Lord, teach us to pray

LUKE 11:1



Pentecost 7C

Sunday, July 24, 2022 PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

We extend in the name of Christ, a welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. May you find here an experience of true Christian worship and fellowship. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to consider joining Peace.

MISSION STATEMENT

As servants of Jesus Christ, we share God's grace and mercy. We welcome and encourage all to grow with us in God's kingdom through praise, worship, and service.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path

but have chosen our own way.

Instead of putting others before ourselves,

we long to take the best seats at the table.

When met by those in need,

we have too often passed by on the other side.

Set us again on the path of life.

Save us from ourselves

and free us to love our neighbors.

Amen.

Hear the good news!

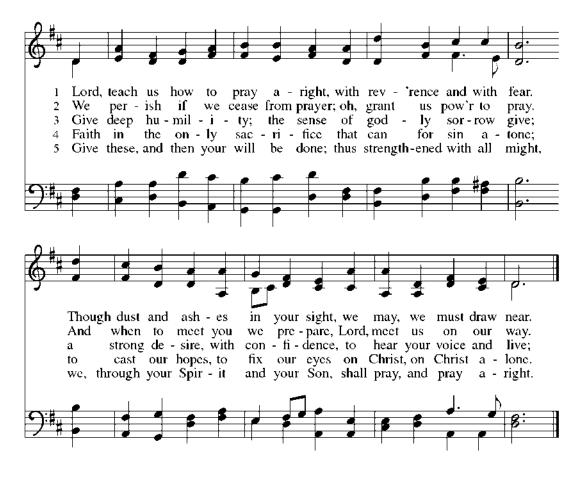
God does not deal with us according to our sins

but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

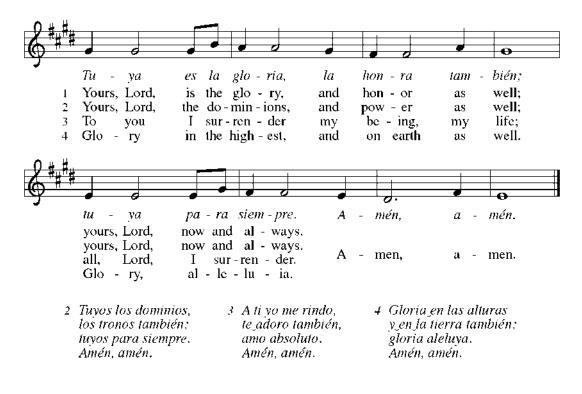


Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Music: SONG 67, Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625

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



Text: Traditional; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: TUYA ES I.A GLORIA, traditional English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING

Genesis 18:20-32

In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.

²⁰Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

²²So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD.²³Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³²Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

- P. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138 Read responsively

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with ¹ my whole heart; before the gods I will ¹ sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your

steadfast [|] love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name and your word a-¹ bove all things.

³When I called, you ¹ answered me;

you increased my ^I strength within me.

⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise ¹ you, O LORD, when they have heard the words ¹ of your mouth.

⁵They will sing of the ways ¹ of the LORD,

that great is the glory ¹ of the LORD.

- ⁶The LORD is high, yet cares ¹ for the lowly,
 - perceiving the haughty [|] from afar.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you ¹ keep me safe;

you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right ¹ hand shall save me.

⁸You will make good your pur- ¹ pose for me;

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works $^{\rm |}$ of your hands.

SECOND READING:

Colossians 2:6-15

The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.

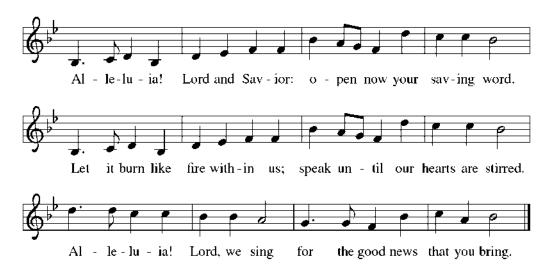
⁶As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

- P. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 205



GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 11:1-13

- P. The holy gospel according to Luke the 11th chapter.
- C. Glory to you, O Lord.

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.

¹[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."²He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

- P. The gospel of the Lord.
- C. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

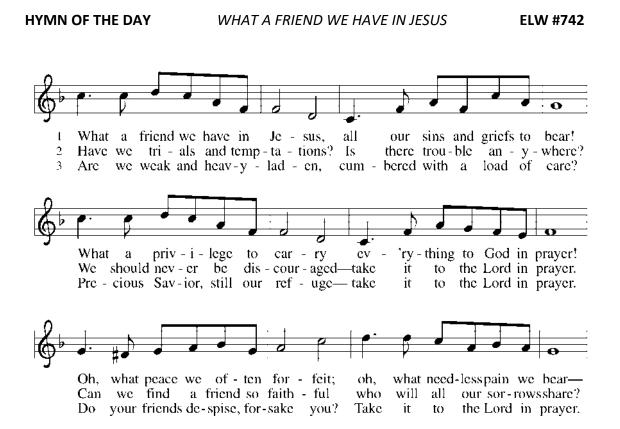
Rev. Mary E. Zupansic

REFLECTION: FOR THOSE AT HOME

Sometimes when people are in need, they pray. And then they wait. They wonder. They wait some more, and pray some more. *Is God listening? Will God answer my prayer?* Some people may worry that they have done something to deafen God's ears to their needs. Maybe they fear they are unworthy to be heard and helped, or that their lives don't matter. Maybe they just give up on themselves and on God.

Jesus is well aware of the challenges of being a person of faith and trusting in God when life is tough. He invites people into a deep trust in God. Why? Because God gives us everything we want, even if it is bad for us? No! God doesn't give scorpions to sting us, even if we ask for them. Jesus invites people into a deep trust in God because of God's profound goodness. Jesus urges us to ask God for the sustenance we need: bread, fish, eggs, mercy, justice, love. God will give us such good things because God is so good. The heart of Jesus' message is rooted in God's goodness. It is not centered on our worthiness, but on God's generous heart. God is good. God is merciful. God is compassionate. God responds to our need out of that benevolence. The Good One gives good things for those in need. This is who God is for us.

This doesn't resolve our tough and appropriate questions about when and how prayers get answered. It does tell us that we are invited to trust that we are cared for no matter what. We are provided for beyond our comprehension, not because of *our* goodness, but because of *God's*. We can come forward to Christ's table—hungry for acceptance, longing for the bread of mercy—and know we will receive that bread in our hands.





Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886 Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

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

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

A brief silence.

Rooted and built up in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Make rivers and lakes, oceans and all waterways, sparkle with your radiance. Protect water sources and strengthen those who defend them. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Buried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life, we give thanks for your saints who rest in your eternal presence. Join our voices with theirs as we sing of your great glory. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

Amen.

THE SHARING OF PEACE

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

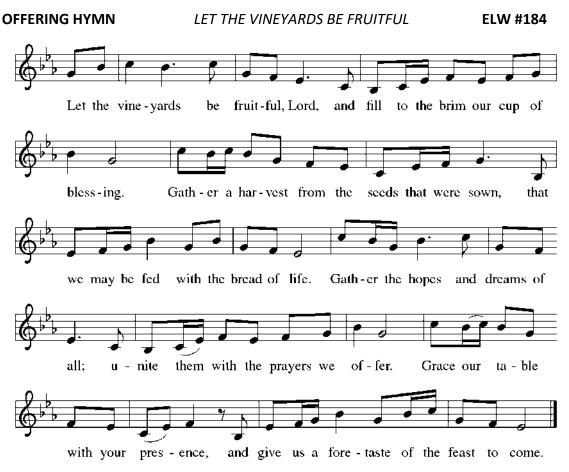
+ THE MEAL +

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry of Peace Lutheran Church. We gladly accept your offerings via US Postal Service, Tithe.ly, or direct deposit from you bank.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jane & Jim Turner



OFFERING PRAYER

- A. Let us pray. God of abundance:
- C. you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

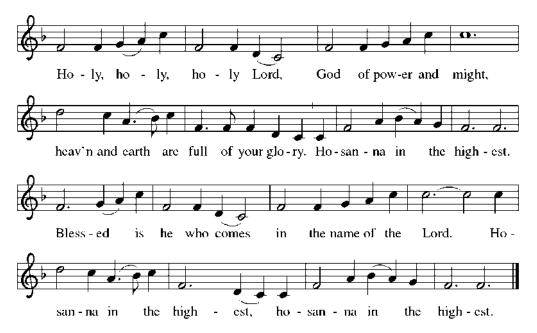
GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. And also with you.
- P. Lift up your hearts.
- C. We lift them to the Lord.
- P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p. 207



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW p. 208



COMMUNION HYMN(S) ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, WALK HUMBLY CONTEMPORAEY WE COME TO THE HUNGRY FEAST ELW #479

TABLE BLESSING

- P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- A. Let us pray. Life-giving God,
- C. through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy.

Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

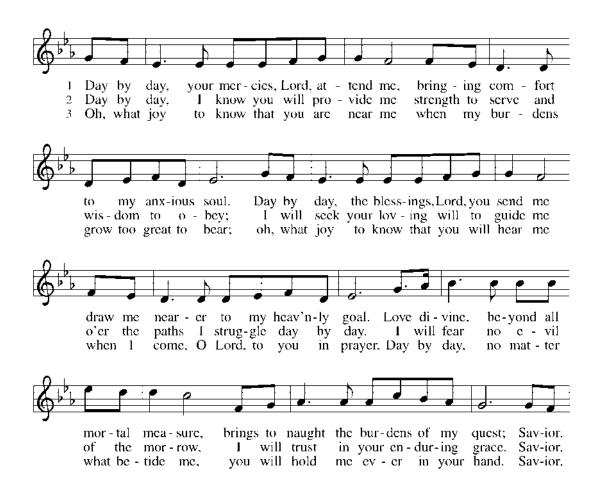
BLESSING

- P. The God of peace God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.
- C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

DAY BY DAY

ELW #790





lead me to the home I trea-sure, where at last I'll find e - ter-nal rest. help me bear life's pain and sor-row till in glo - ry I be-hold your face. with your pres-ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903: tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005 Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882 Text © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

- P. Go in peace. Love your neighbor.
- C. Thanks be to God.

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ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

James, Apostle

Monday, July 25, 2022

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

Thursday, July 28, 2022

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over

300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, Messiah, is a setting of scriptural texts.

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany Friday, July 29, 2022

Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.

Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030 Friday, July 29, 2022

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

Walter Hoyt, Verlene Urekar, Judy Barhoover, Elaine Urekar Art Longworth, Jim Harris, Addie Lemmons, Donna Lane

If you would like to be added to the prayer list, or know someone who would like to be added to our list, please fill out a Prayer Request Card, send an email to peace.lutheran@comcast.net OR call the Office at (217)546-7646. Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks unless otherwise notified. Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name.

ZOOM MEETINGS / IN-PERSON EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, JULY 24In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30amSUNDAY, JULY 31In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF JULY 24

Assisting Minister: Amanda Kim Ushers: Marleigh Andrew-Conrad & Doug McFarlan Video: Linda Rice Camera: Janet Kocis Special Music: Jim & Jane Turner Vocalists: Marliegh Andrew-Conrad & Amanda Kim Musicians: Brenda Peck & Andrew Spiro Counters: Doug McFarlan & Ron Krause

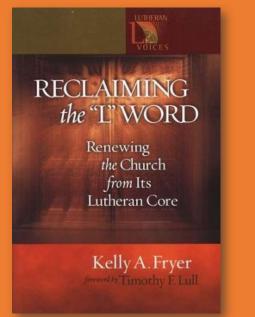


ALTAR FLOWERS PLACED BY

To the Glory of God

July 25 **Ron Krause** July 26 **Cathy Garrett** July 27 **Randy Garrett** July 29 **Debi Edmind - Ellersten** July 30 **Gene Walker**





Sundays@6 Adult Faith Formation

Beginning July 10 6 to 7 p.m. on Zoom

For details contact Debi and Pete Ellersten Edmund.ellertsen85@gmail.com Or 217-793-2587

Peace Lutheran's online adult faith formation group "Sundays@6" will discuss Kelly Fryer's *Reclaiming the 'L' Word: Renewing the Church from its Lutheran Core* in July and August. Sessions will be over Zoom from 6 to 7 p.m. beginning July 10. All members and friends of the congregation, and anyone else who might be interested in a lively presentation of law and gospel, are warmly invited.

Sundays@6 has been meeting since January. After participating in the Evangelism/Faithful Innovations book study on Fryer's "Reclaiming the 'E' Word" in the spring, members of the group voted to follow up with another of Fryer's books.

In a publisher's blurb Fryer says *Reclaiming the 'L' Word* "is intended to help us answer central questions: Who are we? What DOES it mean to be a Lutheran today, anyway? And, why does it matter?" The book can be ordered from Augsburg Fortress Press for \$14.99 at <u>https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/9780806645964/Reclaiming-the-L-Word</u>, and 88 used and 30 new copies are available from \$1.22 on up at Amazon.

For more information, contact Debi and Pete Ellertsen, co-facilitators, by email at <u>edumnd.ellertsen85@gmail.com</u> or telephone at 217-793-2587.



HELP US KEEP OUR MICROPANTRY STOCKED

Non-perishables may be put directly in the pantry or dropped off in the church office.



Thank you to all who helped us provide a meal at Helping Hands Shelter on June 27th

> Our next date is Sept 12th

Funeral Services were held, Friday, July 22 at Oak Ridge Cemetery for Jacqueline Clay. Prayers are appreciated for her family and friends. Eternal rest grant her, O Lord; and may perpetual light shine upon her.



Sign up for Altar Flowers

\$35.00

Call the church office @ 217.546.7646 Or sign up in the "Members" section of the Website

We currently have many Sundays available for ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS.



If you would like a visit from Pastor Mary OR have a pastoral emergency, PLEASE contact Pastor on her cell phone @ 920-671-4338. You may also call the church office @217-546-7646 and leave a message.

Our tather Whort in npan NAMP

Here God-oncourages us to believe that he is truly our Father and we are his children, SNe therefore are to pray to him with complete confidence just as children speak to their loving father,

God's name certainty is hely in itself, but we ask in this prayer that we may keep it hely. God's name is hallowed whenever his Hord is Laught in its brith and purily and we as children of God live in harmony with it. Stop us to do this heavenly Father's Hord anyone who teaches, or lives contrary to the Word of God dishonors God's name among us, Keep us from doing this, heavenly Father's

God's kingdom comes indeed without our praying for it, but we ask in this prayer that it may come also to us, God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us his Holy O pirit, so that by his grace we believe his holy Ford and live a gody the on earth now and in heaven forever,

The good and gracious will of God is surely done without our prayer, but we ask in this prayer that it may be done also among us, God's will is done when he hinders and defeats every evil scheme and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful self, which would prevent us from keeping his name holy and would oppose the coming of his kingdom. And his will is done when he strengthens our faith and keeps us firm in his Word as long as we live. This is his gracious and good will,

God gives daily bread even without our prayer to all people though sinful but we ask in this prayer that he will thanks. Daily bread includes everything needed for this life such as food and clothing, home and property, work and income, a devoted family an orderly community good government, favorable weather, peace and health, a good name, and true friends and neighbor's.

We ask in this prayer that our Father in heaven would not hold our sins against us and because of them refuse to hear our prayer. And we pray that he would give us everything by grace for we sin every day and deserve nothing but punishment. So we on our part will heavily forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

God tempts no one to sin, but we ask in this prayer that God would watch over us and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful self may not deceive us and draw us into false belief, despain and other great and shameful sins, And we pray that even though we are so tempted we may still win the final victory,

We ask in this inclusive prayer that our heavenly Frather would save us from every evil to body and soul, and at our last hour would mercifully take us from the troubles of this world to himself in heaven.

Amen means yes, it shall be so, We say Amen because we are certain that such petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven and are heard by him, For he himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us,

the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever Amen Martu Luther

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Facemasks are **OPTIONAL** for the vaccinated.

Unvaccinated persons are asked to continue wearing a mask when in the building.