

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

5900 Applebutter Hill Rd. Coopersburg, Pa 18036

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Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; jjtrev1@verizon.net

Blue Church Cemetery – 484-201-5048; e-mail: bluechurchcemetery@gmail.com

The 21st Sunday after Pentecost ☒ October 14, 2018

PRELUDE – “MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE” – TERRY KIRKLAND
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the ☒ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection

Source of all life,

we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ☒ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

HYMN #655 “SON OF GOD, ETERNAL SAVIOR”

GREETING

The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



☐ Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON:

AMOS 5:6-7, 10-15

PSALM 90:12-17 *Sung responsively* **Tone 4**



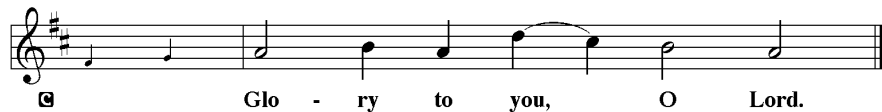
- ¹²So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.
- ¹³**Return, O LORD; how long | will you tarry?**
Be gracious | to your servants.
- ¹⁴Satisfy us by your steadfast love | in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad | all our days.
- ¹⁵**Make us glad as many days as you af- | flicted us**
and as many years as we suf- | fered adversity.
- ¹⁶Show your ser- | vants your works,
and your splendor | to their children.
- ¹⁷**May the graciousness of the Lord our God | be upon us;**
prosper the work of our hands; pros- | per our handiwork.

SECOND LESSON: HEBREWS 4L12-16

VERSE

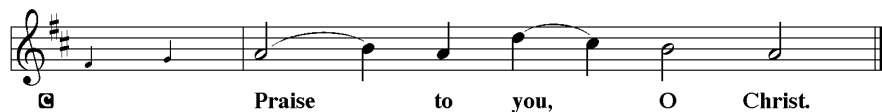


The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th Chapter.



THE HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 10:17-31

The Gospel of the LORD.



SERMON

HYMN #685 – “TAKE MY LIFE, THAT I MAY BE”

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD.
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and
born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into
hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into
heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
He will come again 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 *Response : hear our prayer.*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING – “TEACH ME YOUR WAY” –

Offering is gathered for the poor and those with needs in our community and world.

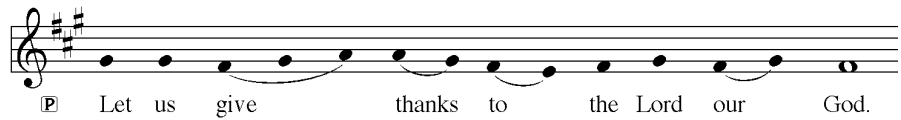
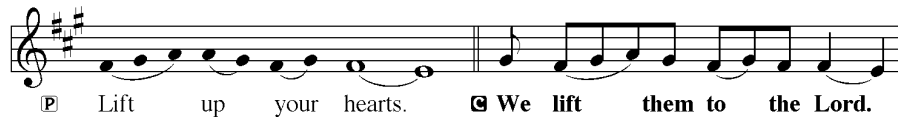
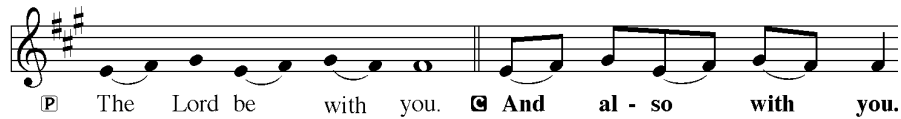
OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav’nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

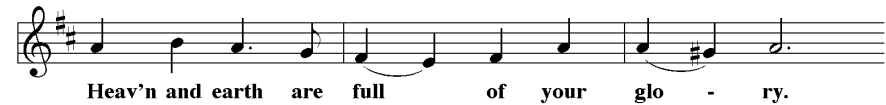
OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of life,
**you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life
and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use
them to set a table that will heal the whole creation, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join unending hymn:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER *The pastor offers the prayer.*

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

LAMB OF GOD



HOLY COMMUNION HYMN: #479 "WE COME TO THE HUNGRY FEAST"

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

Let us pray...Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #551 – “THE SPIRIT SENDS US FORTH...”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE- “GOD, THE ALMIGHTY” – GARY DAVIDSON

✠ ✠ ✠

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WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors. “God’s purpose for St. Paul’s Lutheran Blue” Church is to spread the Good News of Christ’s love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond.” –Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

THE DAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR....THE 21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark’s gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

AMOS 5:6-7, 10-15: Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God’s call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God’s demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God’s wrath.

HEBREWS 4:12-16: We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

MARK 10:17-31: Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God’s eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST 21: Lord, Jesus, give us mercy in time of need. (*Hebrews 4:16*)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Jesus, your grace is sufficient for each day. Strengthen us to live your gospel in daily life. Amen.

PLEASE NOTE: - For those people wishing to take Holy Communion without wine, there are four cups in the center of the Communion tray with grape juice.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR....Sick/Recovering: Claire Biser, Roman Denora, Joel Hammond, Hattie Smith, Irmi
Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in “acute care” situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of those for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| CELEBRANT | The Rev. James Hammond |
| ORGANIST | Dr. Jennifer Dodd |
| GREETER | Irene Frederick |
| ASSISTING MINISTER | Amy Ortwein |
| LECTOR | Amy Ortwein |
| CANTOR | Ron Fried |
| USHERS | Marci & John Sumoski |
| CHURCH COUNCIL REP | Amy Ortwein |
| ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY | Irene Frederick |

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

| | |
|----------------|--|
| TODAY: | 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal. 9:30 AM Christian Education. 9:30 AM New Member Classes. 10:30 AM Worship. |
| MON.: | Troop #6070 & #6344 Meeting. |
| WED.: | 9 AM Quilting. 6:30 – 7:30 PM – Pack/Den Meeting. |
| THURS.: | 6:30 PM Pack #364 Den Meeting. |

NEXT SUN.: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.
9:30 AM New Member Classes.
9:30 AM Christian Education.
10:30 AM WORSHIP.
6 – 7 PM Confirmation Classes.

COMING EVENTS – mark your calendar!

OCT. 28 – 10:30 AM Worship – REFORMATION SUNDAY.

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETINS...Janet Lick in memory of Clifford Lick.

SANCTUARY LAMP...Bill and Kathy Exner in honor of granddaughter Rory's 12th Birthday.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Walt and Ruth Lehr

Blue Church is responsible for providing Betty Lou's Pantry with **80** bottles of laundry detergent for the month of December (our church's month to serve the pantry). The Pantry does not supply laundry detergent. We can start collecting them now to help reach that goal. Simply bring them to church and we will store them until December. Thanks for you help.

Due to the cancellation of Coopersburg Community Day, the drawing for the \$10,000 raffle will be on [Oct. 20](#) at our COBScares 5K run/walk and Kids Fun Run at De Sales after the run, approx. 11AM

AS OF SEPTEMBER 30TH THE BLUE CHURCH "GARDEN OF GIVING" HAS RECEIVED \$85.00 IN DONATIONS FROM THE FRESH VEGETABLES. THIS AMOUNT WILL BE GIVEN TO BETTY LOU'S FOOD PANTRY.

THE LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT CHRISTMAS

INGATHERING is continuing this year to brighten the holy season of Christmas for our Christian brothers and sisters who have special needs. There will be a box in the Narthex to collect the items. Please check the flyer for the list of items needed. Also note that Blue Church will need to provide 10 individual wrapped gifts for names that will be provided to us. Index cards with the information on it will be available so that people can take them and provide the gift

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 – 1st Reading

- ⁶ Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.
- ⁷ Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!
- ¹⁰ They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.
- ¹¹ Therefore, because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.
- ¹² For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.
- ¹³ Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.
- ¹⁴ Seek good and not evil, that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.
- ¹⁵ Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

BLUE CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY

| | <u>SEP.</u> | <u>YEAR TO DATE</u> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| RECEIPTS | \$ 7,598.00 | \$ 61,165.63 |
| EXPENSES | \$11,548.42 | \$122,057.32 |
| (DEFICIT) | (\$ 3,950.42) | (\$60,891.69) |
| ENDOWMENT FUND WITHDRAWN TO COVER EXPENSES | | |
| | \$4,500.00 | \$40,500.00 |
| ENDOWMENT FUND INTEREST/REFUND | | \$ 6,114.49 |