

Woman,
**you are
set free**
from your
ailment

LUKE 13:12

Called by the Spirit, we serve Christ, sharing God's love with all.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEBSITE: 1stlutherantopeka.org

1234 Fairlawn Road, Topeka, KS 66604 Church office: (785) 272-5302 CDO office: (785) 272-5999

Ministers
Senior Pastor
Coordinator of Stewardship and Outreach
Children's Day Out (CDO) Director
Caring for Kids 1st Director
Organist
Director of Music
Director of Handbell Choirs
Secretary
Assistant Secretary
Bookkeeper
Nursery Attendant
Missionaries in Russia
Missionaries in Guinea

All Members of First
Pastor Jenny Jackson
Pastor Bob Dealey
Julie Lamott
Julie Bradley
Jerry Anderson
Mark Fuller
Linda Anderson
LaDonna J. Little
Jill Loomans
Cindy Crawford
Tahira Schmidt
Rev. Bradn & Natasha Buerkle
Jim & Dawn Anderson

WE WELCOME all who worship with us today! We extend a special greeting to our visitors and invite you to worship with us again soon. Please make yourselves known to our pastor and people.

COME TO THE FELLOWSHIP TIME BEFORE AND AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE
Gather in the Nave Lounge to enjoy refreshments, talk with fellow worshippers, greet people you don't know, make new friends, enjoy your time at First and share the love of Christ.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION Lutheran Christians believe that in the sacrament of Holy Communion, by the power of God's Word and Holy Spirit, we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ, along with the bread and wine, for our forgiveness and salvation. If you share in this belief, you are welcome to participate with us. Non-communicating children and adults may come forward to receive a blessing. White grape juice is available, as well as gluten free wafers. If you desire to receive communion at your pew, please alert an usher during the prelude.

A NOTE TO PARENTS: First Lutheran Church welcomes children of all ages to be a part of our worship services. Children's Bibles are located in the pews and a number of items are available on a cart in the Nave Lounge to help them (and you) have a pleasant worship experience. We hope you enjoy these activities in church and at home!!

CHILDCARE: If you prefer, you may leave your preschool children in our well-equipped, staffed nursery during the service. Or, if you need to take a walk with your child, our speaker system provides audio of the service in the Nave Lounge and Library.

WHEELCHAIR available in the north entranceway or in the church office.
EARPHONES for the hearing impaired and **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS.**

PLEASE, NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE MAIN WORSHIP CENTER.

THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

5:00 P.M. & 10:00 A.M.

AUGUST 24 & 25, 2019

Before worship, talk to God. During worship, let God talk to you. After worship, talk to your fellow worshipper.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE “Adoration”

(F. Borowski)

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

CHIMES

834 GATHERING SONG “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

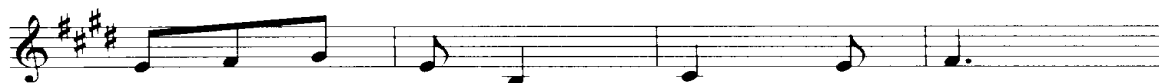
C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Now The Feast”

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,



all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



to the God of life and love and

free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -

er - more!

Verse 1:

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
 slain, whose blood has freed and u -
 nit - ed us to be one great
To refrain
 peo - ple of God.

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
 might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
To refrain
 for ev - er.

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *To refrain*
Prisider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Congregation shall sit.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORD

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

The Lord promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

⁹bIf you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. ¹³If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; ¹⁴then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103:1-8 (Spoken Responsively with Lector)

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits—**

³who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses from the Old Testament, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

¹⁸You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven!

²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

ALLELUIA VERSE

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the 13th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

¹⁰Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Repeat Alleluia.

Congregation shall sit.

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

581 HYMN OF THE DAY "You Are Mine"

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;

**he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

A brief silence.

A: Lord of mercy, we cry to you for help, trusting in your compassion for your whole creation. Raise up the baptized to offer Christ's healing and forgiveness to all in distress. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We rejoice in your creation: water that nourishes lands and creatures, gardens and fields with a diversity of plants. Bless scientists and artists who show us new ways of understanding the complex beauty around us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We seek the kingdom that cannot be shaken. Come to the rescue of those who are displaced by war, famine, or other disasters. Bless diplomats, peacekeepers, rescue workers, and all who are given aid through their efforts, so that peace and plenty prevail. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You provide deliverance and justice for all who are oppressed. Free those in bondage to substances, gambling, or other forms of addiction. Release victims of human trafficking and bring them to safety. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You know our needs in this community. Heal the hurts of all bent over with sickness, aging, or suffering (*especially - see bulletin page 13*). Accompany those who visit homebound members, the hospitalized, and those who are in prison. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

The Assisting Minister offers additional prayers.

A: You raise up witnesses in every generation. As we remember those who have passed into your peace before us, comfort us in the sure hope of your Son's resurrection. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

The ministers and the assembly may greet one another with a gesture of Christ's peace, and may say these or similar words: Peace be with you.

Congregation shall sit.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING *Please place attendance form in the offering plate.*

"Solemn Melody"

(J.S. Dixon)

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

695 OFFERING SONG *"As Saints of Old"* Stanzas 1 & 3

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Blessed are you, O God,

C: **for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine. Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise." The score includes vocal parts for the Presider and the Congregation.

Presider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And also with you.

Presider: you. *Congregation:* Lift up your hearts. We

Presider: lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation: thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Detailed description: The musical score for 'HOLY, HOLY, HOLY' is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It begins with a 6/8 time signature, which changes to 3/8 and then 6/8. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

Congregation:

Christ has died. Christ is
ris - en. Christ will come, come a - gain.

Detailed description: The musical score for 'EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER' is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

P: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen, Come, Lord Jesus.

Congregation:

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -
men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Detailed description: This block contains the continuation of the musical score for 'EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER'. It is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody continues from the previous block, with lyrics printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

P: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Congregation

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A -
men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST

Congregation:

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the
u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is
yours, O God, now and for ev - er.
A - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

P: God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.

Congregation shall sit.

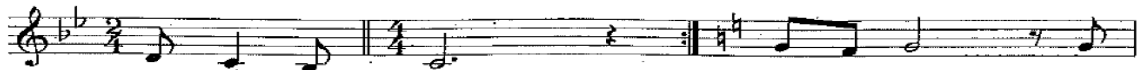
COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"



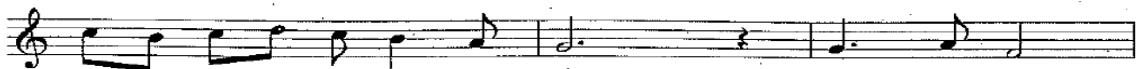
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 * you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and



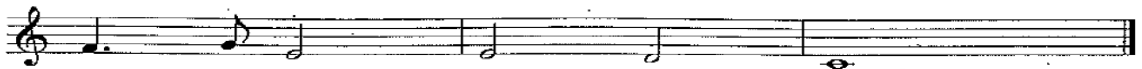
world:
 fear: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 peace:
 love:



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY "Beautiful Savior"

(P. Manz)

612 COMMUNION HYMN "Healer of Our Every Ill"

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving;
and the blessing of the holy Trinity, † one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C: Amen.

537 SENDING SONG *“On Our Way Rejoicing”*

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is sending you. **C:** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *“Festive Trumpet Tune”*

(C. Hamlin)

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ALTAR FLOWERS given by *Laura Haefke* in honor of her birthday and in thankfulness for God’s blessings and by *Pat Wild* in honor of her daughter, *Barbara Scofield’s* birthday.

ETERNAL CANDLE FOR AUGUST is given by *Cindy Crawford* in memory of her dad, *John Blattner*.

PARENTS’ take this bulletin home for a fun game with your kids! Have them search through the bulletin and circle or highlight **this week’s word: FREE.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Phillip Sanders (KU Med), Barb Bangert (home), Tahira Schmidt & baby Ryland (home & Stormont-Vail Hospital), Martha Donohoe (home), Betty Nelson (Lexington Park Rehab), Mark Fuller (home), Twila Zeigler (home), Jeani Anderson (home), Ann Sanders (home), Rob Peterson (home), Breck Edds (home), Ann Johnson (Kelly House), Vera Pearce (home), Ken Sherbert (home), Charlotte Weddle (CDO Teacher), Julie Bradley (Caring for Kids 1st Director), Carlotta Ullman (Trudi Myers’ great niece), Vicci Livgren (friend of Anita Wolgast), Sharon Treptow (Jill Loomans’ stepmother), Susan Berry (co-worker of Dick Schaeffer), Shirley Taylor (Linda Harold’s cousin), Jerry Manning (friend of Nancy Sherbert), C.A. Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders’ father), Ken Buch (Verla’s son), Micah Ewing (friend of the Lubers), Joan Stahlman (Joyce Koenig’s sister-in-law), Lynette Kottas (Eileen Caspers’ mother), Pete Godlove (Michelle Black’s father), Dan Lykins (cousin of Nancy Sherbert), Nancy Isley Wolfe (friend of the Wolgasts), Ben Beery (friend of Haden Roark), Jerome Gutierrez (Dolores Ussery’s nephew), Heather Roesch (Tracy’s sister-in-law), Norm Stahl (friend of Carolyn Olson), Katelynn Herring (Jeanie Schuler’s great-niece), Bob Avery (friend of Carolyn Olson), Robin Michael (daughter of friend of Nancy Vaughn), Mary Lou Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders’ mother), Linda Myers (Trudi’s daughter-in-law), David Metzenthin (Bud & Lois’ son), Annika Lundgren (friend of the Engelhardts).

OUR CONDOLENCES to *Denise Harding* on the death of her sister, Doris Harvey.

LAY MINISTERS TODAY**10:00 am**

Assisting Minister	Jeff Montague
Lector	Denny Payne
Acolyte	Emma Schultz
Communion Assistants	David & Patricia Drake
Presenting the Gifts	Ted & Elna Ensley
Council Member Team	Eileen Caspers / Allison Hitch
Altar Guild	Elna Ensley, Jeanie Schuler
Ushers	Chris & Cindy Lear
North Door / South Door Greeters	Carolyn Olson / Ruth Denno, Anita Nelson
Coffee Hosts	Montague Family
Bus Driver & Host/Hostess	Leon & Lisa Arndt
Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA	Ron Bessler / Nancy Sherbert / Ron Bessler
Stephen Minister 8/26-9/1/2019	Jean Abbe

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

September 1st – Twelfth Pentecost	LABOR DAY	HYMN SING	10:00 am
Worship Leader			Ann McConkey, PMA
Assisting Minister			John Hanna
Lector			Ralph Krumins
Acolyte			Allison Montague
Communion Assistants			Richard & Judy Price
Presenting the Gifts			Ted & Elna Ensley
Council Member Team			Ralph Krumins / Joe Montague
Altar Guild			Nancy Besta, Mary Fobes, Maureen Krumins
Ushers			Ruth Denno, Kevin Eaton
North Door Greeter			Robert Hanna
South Door Greeter			Carolyn Olson
Coffee Hosts			Penny & Marvin Boleski
Bus Driver & Host/Hostess			Randy Debenham, LaVerne Engelhardt
Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA			Dick Nelson / Nancy Sherbert / Tina Lewis
Stephen Minister 9/2-8/2019			Carren Reed

USHERS: To provide consistency, a list of usher responsibilities have been developed. Please review and follow the laminated list of usher responsibilities placed on top of the bulletins and/or in the drawer of the table at the back of the sanctuary where the bulletins are placed.

To continue our efforts to increase security at church, the **SECURITY COMMITTEE** has recommended and the **Council** has approved the policy to **lock the outside doors 10 minutes after worship starts and unlock them 10 minutes before worship ends.** The doors are not locked for someone exiting, just to someone entering. The council team members will be in the narthex during worship to recognize if someone needs entrance during worship. This change took effect July 7, 2019.

✠ IN THE FIRST PLACE THIS WEEK ✠

Children's Day Out Preschool (CDO) schedule: M, T, W & F 9am-3pm Thursday 9-11:30 am

TODAY

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion

11:15 a.m. – Sunday School Teacher Training

Monday, August 26

12:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. – FLC Book Group

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scout Troop 175 (PH)

Tuesday, August 27

8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – CDO Visiting Day

6:00-8:00 p.m. – Room 202 in Use

7:00 p.m. – Outreach Committee (204)

7:00 p.m. – Topeka Lutheran Home Association

Wednesday, August 28

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – CDO Resumes

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

6:00 p.m. – Read, Pray, Sing Gathering (Chapel)

Thursday, August 29

9:00-11:30 a.m. - CDO

Friday, August 30

Pastor Jenny's Day Off

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – CDO

Saturday, August 31

5:00 p.m. – Communion & Hymn Sing (Chapel)

Sunday, September 1

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

HYMN SING SUNDAY

LABOR DAY SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion & Hymn Sing

11:15 a.m. – Youth & Family Ministry

Monday, September 2

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

OFFICE CLOSED

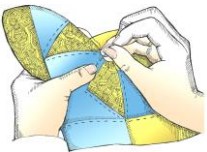


LESSONS AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1

Proverbs 25:6-7 Psalm 112 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14

PARISH NOTICES

**THE 2019 PARISH DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME CENTER.
PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH ANY CHANGES OR ADDITIONS.**



WHAT-SEW-EVER has work sessions **EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING (9:00 a.m. to Noon)** to increase **PRODUCTION OF THE QUILTS** created for Lutheran World Relief (shipped out in November) and other service agencies in Topeka. You are welcome to join in the fun while providing warmth for those in need. If you have questions, call Carolyn Olson at 272-6428.

FRIENDLY FACES NEEDED TO WELCOME OUR CDO KIDS

Our **Children's Day Out** will have their annual **VISITING DAY** on **August 27th**, from **8:30 - 3:00 p.m.** this is the day before classes start. As a ministry of our church, we support the children, parents, and staff in various ways. We will welcome families and distribute snacks in the Parish Hall on this day. **If you would like to sign up for a 2 hour time to welcome families, contact Julie Lamott at 272-5999.**

Made Free

Some of us live with chronic pain or disability as part of our daily lives. All of us know that our bodies are vulnerable, subject to illness or injury. So of course we are interested in the healing stories of the Bible. In today's gospel, Jesus heals a woman who has lived with a disability for eighteen years.

There are times when we wish for a miraculous healing, a sudden change in our physical state. The miraculous healing isn't the real heart of this text, however. When challenged for healing on the sabbath, Jesus says, "Ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" (Luke 13:16).

Jesus set her free. He set her free to live, to have a place in society. He set her free by healing her body, but her physical transformation was God's way of granting her freedom. Freedom might look like miraculous healing. It might look like a wheelchair or a cane that enables a person to move around. It might look like a ramp instead of stairs. It might look like a cochlear implant, or a replacement joint. Even small tools like eyeglasses grant us freedom, although we often forget they're even there.

Have you heard the joke about the person caught in a flood? They wait on their roof for rescue. A boat comes by and the pilot says, "Get in!" but the person says, "No, God will save me." A helicopter comes and tries to pick them up, but the person says, "No, God will save me." The floodwaters rise, and they are swept away. When they see God, they say, "God, why didn't you save me?" And God responds, "I sent a boat and a helicopter!"

Healing comes in different ways. Freedom takes many forms. Salvation may look different than we expect. But surely, God will set free all of God's children. God will save each of us.



September 8th is RALLY DAY

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

8:40 Adult Education

10:00 Worship

11:15 RALLY DAY POTLUCK!



Following the worship service, Let's Eat!!! and celebrate the start of another year of Faith Formation in the church. **People with last names A - G bring a salad, H - P bring a dessert, and Q - Z bring a protein dish to share.** There will be games for kids AND adults.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

We will meet at 11:15, following worship for faith formation and fun.

Classes will begin September 15th.

Sunday School is offered for children in Preschool through 12th grade.

On the first Sunday of each month, we will have **ALPHA**, Children's Worship. Children and youth will gather in their regular class and then go to our indoor or outdoor chapel, weather permitting. **Our first Alpha will be October 6th with a stuffed animal blessing.** Kids can bring their favorite stuffed animal and one (or more) to give away to kids in our community.



NEW ADULT EDUCATION CLASS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 8th



Starting on Rally Sunday, George Bales will lead an adult Bible study called **"Responding to God's Grace"**. The goals of this study are to help participants reflect on God's intentions in creating the world, human beings, and the human community and to consider what it means to be created "in the image of God". **Classes will be held in Room 204 starting at 8:40 a.m.**

On Sunday, October 15th, a second class will start using the book **"WHY? Making Sense Of God's Will"** by Adam Hamilton. It will be **offered at 8:40** and the location is TBD.

We look forward to another year of growing together in faith!



Pastor Bob Dealey is offering a six-session class entitled “**AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT**” on **Monday mornings**, from 10:00–11:30 a.m., beginning **September 9th**. Class participants will receive a general overview of the Old Testament and some Bible study resources to encourage more in-depth study.

If you are interested in exploring your sense of vocation as a Christian, you are invited to attend an eight-session class entitled “**ON A MISSION FROM GOD**”, which will be offered on **Tuesday nights**, beginning **September 10th**, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Class members will also explore different ways in which they can live out their faith throughout their daily lives.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND/OR TO REGISTER, please contact Pastor Bob Dealey by phone at (785) 272-5302 or by email at Rtdealey@sbcglobal.net. Thank you.

CAMP TOMAH SHINGA QUILT AUCTION Saturday, September 14th, 2019

Camp Tomah Shinga, 7821 E Lyon Creek Road, Junction City, KS

11:00 a.m. Quilts on Display 12:00 p.m. – Lunch is Served 1:00 p.m. – Auction begins

All are welcome to come for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and supporting outdoor ministries!

Additional info and RSVP at tomahshinga.com

Please see the Welcome Center for paperwork on donating a quilt.



Blooms of red, orange, yellow, white, pink, and violet **MUMS** will be available for pickup on **Saturday, October 5th between 8:00 and 11:30 AM** in the Parish Hall at FLC. The price per pot will be **\$6.50**. **Place your order with Cindy Lear** at cwlear@prodigy.net or call 271-0140 by **September 22nd**. Thank you for your continued support of the **BETHANY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**.

SEASONAL EFFECTS BY MARK LAMANTIA began providing our altar and pulpit flowers as of August 1st. Mark has been a floral designer for more than 40 years in Topeka. After many years at the same cost, we also had a **price increase to \$25 per vase and \$50 for pulpit flowers**. If you have previously committed to providing flowers but no longer wish to do so because of this increase, please contact Jeanie Schuler 785-845-7964 as soon as possible.