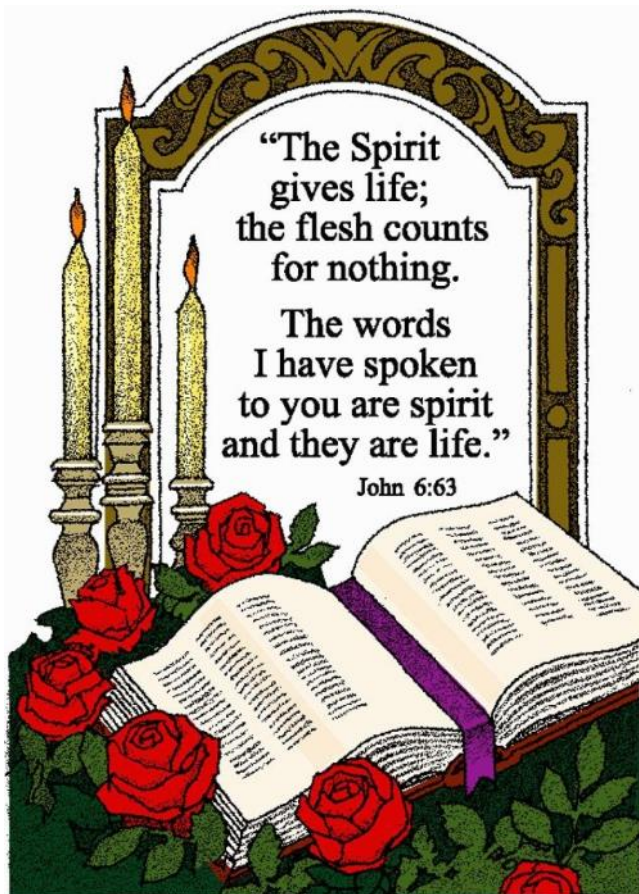

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.



First Lutheran Church

Tiffin, Ohio

August 25, 2024

**"The 14th Sunday after
Pentecost"**

PRELUDE

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Dan Miller

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

Please stand.

THE OPENING



O Lord, o - pen my lips,



and my mouth shall pro - claim your praise.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

THE CONFESSION

L: As a community of faith, we celebrate:

C: God is among us!

L: Together we are called:

C: To go out!

L: We are called:

C: To care for all!

L: We are called:

C: To proclaim the gospel!

L: We are called:

C: To forgive and reconcile!

L: We are called:

C: To trust God for all that we need!

P: As a people of faith, we have forgotten our calling. We have forgotten to care for our neighbor. We have failed to proclaim the gospel. We seek forgiveness, and we long to fully trust God for everything. Knowing our brokenness, we turn to God with a repentant heart.

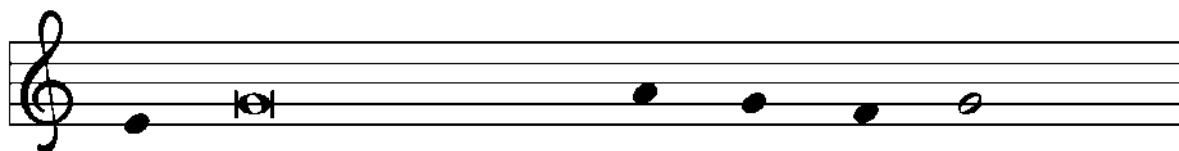
A time of silence and reflection.

P: Most Merciful God,

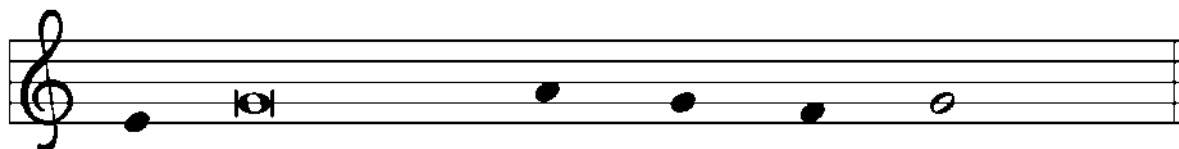
C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, 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.

C: Amen.

Final response:



Give glory to God, our light and our life.



Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.

THE 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!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

A READING FROM JOSHUA 24:1-2A,14-18

R: A reading from Joshua the 24th chapter.

¹ Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a} And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴ “Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵ Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” ¹⁶ Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷ for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸ and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM EPHESIANS 6:10-20

R: A reading from Ephesians the 6th chapter.

⁰ Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities,

against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵ As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 6:56-69

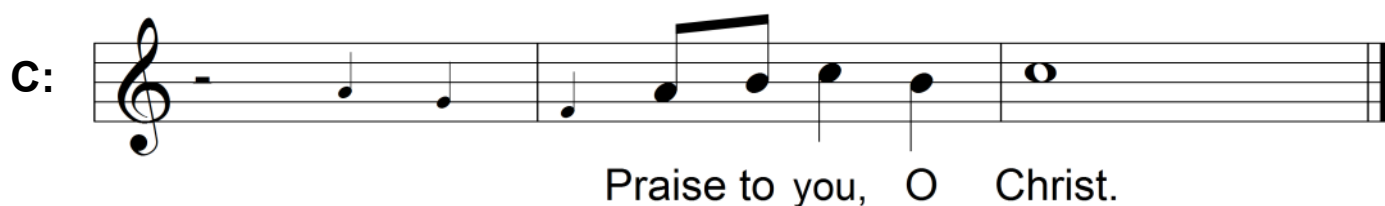
P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. John the 6th chapter.

C:

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said,] ⁵⁶ “Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. ⁶⁰ When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹ But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³ It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴ But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵ And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.” ⁶⁶ Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷ So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!



Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

484

YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART



All 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
Women 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
Cantor 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
Men 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
All 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam-'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert F. Kreutz, 1922–1996
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

TODAY'S REFLECTION

Rev. Clayton J. Bailey



Those who eat my flesh and
drink my blood abide in me,
and I in them.

JOHN 6:56, NRSV

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL CANTICLE IN THE TENDER COMPASSION

Refrain

In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God the

dawn from on high shall break up - on us.

NICENE CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith as expressed in the words of the Nicene Creed:

C: **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

MEDITATION & OFFERING

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Daryl Hollinger

From Every Corner

III. Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!

OFFERING HYMN

758

YOU ARE THE WAY



- 1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
- 2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

You are invited to kneel, or remain seated as you are able.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Let us pray.

L: Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new. Especially we thank you:

For the sustaining goodness of your creation...

For the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness...

For the gifts of relationship with others...

For the communion of faith in your church...

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord. Especially we pray:

For those who govern nations of the world...

For the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare...

For all who work for peace and international harmony...

For all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction...

For the church of Jesus Christ in every land...

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor be overcome in adversity, In all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

THE BLESSING



Let us bless the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

P: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, free to serve your neighbor. May God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you, that you may be a blessing to others.



A - men

Please stand.

SENDING SONG

638

BLESSED ASSURANCE



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

THE SENDING

P: Go in peace!

L: Serve the Lord with Gladness!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Matthew H. Corl

Five Gospel Hymns for Organ

I. Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!

Today's Worship Leaders

Cantor: Elijah Shiley

Facebook Camera: Wendy Bailey

Reader: Shelley Ross

Worship Assistant: Shelley Ross

Slide Show Operator: Andrew Bailey



Evangelical
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in America

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Pre-School Dir. Jane Frederick
daycarejane@gmail.com

This Week's Calendar

Sunday

10:00 am Worship on The 14th Sunday
of Pentecost

August 25

Next Sunday

10:00 pm Worship on The 15th Sunday
of Pentecost

September 1

Handicap Parking

The handicap parking on the south side of the building have deteriorated making it difficult for members using walkers and wheelchairs to enter the building. We have a very generous church member who is willing to donate \$5,000.00 towards the project. We would like to challenge the congregation to match the donated funds. Cost for the south side is \$7,800 to repave all away across the driveway and \$4,536.00 to pave halfway across the drive. The handicap parking spots on the North side of the building are uneven. There are spots that are sinking, causing unsafe walking conditions. The cost for this project is \$6,875.00

Anyone interested in making a donation may contact the office or place it in the offering plate marked PAVEMENT.

LWR Bookbags

SCHOOL KITS



The supply list for LWR is very, very specific. Perhaps as you are out and about and come across good sales on supplies you could help fill our bookbags.

Any extra supplies, or supplies that do not conform to the LWR standards will be donated locally.

We are still in need of the following items:

70 sheet notebooks
pencil sharpeners
30-centimeter rulers

Cookies

Cookie Sign up sheets are located on the Dietz Room wall. Fellowship time is before and after Church Service. Approximately 4 dozen cookies are needed each week.



News from the Pews

Pastor will be traveling the week of August 26th for a Spirituality Retreat.

If there is a "pastoral emergency", please contact Pastor Karsten at Trinity UCC.
(608)807-9268



Office Closed



The office will be closed on August 26th due to Pastor attending a Spirituality Retreat and Kim will be out for medical appointments. Please keep everyone in your prayers.



Our Mission Statement

"God is among us!"
*"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel,
forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need."*

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