

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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The 21st Sunday after Pentecost – October 17, 2021

**PRELUDE – “My Faith Has Found a Resting Place” –
Tim Doran**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence for reflection

God our comforter,
like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ☩ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

HYMN #745 LORD, TEACH US HOW TO PRAY ARIGHT

GREETING

From God our Father and the LORD Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON:

ISAIAH 53:4-12

PSALM 91:9-16 *Spoken responsively*

⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰**no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.

¹²**Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴**I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶**With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

SECOND LESSON:

HEBREWS 5:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th Chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

MARK 10:35-45

The Gospel of the LORD.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

HYMN #779

AMAZING GRACE

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 : Your mercy is great.*

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,**

HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

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

PRAYER

Let us pray...Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn
the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into
the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of
your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering
world. The holy Trinity, ✠ one God, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

HYMN #545 LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE – “POSTLUDE” – FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN

✠ ✠ ✠

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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.....

Today’s gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who’s number one, which leads Jesus to say something about God’s take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God’s community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray “your kingdom come” we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

ISAIAH 53:4-12: *This reading is from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called “servant songs.” Christians are probably most familiar with this servant song. In light of Christian faith, the servant’s healing ministry and redemptive suffering are understood to be fulfilled in the life and death of Christ.*

HEBREWS 5:1-10: *Using imagery from scripture and from Jewish worship practices, Jesus is presented as the great high priest who was obedient to God’s saving plan. Through his suffering and death he has become the source of eternal salvation.*

MARK 10:35-45: *On the way to Jerusalem the disciples ask Jesus to grant them seats of honor. Jesus responds by announcing that he and his followers will “rule” through self-giving service.*

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST 21: Jesus, help us to deal gently with others. (*Hebrews 5:2*)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Christ our high priest, you offered up cries and tears to the one who could save you from death. Give us strength to drink your cup in service to the needy and the lost. Amen.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR...Sandra Denora, Bill Exner, Ann Greensweig, Ray Hammond, Frank Kelly, Sue Storat, Penny, Stephen.

Other concerns:

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
ASSISTING MINISTER Ron Fried
LECTOR Gwen Gibiser
GREETERS Maggie Fried, Shirley Hildebrand
CHURCH COUNCIL REP Paula Clark

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:
ALTARS FLOWERS...in honor of Pastor Hammond’s Birthday.
SANCTUARY LAMP...by Bill and Kathy Exner in honor of Granddaughter Rory’s 15th Birthday.
COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Roger & Edie Knappenberger

LOOKING AHEAD

<p><u>MON. OCTOBER 18 - 6:30 PM – Girl Scout Meeting.</u> <u>SUN. OCTOBER 24 – 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.</u> <u>SUN. OCTOBER 24 – 10:30 AM Worship.</u></p>
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BETTY LOU’S PANTRY UPDATE...Most needed donations at the pantry right now:
Tuna Helper Chunky Soups Canned Pasta Boxed Potatoes
Other things always needed:
Toilet paper, jelly (other than grape), non-sugared cereal, hygiene products (other than soap).

BLUE CHURCH has reached its goal for laundry detergent for Betty Lou’s Pantry. No more is needed at this time but thank you all for your generosity!!

THE ANNUAL COAT DRIVE IS NOW UNDER WAY. Don’t throw out your old coats. Blue Church is collecting gently used coats for the winter season to help those who can use them. You can bring in coats and drop them in the bin in the narthex. They are greatly appreciated.

THERE ARE STILL MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWER, BULLETINS, SANCTUARY CANDLES, ETC. for the rest of the year. Please check the open dates on the calendars on the Bulletin Boards in the Narthex.

THINKING AHEAD OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR OUR PANTRY FAMILIES. In view of the still unstable virus spread, we will again forego physical presents and give gift cards so parents can purchase gifts for the children. Donations can be put in the collection plate on Sundays or sent to the church by mail. Please make checks out to BLUE CHURCH so one check can be sent to Betty Lou’s Pantry. Just please remember to put in the memo line that your donation is for BLP Christmas gift cards. Please have donations in by November 14th. Thanks for all your help!

BLUE CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
RECEIPTS	\$10,057.00	\$99,182.06
EXPENSES	\$12,026.53	\$111,040.53
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ (1,969.53)	\$(11,858.47)

ENDOWMENT FUND WITHDRAWN TO COVER EXPENSES
\$0 \$0
EMDOWMENT FUND INTEREST/REFUND \$0

AS OF OCTOBER 3RD, THE BLUE CHURCH “GARDEN OF GIVING” HAS RECEIVED \$417.00 IN DONATIONS FROM THE FRESH VEGETABLES. THIS AMOUNT WILL BE GIVEN TO BETTY LOU’S FOOD PANTRY.

Many thanks to John Sumoski and everyone else who helped with this wonderful project.

LESSONS

Isaiah 53:4-12 – 1st Lesson

- ⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us
whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
- ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
- ⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is
silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
- ⁸ By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
- ⁹ They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb* with the rich,*
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with
pain.*

When you make his life an offering for sin,*
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his
days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹ Out of his anguish he shall see light;*
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one,* my servant, shall make
many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will allot him a portion with the
great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Hebrews 5:1-10 – 2nd Lesson

5 Every high priest chosen from among mortals is
put in charge of things pertaining to God on their
behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He is
able to deal gently with the ignorant and
wayward, since he himself is subject to
weakness; ³and because of this he must offer
sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of
the people. ⁴And one does not presume to take
this honor, but takes it only when called by God,
just as Aaron was.

5 So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

'You are my Son,
today I have begotten you';

⁶as he says also in another place,

'You are a priest for ever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.'

7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus* offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Mark 10:35-45 - Gospel

35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' ³⁶And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' ³⁷And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' ³⁸But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' ³⁹They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them,

'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

41 When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

St. Paul's Lutheran "Blue" Church
Prayers ✠ 21st Sunday after Pentecost ✠
October 17, 2021

A: Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation, responding,

"Your mercy is great."

A brief silence

A: Holy One, for the gift of the church handed down through the ages and for all who carry on the servant ministry of Jesus, we praise you. Send your Holy Spirit upon all who are discerning calls to ministry in its many forms and equip them with your gifts. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

A: Creating One, for the lush and abundant habitat you provide for all your creatures, we praise you. Provide healing for the earth so that waterfowl, reptiles, wild horses, dolphins, and all living things flourish as you intend. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

A: Suffering One, for all who work toward peace and who lead nations with a servant's heart, we praise you. Bring justice for all who suffer violence, persecution, discrimination, hunger, poverty, and homelessness, and create places of refuge for all people. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

A: Merciful One, for all who do the work of healing in mind, body, and spirit, we praise you. Surround and comfort all who struggle with depression, anxiety, cancer, diabetes, dementia, or any illness, that all may be healed. Today we pray especially for: Sandra, Bill, Ann, Ray, Frank, Sue, Stephen, Penny, and everyone who has asked for our prayers or known only to the Lord. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

A: Sustaining One, for all who volunteer for the vitality of Blue Church, we praise you. Strengthen and encourage greeters, ushers, office volunteers, bakers, counters, committee and group leaders, teachers, students, evangelists, singers, builders, nurturers, and all who serve with generous hearts. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

A: Risen One, we thank you for those who have shaped your church and shared your gospel. Through the witness of our saints, continue to inspire us with hope, until we all are gathered at your eternal feast. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

Pastor: Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life. Amen.