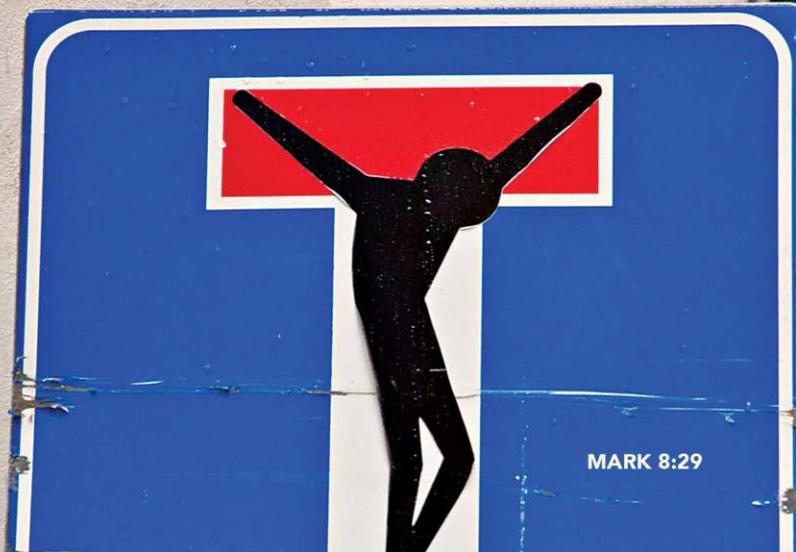


Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Who do you say
that I am?



ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 16, 2018

Holy Communion

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcoming all to know and love Jesus.

123 South Seventh Street

St. Clair, Michigan

810-329-2174

Rev. Ken Staib, Pastor
586-648-6955 home
stpeterelca@sbcglobal.net

September 16, 2018
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Renee Evans, organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

ELW 886

GREETING

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW p. 121

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-9

¹I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,

²**for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave | came upon me;
I came to | grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name | of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, | save my life.”**

⁵Gracious is the | LORD and righteous;
our God is full | of compassion.

⁶**The LORD watches o- | ver the innocent;
I was brought low, | and God saved me.**

⁷Turn again to your rest, | O my soul.
for the LORD has dealt | well with you.

⁸**For you have rescued my | life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my | feet from stumbling;**

⁹I will walk in the presence | of the LORD
in the land | of the living.

SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.124

GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and

began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Take My Life, That I May Be*

ELW 685

CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

Gracious God, you call your church to embody the love you have shown us. Raise us up each day to bear witness against sin, death, and the grave. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Creative God, the universe bears witness to your imagination. Inspire all who work to conserve precious natural resources. Grant us the wisdom to be good keepers of the earth. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, you bless citizens with the gifts of reason and perseverance. Embolden people around the world to seek the common good, to serve their neighbors, and to delight in freedom. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you hear the cries of those who suffer. We pray for those in need of healing of body, mind, or soul, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name before you in our hearts. Sustain the weary, heal the sick, and comfort those who mourn. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Welcoming God, thank you for this congregation where we have found a home. Make us restless as we seek new and creative ways to welcome all to know and love Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Shepherding God, you call pastors to faithfully love and care for your people. We give you thanks for the ministry of Pastor John Hitzerth among your people. Be with him now as he retires. Bless him and his wife Jan with what is needed. Guide the people of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in this time of transition. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of wisdom, you give us the gift of reason and opportunities for learning. Bless all who teach. Give them wisdom, vision, and patience as they challenge the minds and nurture the hearts of students. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In every time and in every place, you have raised up examples of loving service. Make us all good and loving witnesses to your extravagant compassion. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.
Amen.

PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

DIALOGUE

ELW p.129

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p. 130

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

ELW p. 135

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

SENDING SONG *Lift High the Cross*

DISMISSAL

SERVING TODAY: Greeter: Katy Emerich; Ushers: Marty Green & Dereck Maier; Acolyte: Isabelle Furtah; Scripture Readers: David Alley & Chloe Furtah; Communion Assistant: Del Vogel; Projectionist: Carter Stevens.

ATTENDANCE: Saturday 17, Sunday 97

BIRTHDAY: 9/22 Loretta Lukasak 93 years

ANNIVERSARIES: 9/17 Jeri & Dennis Decator 27 years
 9/20 Patricia & Ed Thueme 43 years

IN NEED OF PRAYER Dennis Rocker, Mary Forys, Janice Convis, Guy MacIntosh, Sue Kasemeyer, Paul & Ruth Reyelts, Delores Cook, Vi Dunn, Will Tanner, Clyde Moore, Louis Eisen, Loretta Lukasak, Suzanne Morris, Elizabeth MacDonald, Sharon Ann Wheeler, Patty Armstrong, Adeline Harsch, Pat Greenwood, Don Schroeder, Patricia Jones, Marc Dease, Stacey Yax, Ruth Morris, Bernie Nummer, Carole Stiefvater, Ed Myers, Jeremy Bryan.

(Please call or email the office at stpeterelca@sbcglobal.net to update information.)

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Mallard's Landing 11 am	Prayer 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Confirmation 6:30 pm	Choir 7 pm	Pastor's day off	Worship, Communion 5 pm	Sunday School, Worship, 9:30 am Youth and Family Ministries forum 10:30 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome those who are visiting with us. Please take time to sign the registration book or the guest register in the lobby and introduce yourself to Pastor Ken. We hope that you will find our worship edifying and our congregation warm and receptive. We are glad that you are here.

DVD copies of the 9:30 a.m. worship service can be produced for those who are shut-in or others who would like a copy. Let us know in advance if there is a service that you would like recorded.

As council looks to fill the Youth and Family Ministry position, the Mutual Ministries team is looking for feedback regarding what our members would like to see in this ministry. **Youth and Family Ministry Survey** is available on the ushers table, along with a link to an online survey if you prefer. We will also hold a **Youth and Family Ministry Open Forum** on September 23rd, right after church, for anyone who would like to provide verbal input regarding our Youth and Family Ministry.

On the weekend of September 29 & 30, the youth who attended the Youth Gathering in Houston this summer will share some of their experiences. There will also be a Celebration Pancake breakfast for everyone following the worship service on Sunday.

Pastor Ken will offer a Blessing of Animals on Saturday, October 6 at 1 pm. All furry, feathered and scaly friends are welcome!

The Fellowship/Outreach committee meeting has been changed to September 25 at 7 pm. The Youth Committee will meet on Sunday, October 7 after worship.

Holy Family Episcopal is having a Hope Rising fundraiser on Friday, September 21 from 6-9 pm at the St. Clair Golf Club. Appetizers, beer, wine and a silent auction will be part of the evening. Tickets are \$50 in advance and \$60 at the door. For more information, call 810-300-2364.

Plans are underway again for this year's Oktoberfest. The Cornhole Tournament will be on Friday, October 12th and Oktoberfest will be on Saturday, October 13th from 3-11 pm. We are looking for sponsor donations at these levels: Platinum, \$500; Gold, \$250; Silver, \$100, Bronze, \$50. Of course, donations of any amount would be appreciated. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter's Lutheran Church and can be provided to Marty Green, Tom Duemling or Mark Fisher. For details, see the fliers on the table in the lobby. Contact Cindy Duemling to donate baskets for the basket raffle and items for the silent auction.

Trinity Lutheran in Richmond is hosting a workshop, *Transitions: Preparing End of Life Decisions with a Christian Perspective*, on September 29. See the poster in the lobby for details. You must RSVP by September 22.

Thank you to Tom Danneels, Jan Allington, Chuck Butler, Dick & Theresa Eisen, Nancy Green, Ken Lowe, Jennifer MacDonald and Julian Sullivan for loading the Samaritas truck on Monday with the bags of clothes collected during our clothing drive. Thank you to all who donated.

Secret Pals: Please join us after the service on October 21st where we will reveal our identities to our pals and sign up for next year. If you would like to join secret pals but haven't been in the past, please have your info sheet to Katy Emerich before the 21st. Sheets can be found in the lobby.