disaster case management, construction management, attention to unmet needs, and emotional and spiritual care. 100% of gifts will be applied to those in need.

Lutheran Disaster Response

P. O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

*Memo: US Flooding