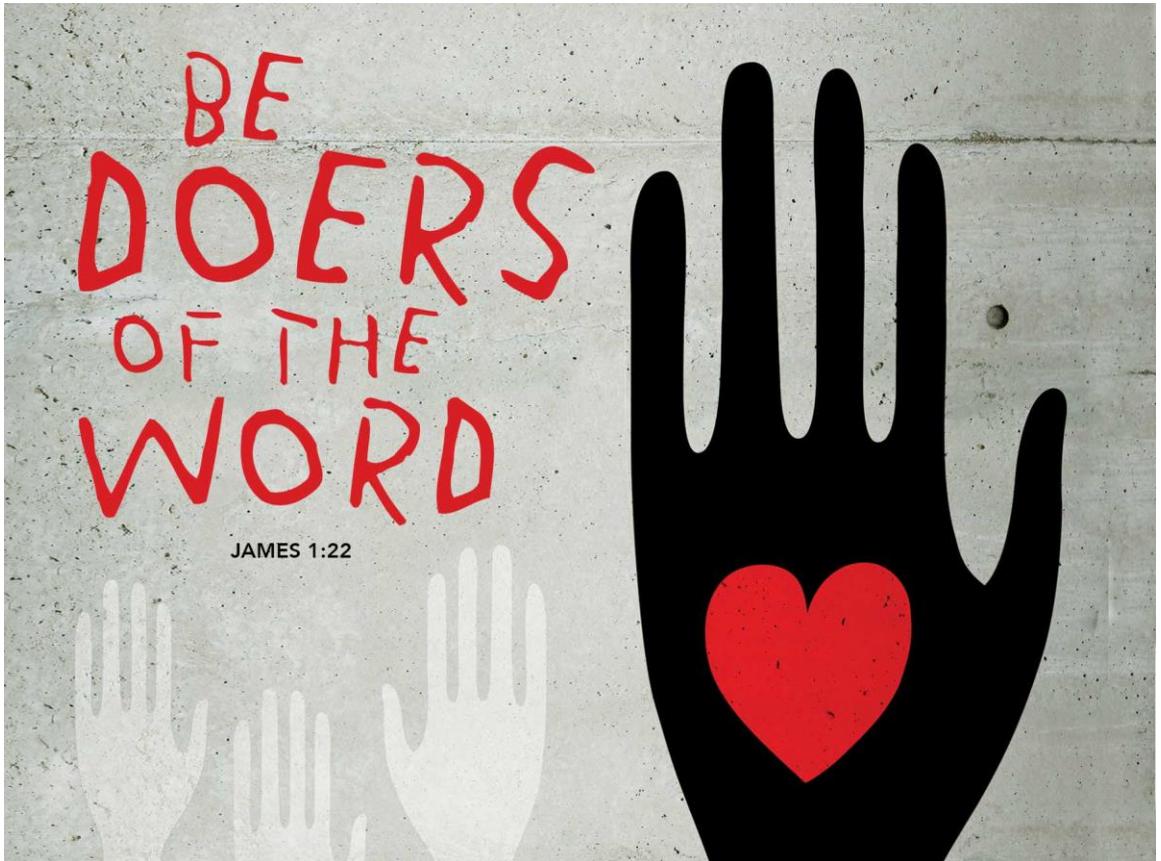


Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 2, 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 2, 2018
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Marilyn Tackaberry, organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG *For the Beauty of the Earth*

ELW 879

GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

- ¹LORD, 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;**
- ³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on 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.**
- ⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

SECOND READING: James 1:17-27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here, Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.

²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.124

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Remember and Rejoice*

ELW 454

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

BAPTISM

WELCOME

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, we pray for all those who labor to bear your word into the world by welcoming the stranger, healing the sick, and caring for the orphan. Embolden your church to take up the cross against the powers of oppression and death. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Creative God, we pray for the earth. Keep watch over those who rescue endangered species and repair scorched and flooded landscapes. Make us good stewards of creation. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, we pray for the nations of the world, for governments, leaders, and citizens. Watch over refugees and immigrants. Inspire us to welcome them with glad hearts when they arrive on our shores and in our neighborhoods. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Loving God, you call us to serve our neighbors. Bless our vocations as we fill the cups of the thirsty, the plates of the hungry, and the hearts of the lonely. Make our presence your presence for all who are in need. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Healing God, we pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Grant them healing, peace, and comfort. We pray especially for those on our prayer list, and those we name before you in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Living God, we pray for all the baptized. Assure them of your grace, and empower them to live out their baptismal call. We pray especially for Alexander Kent McGee. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Eternal God, we pray for schools, colleges, and universities. Guide teachers and students in this new school year to work together in mutual respect. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses whose lives inspire us to loving service. 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

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

ELW p. 135

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

SENDING SONG *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

ELW 547

DISMISSAL

SERVING TODAY: Greeter: Johanne Bodany; Ushers: Chuck Butler & Mike Morenko; Scripture Reader: Nancy Green; Communion Assistant: Marty Green; Projectionist: Mark Fisher.

ATTENDANCE: Saturday 19, Sunday 128

ANNIVERSARIES: 9/6 Keri & Chris Stevens

BIRTHDAYS: 9/3 Louis Eisen 95 years

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.

Alexander Kent McGee is being baptized at Sunday's service. Alexander is the son of David and Elise McGee and his sponsors are Claire Geremesz and Amanda Ledy. We welcome Alexander into the fellowship of Christ.

The Outreach Ladies Luncheon will be at the *River Crab* on Wednesday, September 12. Meet in the parking lot at 11:30 am to carpool.

Join us for St. Peter's Sunday School Rally Day and Welcome Back party! Sunday, September 9, at 9:30 am. All kids and youth are invited!

As a new Sunday School year begins, we will bless our Sunday School teachers in worship on Sunday, September 9. Thank you to all who are giving of their time and talents to teach Sunday School this year!

The Mutual Ministries team is putting together a survey regarding our Youth and Family Ministry. As council looks to fill the position, we will seek out feedback from our members regarding what they would like to see in this ministry. A **Youth and Family Ministry Survey** will be out on Rally Day, September 9th. There will be a link to an online survey regarding our Youth and Family Ministry. We will also have hard copies available for those who would prefer paper and pencil. We also plan to hold a **Youth and Family Ministry Open Forum** on September 23rd, right after church, for anyone who would like to share or provide verbal input regarding our Youth and Family Ministry.

Wednesday morning Bible study will resume on September 12 at 10:00 am. We will begin a five week study of *What the Prayers of Jesus Tell Us About the Heart of God*, by Shane Stanford. This study examines the prayer of life of Jesus and how it relates to our relationship with God and one another. Cost of the book is \$11. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of Pastor Ken's office if interested.

Come join Pastor Ken for prayer on Wednesday mornings in the sanctuary at 9:30 am, starting on September 12. This an opportunity to pray with others. There is no advance preparation required. Simply come and pray.

If you have a son or daughter entering the 6th grade, your child is invited to begin confirmation classes this fall. An informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12 at 6:30 pm. Please see Pastor Ken for more information.

On August 27, seven volunteers worked diligently sorting and bagging 62 bags of clothing. A sincere thank you to Nancy Black, Theresa Eisen, Joanne Niederhauser, Mary Alice Schlegel, Chris Simone and Norene Stoecker for their laborious work on a very warm day. Our deepest appreciation to everyone who contributed to the cause, including Julian & Jeanne Sullivan for all the garbage bags and tape and John Macdonald for several rolls of masking tape and several sharpies. Fifty-five bags of clothing will be delivered to the Samaritas Thrift Store in Saginaw and seven bags of children's and teen clothing will be donated to Kids In Distress. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this event successful.

Jennifer MacDonald

Choir rehearsals resume on Thursday, September 13 at 7 pm. If you like to sing, come and join us for some fun and fellowship! All are welcome.

Plans are underway again for this year's Oktoberfest. The Corn hole 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 with three specific donation 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. 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.

Blue Water Habitat for Humanity is working on homes on Howard St, in Port Huron. They are looking for help with construction, lunches and donations. To volunteer, call 810-985-9080 ext. 200. A home ownership informational meeting will be held on October 15. See the poster on the lobby bulletin board.

IN NEED OF PRAYER Dennis Rocker, Mary Forys, Janice Convis, Guy MacIntosh, Sue Kasemeyer, Dick Guyott, 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>Tuesday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Labor Day Office closed	Council Meeting 7 pm	Worship, Communion 5 pm	Sunday School Rally Day, Worship, 9:30 am