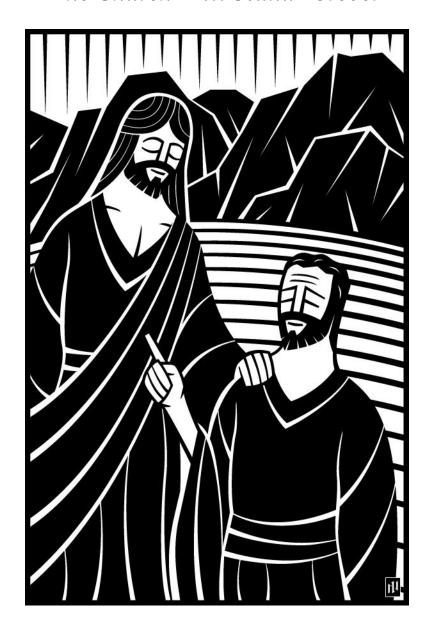
ONE FOUNDATION: The Church Will Stand Forever



SHINING MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH Bozeman, MT

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 13th, 2020

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Lutherans believe that the gospel is not only the good news that Jesus has saves sinners, but also a power God uses to create and strengthen faith in Jesus.



INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



FIRST READING Joshua 4:1-9

When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord told Joshua, 2"Take twelve men from the people, one man from each tribe, 3 and give them the following orders: 'Pick up twelve stones from here in the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the feet of the priests are standing securely. Carry them over with you and put them at the place where you will stay tonight." 4So Joshua called the twelve men whom he had selected from the people of Israel – a man from each tribe. 5Joshua said to them, "Go to the middle of the Jordan in front of the Ark of the LORD your God. There each man is to lift up one stone on his shoulder. The number will correspond to the number of the tribes descended from the sons of Israel, 6so that this may be a sign among you when your children ask in the future, 'What do these stones mean for you?' 7Then you shall respond to them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD. When the ark passed through the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones will serve as a permanent memorial for the people of Israel." 8So the people of Israel did just as Joshua had ordered. They picked up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, corresponding to the number of the tribes descended from the sons of Israel, as the LORD had instructed Joshua. They carried the stones over with them to their lodging place and deposited them there. 9Joshua also set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the feet of the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant had stood. They are there to this day.

VERSE OF THE DAY

1 Timothy 1:10b

M: Alleluia. Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how untraceable his ways! ³⁴"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his adviser?" ³⁵"Or who has first given to God that he will be repaid?" ³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 34





Taste and see that the <u>LORD</u> is good;* blessed are they who take refuge in him.

The eyes of the LORD are on the <u>right</u>eous* and his ears are attentive <u>to</u> their cry.

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who <u>fear</u> him,* and he delivers them.

Refrain

The righteous cry out, and the LORD <u>hears</u> them;* he delivers them from all their troubles.

The LORD is close to the broken<u>heart</u>ed* and saves those who are crushed in <u>spirit</u>.

The LORD redeems his <u>ser</u>vants;* no one who takes refuge in him will <u>be</u> condemned.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

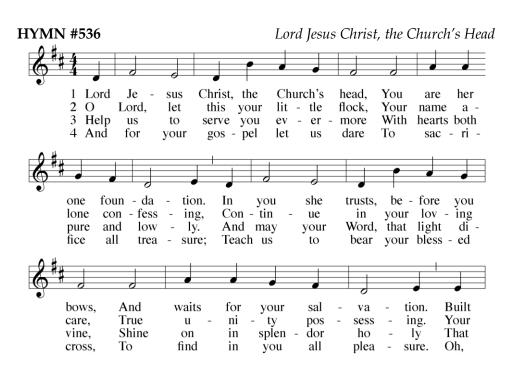
GOSPEL Matthew 16:13-20

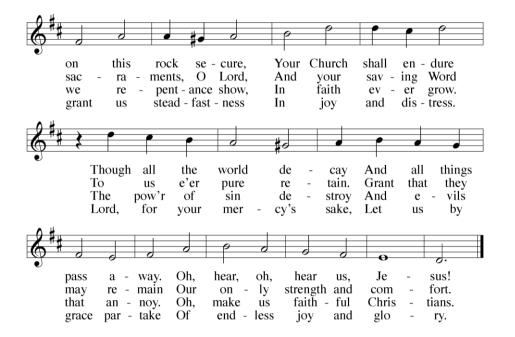
¹³When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴They said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But you, who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

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After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!





SERMON Matthew 16:13-20

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

OFFERING

Our offerings are an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church's work.

You can place your offering in the plate in the entryway, or by scanning this code that will take you to our <u>secure giving site</u>.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.
- C: We praise you for every grace and blessing.
- M: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.
- C: Use our ministries & offerings to extend your healing and your hope.
- M: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.
- C: Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.
- M: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.
- C: Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.
- M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.
- C: Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.
- M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.
- C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.
- C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

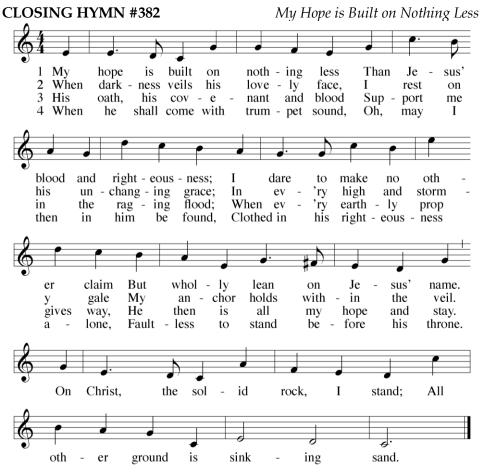
BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.



Announcements

Serving Us This Week (September 13th – 19th) Cleaners: Gustafson, Lauersdorf, Thiede

Serving Us Next Week (September 20th – 26th) Cleaners: Blackstad, Holte, Parks

Ministry Update - September

This week marks the beginning of our fall schedule. While things will look a little different than usual, we are going to do our best to give God's people as many opportunities as possible to grow in the Word and gather together. Therefore, we will keep both our 8:30 and 10:30 AM Sunday morning worship services for the foreseeable future. Also, as long as the weather permits (hopefully a few weeks yet) we will have our 10:30 AM service outdoors.

This week we are also adding Sunday School and Bible Class. Those will meet each Sunday from 9:40 – 10:15 or so. While we understand that not everyone may feel comfortable, we will do our best to offer online as well as in person resources. Our Adult Bible Class will be looking at how to *Deal with Objections to Christianity*. If you have ever wondered how to respond to someone's questions (or your own) this would be the perfect class for you.

Little Lambs is back to meeting on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 9:00 – 11:30 AM. We still have a couple spots open if you know a 3, 4 or 5 year old looking for a fun and Christ-centered early childhood program.

Mornings with Mommy will have their first outdoor session tomorrow from 9:30 – 10:30 AM. If you would be willing to set up or help, please speak to Melissa Joecks or Pastor.

Youth Catechism will also begin this week. We are finalizing the day and time. Speak with Pastor if you have questions.

Pumpkin Fest - October 10th

The Evangelism committee has been looking ahead to our fall outreach opportunities. Last year we had a great turnout at our 1st Pumpkin Fest (even though the weather was less than ideal.) This year we are planning on having it all outside. One new thing we are going to try is a mini truck-or-treat. Individuals /families would decorate the back of a vehicle with a theme (possibly have a game or activity to go along with it) and sit in the parking lot giving the kids a chance to come around and get a prize / candy. So we are in need of people who would be willing to do that.

There will also be other activities, both outside and weather permitting under the tent. If you could mark October 10th on your calendar as a day to help here at church, we would greatly appreciate it. If you have any ideas / thoughts / questions please speak to James McGough or Pastor.

Homecoming Shoebox Parade

MSU has invited the community to participate in their virtual homecoming parade by creating shoe box floats. Families could work on one at home or come to church next Saturday, **September 19**th at 1 PM and work on it together. More info can be found at here: *msuaf.org/shoebox*

Forward in Christ & Meditations

The newest versions of the *Forward in Christ* magazine and *Meditations Devotions* can be found in the entryways on the counter in front of the mailboxes. Grab one today!



www.shiningmountains.org