

16th Sunday after Pentecost

09/08/2024

Greg Fetzer, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus



P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the \pm Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN: [ELW#556 "Morning Has Broken"](#)

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: [Glory to God in the Highest](#)



A Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Creative God, you lovingly formed us with great care to be in relationship with you, one another, and all else in creation. Give us the wisdom to hold to your promises of abundant life above all others which lead only to death; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Please be seated.

GENESIS 2:4b-7, 15-18, 21-23; 3:1-8

L A reading from Genesis: ^{4b}In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet sprung up - for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground, ⁶but a stream would rise from the earth and water the whole face of the ground - ⁷Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

¹⁵The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

¹⁶And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

¹⁸Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ²¹So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

²²And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

⁸They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF THE DAY: [ELW#606 "Our Father, We Have Wandered"](#)

SERMON: ([Sermon Audio Link](#))

Please stand, as you are able.

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

OFFERING*: ([On-Line giving Link](#))

The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.

RESPONSE: ["Create in Me"](#)

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
 it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
 joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

L 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.

A brief silence.

L Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and abilities. Deepen our commitment to ecumenical and interreligious partnerships (local partners may be named). Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L Bring forth water to nourish plants and animals in places suffering from drought. Renew our commitments to protect rivers, lakes, and streams, and make us good stewards of water in our homes and communities. Preserve wetland habitats and the creatures that make their homes there. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L Inspire leaders of cities, nations, and tribes to lead with wisdom and humility. Bring peace among peoples in conflict (especially) and strengthen global commitments to

nonviolent solutions. Guide all who seek refuge from war to a safe haven. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

L Comfort all who live with chronic illness. Surround them in your tender embrace and sustain all who provide ongoing care and support. Bring hope and healing to people struggling with addiction and nourish the spirits of all who are in recovery. We pray for Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, Michelle Drayson, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, the family and friends of Mary Goehring, Lydia Hendersen, Mark Hughes, the Johnson family, Robert Karner, Charles Larsen, Charlotte Leer, the McNamara family, Donna Mayhew, Wendy Neumann, Julie Obie, Peter Olsen, Dottie Reitz, Robert Reitz, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, Jack Smith, the Spiegler family, Chuck Trautwein, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

L Nurture in all people the gift of your creating Spirit. Inspire artists and musicians, woodworkers and quilters, poets and dancers. Revive those whose artistic wells have run dry and enliven all who doubt their creative talents. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

L We give you thanks for all who have died and now find their rest in you. May their faithful witness guide us in our daily life with you. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

L We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C 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

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.
C Amen

SENDING HYMN: [ELW#517 "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"](#)

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

*Offering to be sent to
Robert Brackbill
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church
9122 Sybert Drive
Columbia Hills
Ellicott City, MD 21043
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291

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