

ABOUT THE DAY: *In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.*

GATHERING MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *How Deep the Father's Love for Us* -Stuart Townend, arr. Marianne Kim

All who are able are invited to stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

Amen.

PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN: *In Thee is Gladness p. 10*

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.
All may be seated*

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them. *The word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-13 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)

LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

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 chil- | dren of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;**

⁹you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is | from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since

they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All who are able are invited to stand

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.” *The Gospel of the Lord.*

Praise to you, O Christ.

All may be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

All who are able are invited to stand

HYMN: *Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive* p. 11

APOSTLES' CREED

In the words of the Apostles' Creed, let us confess our faith:

**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

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Comfort all who are ill or suffering in any way, *especially George, Doug, Jennifer, Lillian, Arlene, Linda, Mike, Dorothy, Paula, Jim, Lucille, Rich, Michael.* Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those celebrating birthdays this week. May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years, *especially Larry, Anthony, Jeffrey, Lynn, Carolyn, Oliver, Kim, Ben, Jerome, Renae.* Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those celebrating anniversaries this week. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever *especially Cynthia & Steve, Donald & Elsie.* Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious Lord, as our shepherd, guide the ministries of all our siblings in Christ in congregations who continue to do your work. Through your Holy Spirit provide courage, perseverance and resources to those who speak your word of truth and love.

We give thanks this day for our sisters and brothers united through you. We pray especially for the congregation of Faith Lutheran, Whitehall, and for their pastor, Thomas Busted. May we be filled with your Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

**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

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Rise, Shine, You People* p. 12

EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *All Glory Be to God on High*

-setting by Sherri Hansen

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In Thee Is Gladness (*In dir ist Freude*) (Public Domain)

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Rise, Shine, You People (*Wojtkiewicz*) (Rise, Shine, You People (*Wojtkiewicz*). Text: Ronald A. Klug. Music: Dale Wood. Text and music © 1974
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Altar Flowers are given in memory of husband Norman and loved ones, by Ila Dietrich. (T1D1)

Bulletins are given in loving memory of Anna Hahn and in honor of Larry Hahn's birthday, by Donna and family.

Lector: Karen Boardman
Cantor: Jan Kistler

Our Staff

The Rev. Dody S. Siegfried, Pastor
The Rev. Jerel Gade, Visitation Pastor
Jamie Edelman, Director of Education & Youth
Monica Unangst, Church Administrator
Susan Hartney, Organist/Choir Director
& Director of Bell Choirs
Jan Kistler, Asst. Organist
& Canon Choir Director
Marlene Peters, Cherub Choir Director
Barbara Carinci, Income-Expense Coordinator
Ann Kline, Sexton

Say a Prayer & Send a Card & Pay a Visit

Fellowship Mnr: Florence Roth
Whitehall Mnr: LaRue Wuchter
Lehigh Commons: Barbara Diehl **Mosser:** Arlene Miller
The Palmerton: Ferne Rock **Manor Care:** MaryAnn Rau
Home: Margaret Smith, Olive Wood, Warren Gressley

Birthdays this week:

Larry, Anthony, Jeffrey, Lynn, Carolyn, Oliver, Kim, Ben, Jerome, Renae

Anniversaries this week:

Cynthia & Steve (30), Donald & Elsie (59)

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

Our "Blanket Brigade" has already been hard at work creating beautiful blankets, to be donated where they are needed. We have more plans in the works for this annual service event on September 20th. It is a bit more challenging this year as we navigate all the social distancing protocols so bear with us as we try our best to continue with this worthwhile service project.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION!!!

2020 SPONSORSHIPS

Altar Flowers: October 18, 25; Nov. 1; Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27

To sponsor the bulletin or EPP ad, please contact Donna for available dates

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS: Contact Donna Hahn at 610-395-0613 or dhahn16@gmail.com with your choice of date(s) and sponsorships(s). **Please indicate when reserving your date whether you wish to pick up the flowers after the 9:15 service or want them taken to shut-ins.** If no preference is given, flowers will be taken to shut-ins.

Altar flowers are \$40. Bulletins are \$20. Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate.
SPONSORSHIP POLICY: Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date (within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.

**ATTENDANCE – 8/30/20 – 35-in person ??-stream
9/6/20 – 40-in person 25-stream 15-drive thru comm.**

**Treasurer's Report
for August 2020**

	Month	YTD	Budget Amounts	
			Month	YTD
Income:				
Operating Income	\$ 22,204.00	\$ 195,113.00	\$ 28,950.00	\$ 231,600.00
Benevolence	\$ 683.00	\$ 9,554.00	\$ 1,667.00	\$ 13,336.00
Property	\$ 1,884.00	\$ 18,140.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 20,000.00
Deficit Reduction	\$ 498.00	\$ 7,370.00	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 25,269.00	\$ 230,177.00	\$ 33,117.00	\$ 264,936.00
Expenses:				
Administration	\$ 1,064.00	\$ 10,101.00	\$ 1,985.00	\$ 15,880.00
Ministries	\$ 1,171.00	\$ 5,182.00	\$ 1,437.00	\$ 11,496.00
Payroll	\$ 21,227.00	\$ 170,972.00	\$ 22,049.00	\$ 176,392.00
Property-Utilities, grounds, etc	\$ 4,404.00	\$ 57,673.00	\$ 7,942.00	\$ 63,536.00
Benevolence	\$ -	\$ 12,417.00	\$ 1,917.00	\$ 15,336.00
Total Expenses	\$ 27,866.00	\$ 256,345.00	\$ 35,330.00	\$ 282,640.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (2,597.00)	\$ (26,168.00)	\$ (2,213.00)	\$ (17,704.00)

We are now receiving material from Truist for the next phase of the PPP SBA process where we apply for the loan forgiveness currently planned for the mid- to late-July timeframe. So, we are currently tracking our employee payroll expenses and utilities (electric & oil), which are being paid for through PPP SBA loan funds. We are required to track all these expenses separately for the necessary documentation in our forgiveness application with Truist Bank to show that we have met qualifications for possible forgiveness and a conversion to a grant.

In this month's Treasurer's Report, the dollar amounts show the full expenses associated with Payroll and the Property-Utilities, grounds, etc. in the expenses section of the report. These expenses are still being tracked separately from our normal income and expense records using features of our PowerChurch software. The May Treasurer's Report shows a deficit for the YTD (year to date) a little over (\$ 13,000.). Future Treasurer's Reports (June & July) will NOT be reporting any surplus amounts due to the \$ 47,400. SBA Loan, since this amount was deposited into our Operating Income as a balance adjustment.



We are now celebrating communion at our in-person worship services on the first and third Sundays of each month. For those watching the live stream at home, you may receive communion by coming to the Family Center parking lot after the service. Outdoor stations will be set up and members of the Re-Launch Team and SAT members will be there to greet you as you remain safely in your car and drive thru the stations in order to receive Holy Communion in a safe, non-touch manner. Pastor and the team members will be there until around 11:00 a.m.

Church Office Hours: The office is still open! Hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon, to take your phone calls, drop off your offering envelopes, etc. Every effort will be made to do so contact-free.

Assistance for Members: We have a team of volunteers standing by who are willing to run errands, pick up groceries or prescriptions, etc. for those who may be unable or just should not go out. Please call the church office and we will get you in touch with someone who can help.

Food Pantry: We are still in need of food donations. Drop off during office hours. Monetary donations are welcome, also, and will purchase 3 to 4 times as much food for the money!

Worship Services: in the Family Center at 9:15 a.m. Holy communion will be offered both in person and drive through on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. For those who feel more comfortable remaining at home, worship services will be live streamed on both our website and Facebook page

Christ in Our Home booklets: will be available on the tables when you pick up your Sunday bulletins at worship, or you may stop by during office hours and pick one up from the table against the left wall in the office foyer. Just ring to be let in.

Reading through the Gospel of Mark Bible Study: Join us for a spiritual journey through the Gospel of Mark, each Wednesday evening beginning September 16th from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. led by Pastor Dody. We will meet virtually using Zoom (unless Covid changes dramatically and we can meet in person). The format will be to read through the Gospel during class together, sharing and discussing our insights, knowledge, inspiration, even perplexing questions, and how these readings play a part in our faith journey today. To register, please contact either Monica in the church office or Pastor Dody with name, contact info (phone and email). An Email will be sent out closer to the start date with the link for the Bible Study. If you would like to join but are unsure how to use Zoom, we can guide you through that as well! **Please register by Sept. 14th.**

Landscape stones available: On either side of the new digital sign there are two short half circle walls of landscape stones. They are available to anyone who wishes to remove them. A small hammer or putty knife will be required to release the glue used to keep the stones in place.

We send our gratitude to those who continue to faithfully make their offerings so that we may be ready, unafraid and able to return to regular ministry when life gets back to normal! Jordan is pleased to offer electronic giving options to our members. Members can make a one-time donation, or establish a recurring giving profile through the convenience of their computer or mobile phone. We highly recommend that at this time you prayerfully consider using online giving. Here is how you sign up:
WEBSITE – go to www.jordanlutheran.org click on the **SUPPORT** tab, then **Electronic Giving** and you will be offered two options to set up your electronic giving
GIVE+ PLUS (a free, secure phone app) download this free app to your mobile phone, search by zip code 18069 and when you see Jordan, follow the instructions to make your donation.



Every September Pink Courage sponsors a Sunday at Church with refreshment and fellowship following both services. At that time donations could be made for the walk and then were donated on behalf of Jordan Lutheran Church. The Women's 5K Classic Walk is proceeding differently this year like many other large events/gatherings have had to do. They are having a virtual walk on

10/3/20 that our members, Jan Kistler and Tracy Heberling, will be participating in. This local event will continue to bring support, assistance, and research to Women of the Lehigh Valley.

If you would like to make a monetary donation you can go to directly to the website <https://womens5kclassic.org/> and donate there, or write a check, payable to Women's 5K Classic and mail or drop off your donation either to Tracy Heberling or to the church, and we will see that it gets to the event. Please contact Tracy before 10/2/2020.

So...How are we doing? With the Relaunch of Jordan Lutheran Church, many new elements have evolved to ensure our members may gather in a safe, spirit-fueled environment. And for those who wish to remain at home, we will continue to provide a virtual connection for you. The Relaunch Task Force welcomes your comments as to how we may improve upon this new service format. Please contact Karen Boardman (kjb59@ptd.net) or Glenn Wagner (glenn.wagner03@gmail.com) with your feedback. Thank you!

In Thee Is Gladness



1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



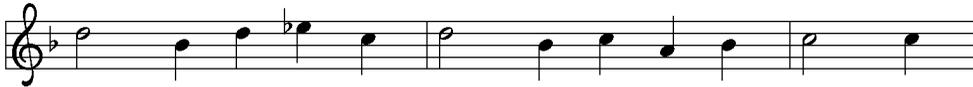
true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;
2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

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Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
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Rise, Shine, You People!



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

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Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934-2003
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let all that
you do
be done in
love.

1 COR 16:18