

Sunday, September 15th 2024

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Mailing Address:

**Epiphany Lutheran Church
489 Agnes
Suite 112, Box 117
Bastrop, TX 78602**

Physical Address:

**Epiphany Lutheran Church
(on the SDA campus)
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WELCOME TO EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

“How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!” (Psalm 84:1) We are thankful that God has brought you here with us this morning to hear His Word and receive His gifts! You’ll find everything you need for the worship service in this bulletin and in *Lutheran Service Book*, our hymnal. If you have any questions about our worship service, our congregation, or what we believe, please ask our pastor or any of our members.

OUR COMMUNION POLICY:

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod believes the biblical teaching that in communion we receive the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the biblical teaching of communion, and if you agree with our confession of faith, please feel free to commune with us. If you have any questions, please speak with our pastor.

SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh
Musician – Gina Sanders
Lay Reader – Carole Holschuh
Assisting Elder – Dave Layland

Initial and ongoing funding for Epiphany Lutheran Church has been received through a grant made possible by the Roy D. and Ingaborg G. Randolph Memorial Endowment Fund.

AS WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Christ Jesus Delivers Us from Sin, Death, and the Devil

Those who teach the Word of God “*will be judged with greater strictness*” (James 3:1) because it is by the Word that saving faith is obtained, whereas false doctrine always threatens to destroy Christian faith and life. The tongue “*boasts of great things,*” whether for good or evil (James 3:5). In fallen man, “*it is a restless evil, full of deadly poison*” (James 3:8). But anyone who bridles his tongue with the Word of God, who “*does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man*” (James 3:2). It is Christ who opens His ear to the voice of His Father, so that, with “*the tongue of those who are taught,*” He is able to sustain the weary “*with a word*” (Is. 50:4–5). Entrusting Himself to His Father, even to death, He is not put to shame but is vindicated in His resurrection (Is. 50:6–9). By His faith and faithfulness, He casts out the “*mute and deaf spirit*” from us (Mark 9:25). He has compassion on us and helps us, so that we are not destroyed but cleansed from every evil and raised up from death to life (Mark 9:22–27).

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR

Prelude		Selected Music
Welcome and Greeting		Pastor
Announcements		
Opening Hymn	“ <i>Evening and Morning</i> ”	LSB 726
<i>(stand)</i>		

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** *Ps. 130:3-4*

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

[Luke 18:13]

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

[John 20:19-23]

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 31:14-16

P But I trust in you, O Lord;
I say, "You are my God."

C **My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!**

P Make your face shine on your servant;
save me in your steadfast love!

C ***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.***

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(sit)

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 50:4-10

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.

Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.

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

⁶I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;

I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a 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 is my adversary?
Let him come near to me.

⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

¹⁰Who among you fears the LORD
and obeys the voice of his servant?

Let him who walks in darkness
and has no light
trust in the name of the LORD
and rely on his God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, 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 things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(stand)

Alleluia and Verse



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

John 20:31



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel Reading

Mark 9:14-29

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

☐ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁴When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted him. ¹⁶And he asked them, **“What are you arguing about with them?”** ¹⁷And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” ¹⁹And he answered them, **“O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.”** ²⁰And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹And Jesus asked his father, **“How long has this been happening to him?”** And he said, “From childhood. ²²And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and

help us.” ²³And Jesus said to him, “**If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.**” ²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” ²⁵And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “**You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.**” ²⁶And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “**Why could we not cast it out?**” ²⁹And he said to them, “**This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.**”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(sit)

Hymn of the Day *“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”* LSB 849

Sermon *“Who among you fears the Lord...
and obeys the voice of his servant?”* Isaiah 50:4-10

(stand)

Apostles’ Creed

C 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.**

Passing of the Peace

When Jesus himself appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, he greeted them by saying, “Peace be with you” (Luke 24:36; John 20:19, 26) – and so we do likewise.

(sit)

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy
C hear our prayer.

Offering

Usher

Please sign the attendance books as they are passed.

If you would like to transition to making your regular tithe or offering online, you may do so at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZKYH/home>



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

For those unfamiliar with our congregation’s practice regarding the Lord’s Supper, please refer to “Our Communion Policy” located at the beginning of the bulletin.

(stand)

Preface

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

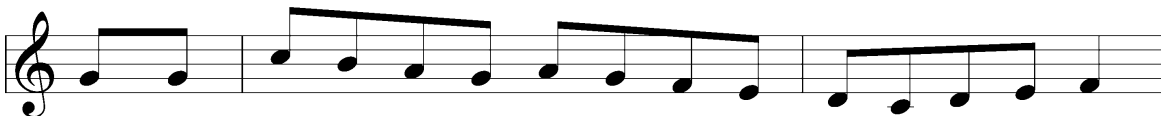
Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

**☩ 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.**

The Words of Our Lord

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(sit)

Distribution Hymn “Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old”

LSB 846

(stand)

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

C Thanks be to God.

P 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.

Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.

(sit)

Closing Hymn *“Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure”*

LSB 533

P Go in Peace!

C Serve the Lord!

Postlude

Selected Music

SERMON NOTES

Isaiah 50:4-10 | *“Who among you fears the Lord...?”*

1. In the back half of the book of Isaiah, between chapters _____ and _____, there are _____ sets of poetic verses known as the Servant Songs.
 2. The Servant Songs portray the servant's _____ as a _____ of rejection, misery, and continual _____ from birth until death.
 3. _____'s hope was that after the Babylonian exile, _____ would become a holy people, righteous and blameless before _____.
 4. In Matthew 20:28 the idea of “_____” and “_____” and “_____” are from the Servant Songs in Isaiah.
 5. When we see Isaiah's _____ servant as _____, we see our God in human form, prophesied to suffer and die for our sins some _____ years before it happened!
 6. “Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in _____ and has no _____ trust in the name of the _____ and rely on his God.” (Isaiah 50:10)
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PRAYERS AT EPIPHANY

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please share any prayer request on the Prayer Requests sheet as you enter on Sunday. You may also email a prayer request, as well as a request to become a part of Epiphany's prayer chain, to secretary@epiphanybastrop.org.

Please continue to pray for...

- Rev. Jordan and Alison Andreasen and their 5 children – missionaries in Romania
- Family and Friends of David Michael – husband of Susan Michael (our first Sunday of the month musician)
- Gert Schreiner
- Rosie Cabrera's Mother, Hilda
- Safe Travels for Deb and Dave Layland, Jeremy Clifton, and Don and Jo Heller
- Jo Heller's Sister, Val



Epiphany Bowlers! Our inaugural Epiphany Lutheran Church bowling team made their debut in a three-person league this past Thursday. How'd they do? Well, you'll just have to go talk to them and find out!

If you're interested in bowling and would like to find out more, please contact Tom or Terri Rosser (or Pastor E.B.). This Thursday AM 18+ league is still looking for teams and individual bowlers looking for a team.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?

The first step to becoming a member of our congregation is to speak with our pastor.

We believe, teach, and confess that we are all broken sinners in need of God's salvation, which He freely gives through His Word and Sacrament. Church is not a club for the sinless– it's a hospital for sinners!

You may become a member of Epiphany Lutheran Church by transferring your membership from a sister congregation of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) or you may receive instruction from the pastor and become a communicant member of Epiphany and the LCMS through Adult Instruction Class or through a profession of faith.



Epiphany Lutheran Church has a podcast! Our ***Peace Be With You*** podcast is still very much a work in progress that we hope will help us reach those in our community and beyond with the Gospel message of hope and salvation in Christ. In the coming days it should be available on popular podcast apps, but you can always find it at peacebewithyou.podbean.com (or just scan the QR code).



THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:

Sunday, September 15th

- 10:00am – Children's Sunday School (Fellowship Area)
- 10:00am – Adult Sunday School (Sanctuary)
- 11:00am – Fellowship / Coffee Time
- 11:30am – Worship Service with Communion

Tuesday, September 17th

- 6:30pm – 66 Books at the Bastrop Public Library

Thursday, September 19th

- 6:00pm – Max Lucado Zoom Study

Sunday, September 22nd

- 10:00am – Children's Sunday School (Fellowship Area)
- 10:00am – Adult Sunday School (Sanctuary)
- 11:00am – Fellowship / Coffee Time
- 11:30am – Worship Service with Communion

Adult Sunday School: Join us at 10am for *Isaiah: A 12-Week Study* (started on June 23)... Isaiah's prophecy, which alternates between promises of judgment and restoration, reminds God's people of the magnitude of humanity's sin, the judgment that we all deserve, and how God displays his glory by saving sinners.

New Thursday video study via Zoom begins on September 19 at 6pm.

Join us for Max Lucado's *God Never Gives Up On You*. In this 5-session study we'll see how God used Jacob—the misbehaving patriarch who was strong on savvy but weak on conscience—simply because God *chose* to use Jacob, how God turns brokenness into blessings through His grace, mercy, and relentless love. Register: bit.ly/ELC-GodNeverGivesUp

Lutheran Hour: Next Sunday, September 22nd – “All He Has to Say” – Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The story of Jacob's Ladder is not a prompt for us to climb higher; it's a promise that God comes down to our level. (Genesis 28:15)

Hear The Lutheran Hour each Sunday on station KBUK-FM 104.9 at 7:00 a.m. or on station KANJ-FM 91.5 at 12:30 p.m. or go to lhm.org for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live. You can also listen to The Lutheran Hour on the local Austin station KLBJ (590 AM or 99.7 FM) at 7:00am on Sunday.

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: Continue studying Psalm 119 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT) and Hosea on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and join us for more stories from KFUE's 100-year history on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT). Remember to mark your calendars for KFUE Radio's Centennial Celebration broadcast, October 12 at 10:00 a.m. CT! Tune in at kfuo.org.

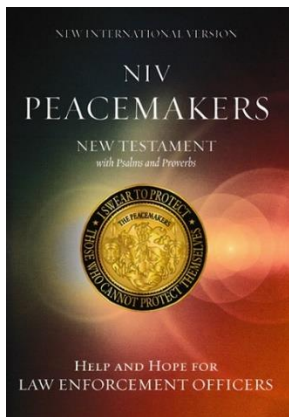
Devotional at Argent Court: Every day counts! *Make Every Day Count*, a new, twice monthly Christian devotional and prayer gathering at Argent Court Assisted Living led by Pastor E.B. will begin this month (at 3pm on Thursday, September 5 and again on Thursday, September 26). Every day there is evidence of how much God loves us and every day there are people who need to hear how much he loves them too.

Answers to Sermon Notes:

1. In the back half of the book of Isaiah, between chapters 40 and 55, there are *four* sets of poetic verses known as the Servant Songs.
2. The Servant Songs portray the servant's *life* as a *pattern* of rejection, misery, and continual *violence* from birth until death.
3. *Isaiah's* hope was that after the Babylonian exile, *Israel* would become a holy people, righteous and blameless before *God*.
4. In Matthew 20:28 the idea of *servant* and *ransom* and *many* are from the Servant Songs in Isaiah.
5. When we see Isaiah's *suffering* servant as *Jesus*, we see our God in human form, prophesied to suffer and die for our sins some *700* years before it happened!
6. "Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in *darkness* and has no *light* trust in the name of the *Lord* and rely on his

66 Books at the Bastrop Public Library: Pastor E.B. is looking for a handful of volunteers who would be willing to help expand the **66 Books** “project” beyond the Bastrop Public Library—the goal is to offer a simple introduction/overview of the Bible for those who are unchurched and/or have little to no familiarity with the Bible. If interested, please let Pastor E.B. know and then plan to attend the next 3rd-Tuesday instructional study at 6:30pm on September 17 at Bastrop Public Library (materials and simple instructions will be provided). *66 Books* is a single-session, beginner-level offering to provide a look at the origin, purpose, and relevance of the Bible with an accompanying invitation to continue learning in an “entry-level” Advent/Christmas Bible study (TBD).

RightNow Media: We’re excited to share that Epiphany Lutheran Church now has unlimited access to **RightNow Media**—the world’s largest streaming library of video Bible study resources. This extensive library has **more than 20,000 videos** that can be used as part of a group study or for personal devotions, and many series include **free discussion guides and handouts**. In addition to series on books of the Bible, RightNow Media has videos for everyone in the family on a variety of topics like marriage, parenting, personal finances, mental health, and more. There’s even a **library just for kids with over 2,000 safe, entertaining videos**. RightNow Media has a free app that’s available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime. For FREE access to RightNow Media, visit app.rightnowmedia.org/join/elcb or scan the QR code.



The NIV Peacemakers New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs Outreach Challenge starts September 8! This is a personal challenge from Pastor E.B. to give out a dozen of these little New Testaments to peace officers (local police, county sheriff, state trooper, etc.) before the deadline (September 22)—if you’re up to the challenge, you need only take a Bible on the way out of church and look for a law enforcement officer to thank for serving and reassure that they’re never alone (and that our church “backs the Blue”). This is a great way to share your faith with little to no risk of rejection!



Volleyball Season Underway

Faith Lutheran has their first ever volleyball team this season. The first home game is Tuesday, September 24th vs. Austin Classical, beginning at 6pm at Faith. Come cheer on the Falcons!!

Oktoberfest Meal Tickets

Tickets for our annual Oktoberfest meal are now available! Meal includes brats, noodles, green beans, potato salad, kraut, bread and coffee cake. Drive through only meals will be available on Saturday, October 26 from 10:30 am to noon with pickup at the Holy Cross Picnic Grounds. Tickets are \$15 each and available for pre-sale only! Talk to a FLHS student, staff, board, or delegate today!!

Oktoberfest!

FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 26th. The event format is switched up a little bit this year, but we have lots of the favorites returning, including our traditional German meal, domino tournament, cornhole tournament, music, kids games, fellowship, live auction, and lots of fun. Find our Facebook event, or see our flier for all the details about the day!

Free Wednesday mornings?

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday, beginning at 10:30 am.

Thrivent Action Team Grants

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact Nikki Kueck by calling (979) 242-2889. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school. *We are beginning to gather grants for our Oktoberfest event on October 26th.

Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have offered on behalf of FLHS. As we have just begun another year, we are thankful for each of you who faithfully pray and support the ministry God has created at FLHS. Thank you, on behalf of the students who will be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support!



Retreat Success

FLHS students were privileged to spend last Thursday and Friday (a week ago) at Camp Lone Star. This was part of our annual student retreat. Students were able to participate in challenge courses, learn about conflict-resolution from a Biblical perspective, grow together as a family, and have loads of fun!



3-minute



Seminary

Walking with the Lord

More than 2,700 years ago, God inspired His prophet Isaiah to record a most comforting message: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior” (Isaiah 43:1b–3a).

The Lord’s promise through Isaiah must have seemed incredible. Instead of walking on the Lord’s path, instead of following His way, the Israelites walked “in a way that [was] not good, following their own devices” (Isaiah 65:2). The Lord’s path was one of light and safety and certainty. Rather than walking on His path in the light of His Word, Israel chose to leave His path and walk in the darkness of self-centered sin. By wandering off the Lord’s path, they had wandered into great danger. Off the path, in the darkness of sin, prowled Satan, “seeking someone to devour” (1Peter 5:8). Off the path, “on every side the wicked prowl, as vileness is exalted among the children of man” (Psalm 12:8).

For more than 800 years, the Lord sent His prophets out to call His people back to Him, back to His path, back to the light. But they wanted it their way, wandering away from the Lord’s way, doing what was “right” in their own eyes, loving other gods who were incapable of love, and ignoring the one true God, who is love. As stubborn and stiff-necked as these people were, they remained God’s people, a people called out of darkness. So in love, God sent them walking into exile (587 BC) far from the temple, far from His promised place of presence. They may have thought He had left them to walk alone, but He remained their God and they remained His people. He loved them despite their sin, and through His prophet Isaiah, He promised them they would not walk alone through the trials and tribulations they faced. They would not walk alone as they left captivity in Babylon and returned to Jerusalem (538 BC). He would walk with them, because He had redeemed them and called them by name. They were His.

Often, we are like these ancient Israelites. We want it our way instead of God’s way. We want to walk our walk instead of His. The Lord is certainly patient. God promises to walk with you as you walk through the hazards of this life. He promises you, His called and chosen people, that you shall never walk alone. He promises to be with you as you endure fierce storms and fiery trials. This is a sure and certain promise for you.

You can be certain of this promise because the Lord has redeemed you. He has purchased and won you with His Son's holy, precious blood poured out for you on His cross. He has bought you with "His innocent suffering and death" that you may "be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness" (Luther's Small Catechism, Second Article). You are of great value to God because your redemption cost Him dearly. As a consequence, when you endure the fiery trials of this life, He promises you will never be lost (Isaiah 43:2b).

You can be certain of this promise because the Lord has called you by name. He has washed you clean in the pristine waters of Holy Baptism and given you His name (Matthew 28:19). You have been baptized into Him; therefore, you are His.

[Excerpt from the *Lutheran Study Bible*]