

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 15, 2024

### EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### INVOCATION

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** p. 117

### KYRIE

**HYMN OF PRAISE "This is the Feast"** p. 149

**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.**

**FIRST LESSON** **ISAIAH 50:4-9a**

**PSALM 116:1-9**

**SECOND LESSON** **JAMES 3:1-12**

**VERSE:** Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**THE GOSPEL** **MARK 8:27-38**

**REFLECTION:** What are the names you hear others call Jesus? What is your favorite name for Jesus? How do you like to address Jesus in prayer? Why is that name so important to you? Luther is said to have written the words "I am baptized" on his desk in chalk, to strengthen him when he felt the devil was tempting him. That simple phrase is an apt way of naming both ourselves and Jesus, to whom we are joined.

**HYMN #583 ELW** **"Take My Life"**  
**#570 LLC** **"Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad"**

**APOSTLES' CREED** p. 127

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve. Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We remember our beloved dead (*especially*), who with the great cloud of witnesses bear witness to your saving grace. Accompany us in our pilgrimage of faith, that we too place our hope and trust in you.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

## **SHARING of the PEACE**

**OFFERING**            *Allelu, Allelu, Allelu Gracias Senor*

## **HOLY COMMUNION with LORD'S PRAYER p. 129**

**BENEDICTION:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

## **THIS WEEK AT EMMANUEL**

SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship
MONDAY	10:00 a.m.	WIHP Meeting
WEDNESDAY	8:00 p.m.	AA

### **Let us pray for...**

Kurt Kusserow, **Bishop, Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod**  
Peter Asplin, Melissa Stoller, **Assistants to the Bishop**  
Elizabeth Eaton, **Presiding Bishop, ELCA**  
Bishop Henrik Stubkjær, **President, Lutheran World Federation**  
President Modeste, **Tulear Synod, Malagasy Lutheran Church**

**HEALING & SPECIAL NEEDS:** George & Debbie K., asylum seekers especially children, Rachel F., Pr. Norm M., Peggy E., Marilyn & Brian H., Rose & Chip, Rita, Pres. Carter, Judy H., Kirk D., Mason M., Noah, Luca, Karen M., Len & Carole, Roni, Karin, Tommy C., Karen S., Fernando W., Darlene & Al, Lana, Dayton, Jeffery, Don W., Mindy, Marylene, Nancy S., Nancy, Aligha, Palonis family, Ron R., Zach F., Katie, Ed, Stephanie, Tyler C., & all with flu, RSV, COVID and unknown illnesses.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:** Jim Head.

**NURSING HOME / ASSISTED LIVING:** Mary Jane Freund (Concordia Ridgewood-Plum); Shirley & Jack Pickens (William Penn Center); Roni Mayhood (Merakey); Esther Schwab (Beatty Point) June Minnear (Beatty Point Village); Evelyn Rae Dodson (Harmarville Village); Georgetta Colton (Seneca Place).

**CAREGIVERS:** Annie T., Judy M., Chris, Chip, Rebecca, Darlene.

**HOUSING NEEDS:** Diorgho, Leilani.

**EMPLOYMENT:** Derrick, Yinke, Yelisbeth, Cassie, Tyler, Jose.

**COUNTRY OF THE MONTH:** Panama

**MISSION PARTNER:** Holy Trinity - East Pittsburgh

**CHURCH OF THE MONTH:** Zion Penn Hills

**LUTHERAN AGENCY:** Lutheran Campus Ministry

**SCHOOL OF THE MONTH:** Beechwood Elementary

## 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.*

<sup>4</sup>The 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.

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

<sup>6</sup>I 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.

<sup>7</sup>The 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;

<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

## Psalm: Psalm 116:1-9

*I will walk in the presence of the LORD. (Ps. 116:9)*

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:  
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."**

<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the LORD and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD watches over the innocent;  
I was brought low, and God saved me.**

<sup>7</sup>Turn again to your rest, O my soul.  
for the LORD has dealt well with you.

<sup>8</sup>**For you have rescued my life from death,  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

<sup>9</sup>I 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.*

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For 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. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or 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. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

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

## **Gospel: Mark 8:27-38**

*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.*

<sup>27</sup>Jesus 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?" <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup>He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then 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. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But 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."

<sup>34</sup>He 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. <sup>35</sup>For 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. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those 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."

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