



September 8, 2024 - Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER

The Readings for today tell us that God will change people's circumstances. The Old Testament Reading lists those who are blind, deaf, lame, and mute. Instead of advising them simply to pray, Isaiah promises that God will take action, like water in the desert. Among the ways God will help is through His people; according to the advice to James, we, who have been given the gift of faith, are called to be fair in court, to try to keep the entire Law of God, and to see that the people around us are clothed and fed. Jesus casts out demons and heals a deaf man in the Gospel. He is doing no less when we become His caring instruments. Today we let the Word come into us so that we might be part of God's healing answer to prayer.

Welcome

OPENING HYMN: LSB 584 "Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing"

(Please Stand)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 146:7b-8; James 2:17-18*

Pastor: The Lord sets the prisoners free;

People: **the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.**

Pastor: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

People: **the Lord loves the righteous.**

Pastor: So also faith by itself,

People: **if it does not have works, is dead.**

Pastor: But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works."

People: **Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 28:1–2, 6–7*

Pastor: The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed. *

People: **To You, O Lord, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me, lest, if You be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.**

Pastor: Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to You for help, when I lift up my hands toward Your most holy sanctuary. *

People: **Blessed be the Lord! For He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.**

Pastor: The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him. *

People: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed. *

KYRIE [*LSB p. 152*]

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: LSB 849 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants

People: and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 35:4–7a*

Pastor: The Old Testament reading for the 16th Sunday after Pentecost is from Isaiah chapter 35.

⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.” ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 146* (Put Not Your Trust in Princes)

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! ² I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. ³ Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. ⁴ When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. ⁵ Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; ⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; ⁸ the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. ⁹ The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. ¹⁰ The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!

EPISTLE *James 2:1–10, 14–18*

Pastor: The Epistle reading is from James chapter 2:

My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ² For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³ and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” ⁴ have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? ⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. ⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are

convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

VERSE *Psalm 147:2–3*

Pastor: Alleluia. The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel.

People: He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 7:(24–30) 31–37* (Jesus exorcises a demon and heals a blind man.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴ And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. ²⁵ But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸ But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹ And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰ And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone. ³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY: LSB 842 "Son of God, Eternal Savior"

SERMON Text: *James 2:1–10, 14–18*

(Please Stand)

CREED *Apostle's Creed*

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: We pray for Your guidance and impetus to use our gifts and even ourselves in service to the needs of those around us and people in other parts of the world. Use us to meet the physical and spiritual needs of these people, for whom You offered Yourself as sacrifice for sin.

People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for Your healing, comfort, freedom, and sustenance to each person in need of compassionate care and basic necessities. We especially include those near and dear to us, [*including . . .*]. Use us as part of Your answer to prayer.

People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for Your protection and opportunity for ourselves here and for the church around the world as we bring the Gospel to bear on many circumstances. We ask You to be with all who work with us, protecting them and our nation, offering goods and services from our bounty, and attracting many to hear about, believe in, and grow closer to our Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into your hands O Lord we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: LSB 830 "Spread the Reign of God the Lord"

CONCLUDING COLLECT:

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

All: 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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 921 "On What Has Now Been Sown"

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 4.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of September 8, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597

pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: Pastor Ken & Darlene Lampe Family
Trinity, Freistatt - Rev. Jake Sletten

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

The Family of Pastor Ben Schumacher – (Pastor at Grace for many years)

The family of Bob Hess on his passing August 28th. Arrangements have not been made as yet.

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Bill Thompson – (health and healing)

Roxie Sage – (Mother of Sandra Whalen – health and healing)

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Diana Bauer – (daughter-in-law of Gladys Bauer - health & healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer - peace and comfort)
Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer's son – health and healing from surgery)
Kathy Browne – (Friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken-hip)
Jan Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Lois Gaddy - (Friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing from cancer)
Ron Hicks – (friend of Glenda Enlow – health and healing)
Wendy Koenig – (Friend of Heidi Costello – health and healing)
Gary Lampe– (Pastor's brother - health and healing)
Randy Owensby – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)

Tabatha Packwood - (health & healing)
Billy Parsons – (Joanne Michel's brother – recovery from surgery)
Debbie Porter – (friend of Harold Lampe – recovery from frostbite)
Ernest Ramm – (Cheryl Lile's uncle – health and healing from stroke)
Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)
Diane Smith – (Health and healing from eye problems)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing)
Jim Troyke – (health and healing from heart issues)
Randy Wallace – (brother-in-law of Micki Gettman – health & healing)
Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard's friend – health and healing)

Long Term

Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health and healing, cancer)
Marty Jones – (Bobby Jones' mother - health and healing)
Dorothea Dennis – (health and healing & peace and comfort)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's Sister-In-Law – health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health and healing from cancer)
Jane Goodman – (Health and healing)
Ben Schumacher – (Peace and comfort from Parkinson's disease)

Betty Gordon – (health and healing)
Margaret Seburn - (cousin of Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health & healing cancer)
Bob & Barbara Steinberg - (health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health and healing)
Steve Hilton – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing, cancer)
Kooper Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer's Great-grandson - health & healing)
Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle's cousin – health and healing, cancer)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health and healing)

THIS WEEK

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|------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Sunday | Sept. 8th | 9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am - Service with Brett Arrasmith 11:30 am – Freistatt Lunch |
| Monday | Sept. 9th | Braille – 9:00 am & 1:30 pm LWML – 1:30 pm in Freistatt |
| Wednesday | Sept. 11th | Pastor in Office Bible Study – 7:00 pm |
| Thursday | Sept. 12th | Pastor in Office Elders – 10:00 am Council – 11:00 am |
| Sunday | Sept. 15th | 9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am - Service with Communion |
| Monday | Sept. 16th | Braille – 9:00 am & 1:30 pm Ladies Bible Study in Freistatt - 1:30 pm |

Birthdays: Byron Martin & Darlene Lampe-Sept. 8; Michael Lampe-Sept. 10;
Dawne Votra & Sharon Barlow-Sept. 12

Anniversaries: Paul & Barbara Martin-Sept. 9

September

GREETERS:

08-Bill & Diane Thompson
15-Bill & Cathy Munden
22-Charlie & Edee Chambers
29-Bill & Joanne Michel

USHERS:

08-Charlie Chambers
15-Rob Springer
22-Bill Michel
29-Matt Miller



September Newsletter & Calendar are now in your mail box.

Elders & Council Meetings are changed from Sept. 19th to Sept. 12th (same time).

Our Mid-Week Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, September 11, at 7:00 p.m. The title for the course is: *The Case for Heaven (and Hell)*. One of the goals from our Planning Session this spring was to help or equip people to defend our faith in today's culture. This five session course can help us in this regard. Each lesson will begin with a video introduction by Lee Strobel. The course will seek to help us get beyond misconceptions about heaven and hell and into what the Bible really says about the afterlife that awaits us. Everyone is invited to attend whether you are new to Bible Study or a long-time student of the Scriptures.

News & Updates: The SLHS Launch Team is hard at work behind-the-scenes! In August, we: Had great conversations with Trinity's Council about the possibility of leasing space at Trinity for Springfield Lutheran High School. We are so grateful to be able to discuss this request with their congregation at a special voter's meeting on September 15th!

Launched our social media presence; be sure to like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram @SpringfieldLutheranHighSchool!

Made great progress on drafting our formation documents to obtain our 501(c)(3) status.

Developed marketing materials and are preparing for our upcoming September 19 event.

Began drafting preliminary budget projections and determining initial fundraising needs.

How You Can Help:

Continue spreading the word about our upcoming event! On Thursday, September 19, at 6 PM you're invited to join us in the SLS gym (2852 S. Dayton Ave., Springfield) for in-person updates about the high school. This event is open to all who are curious and eager to learn more about Springfield Lutheran High School. Based on enrollment interest generated at this meeting, we'll set our launch date for either Fall 2025 or Fall 2026.

Prayer Requests:

For God to continue to go before us as we seek to secure a facility for the high school.

For all the details to come together for the September 19th event, including getting the word out to as many people as possible.

For the subcommittee members working on developing our governance structure.

For volunteers, donors, and staff to help launch the high school.

Many have prayed for years to have a Lutheran high school in Southwest Missouri, and we believe the time is now! We look forward to continuing to share regular updates moving forward. If you have any questions, comments, recommendations, or ideas, please send them our way at info@springfieldlutheranhs.org. Thanks again for your support! SLHS Planning Team