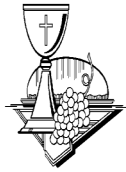


September 3 & 5, 2017 13th Sunday after Pentecost

To our friends, welcome again. To the visitor, it's great to have you here! To those looking for a church home, we offer fellowship with a living Savior, membership in His church and citizenship in His eternal kingdom.

We celebrate the Lord's Supper today. The Bible tells us that this is a most precious medicine for the soul. Like all medicine, of course, the right person must use it at the right time and for the right purpose, lest it do more harm than good. For this reason we ask our visitors to speak to our pastor before joining us at the table. **We follow "The Common Service," - pg 15.**



***We have large print service binders available - please ask an usher for one.***

**Today's Hymns: #402, #408, #395, #494**

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**First Lesson: Joshua 2:8-21**

<sup>8</sup> Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof <sup>9</sup> and said to them, "I know that the LORD has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. <sup>10</sup> We have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. <sup>11</sup> When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone's courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

<sup>12</sup> "Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign <sup>13</sup> that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death."

<sup>14</sup> "Our lives for your lives!" the men assured her. "If you don't tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the LORD gives us the land."

<sup>15</sup> So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall. <sup>16</sup> She said to them, "Go to the hills so the pursuers will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days until they return, and then go on your way."

<sup>17</sup> Now the men had said to her, "This oath you made us swear will not be binding on us <sup>18</sup> unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you have brought your father and mother, your brothers and all your family into your house. <sup>19</sup> If any of them go outside your house into the street, their blood will be on their own heads; we will not be responsible. As for those who are in

the house with you, their blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on them. <sup>20</sup> But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear."

<sup>21</sup> "Agreed," she replied. "Let it be as you say." So she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

**Psalm 133-134 (page 115)**

**Gospel Lesson: Matthew 15:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

<sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

<sup>25</sup> The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

<sup>26</sup> He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

<sup>27</sup> "Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table."

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

**Today's Message: (based on Matthew 15:21-28)**



***"Three strikes... and faith in Christ is NOT OUT!"***

*Thank you to our Sunday organist, Jennifer Knutson and Tuesday pianist, Darci Matzke.*

**This week - God willing.....**

**TODAY:** Worship 8:00am & 10:45am / Pastor on WCUB 9:00am sponsored by Tom & Kathy Pekarske

**Monday: Labor Day Holiday** - Note Worship is on Tuesday night

**Tuesday:** JLOG - 1st day of Preschool / Worship 6:30pm

**Wed:** Bible Classes 1:30 "Pictures of Christ - Part 2"  
Bible Class 7:00pm "Connecting Sinai to the Cross - A Song on Their Lips"

**Thursday:** "Grief Share" 6:30pm

**Friday:** MLHS Homecoming Game - 5th Quarter @ City Limits following game

**Sunday:** Worship 8:00 & 10:45am / NO Bible Class  
"Welcome Back Sunday" w/ program between services - see *back of bulletin*

**Monday:** Worship 6:30pm

**Grace September Newsletter** - Thank you to Lois Bergquist for doing our Grace newsletter. Please pick up your copy that is in your member box.

**September "Forward in Christ"** magazines are on the information table. Pick up your complimentary copy today.

Lakeshore Lutheran Chorale invites you to join them in singing praises and rejoice in our Lord Jesus Christ through song and fellowship. Rehearsals are every other Sunday night at 6:30pm in the MLHS Choir Room. The September schedule is Sundays, Sep10 & 24. If you would like more information please contact Matt Manthe at [mmanthe@bethanyeagles.org](mailto:mmanthe@bethanyeagles.org)

Last Week's Attendance: Sunday 8:00 - #66, 10:45 - #64, Monday - #60= Total - #190

**"WELCOME BACK SUNDAY" is next weekend (Sep 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>)**

*This will be a special worship themed weekend with a time between services Sunday morning to include:*

- ◇ Snacks & refreshments
- ◇ Sunday School & Catechism Registration
- ◇ Group pictures taken
- ◇ Kick-off our Fall schedule
- ◇ **A special "Care Packaging Event" (see below)**

We have been approved for a "Thrivent Action Team Grant" and will be using these funds to put together and mail out care packages to our Grace students away at college, any military members and possibly our shut-ins to let them know we are thinking of them.

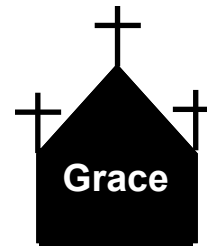
During this time together, we will ask those in attendance to write down their favorite bible passage, sign a "Thinking of You" card and will have the children color/draw pictures.

**Donations of snacks & personal items needed:** There are sheets of suggested items on the round table display in the fellowship hall. *Please bring these donations with you on Sunday or drop them off in the labeled bin by Monday, Sep 11th.*

**For those that cannot attend on Sunday, please stop by this display TODAY** to sign the card and take a slip to write down your favorite bible passage pick up a list of suggested items & coloring pages for the kids. *Please return everything by Mon, Sep 11th.*

**Volunteers needed for packing boxes:** We will meet here at church on **Sunday, Sep 17, at 6:00pm** to put together these packages and get them ready for mailing. If you would like to help with this (we will done before the 7:30 Packer Game!), please let Ann Hornes (office manager) know as soon as possible. There will be light snacks & refreshments - volunteers may even get a free "Thrivent Action Team" T-Shirt depending on sizes and numbers of shirts available.

**If you have a family member that is away at college, in the military or is a shut in, please let Ann in the office know their name & address as soon as possible, so we can add them to the our list of who will receive one of these care packages.**



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Worship Services Sundays 8:00 & 10:45am, Mondays 6:30pm



*'Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.'*



**Sunday, September 3  
& Tuesday, September 5**

**Weekend Update on Hurricane Harvey  
from WELS South Central District President Don Patterson**

I want to give an update (albeit incomplete) about what we know about the property damage Harvey has caused for our WELS saints and their communities and to inform you about relief efforts you could support. The good news so far is that we have no fatalities or major injuries among our WELS families in any of these locations.

The five locations of WELS ministries that were most profoundly affected thus far are

- ◇ Edna: Edna was on the “dry” side of the storm but very close to the epicenter. She sustained lots of downed trees and power lines. With high winds and substantial rainfall, there is some property damage but no serious widespread flooding. Power is out but water is still good.
- ◇ Victoria: Same damage as Edna but power and water are both out.
- ◇ Friendswood: The church and school are still not flooded, but many of the homes are. Some families had to be evacuated by boat or helicopter. At least two teachers first floor apartments were flooded. They had already evacuated to safety.
- ◇ Sienna Plantation: SP is under mandatory evacuation as the Brazos river continues to overflow. The Academy sustained some tornado damage but was left largely intact. Future flooding of the campus and homes is still a big threat.
- ◇ North Houston: Lots of street flooding, some house flooding, but so far our church and school have been spared. Some folks were rescued by boat.

**RELIEF EFFORT Report from WELS Christian Aid and Relief :**

Please continue to keep these people in your prayers and ask the Lord to bless all relief efforts. In this time of crisis, we pray that God’s people will find strength and comfort in our God of free and faithful love and his gracious promises.

WELS Christian Aid and Relief always seeks to personalize our relief efforts. We are working through our congregations and leaders in the affected areas of Texas. Leaders will assess the damage in their neighborhoods and consider ways to respond.

We are generally not first responders, but initial funds (\$25,000) have been sent to address immediate needs. We have also sent several relief trailers which include generators and other relief supplies and equipment. Pastors and leaders are meeting this coming week to make plans to help members and communities. Right now, neighboring congregations in Texas are sending their own members into the affected areas to offer help. We are assisting their local efforts.

**So, What Can YOU Do to Help?”**

When tragic events like this occur, God’s people want to know how they can help. Here at Grace, the Coordinating Council approved sending \$1,500 to the WELS Christian Aid Relief effort with these funds coming out of our special “Brother’s Keeper” fund.

**How you can make a monetary donation:**

- ◇ **Collection Basket at church:** For the next 3 weeks, we will have a collection basket for members to make a donation to this WELS Relief Aid here at church. Checks should be made payable to “WELS” and put a note on the memo line that this is for “Hurricane Harvey Aid”. These checks along with cash donations will be sent to the WELS in the near future.
- ◇ **ONLINE Donations through the WELS Website** (checking acct or Cr Card)
- ◇ **FOR THRIVENT MEMBERS:** Thrivent will match up to a total of \$500,000 in personal donations made online through Thrivent.com to specific disaster relief organizations responding to Hurricane Harvey. WELS Christian Aid Relief is one of the organizations on this list. The dollar-for-dollar match is open to Thrivent members and will lead to a total combined impact of up to \$1 million. To make a donation from your checking account or credit card, visit the Disaster Response page on Thrivent.com. If you need assistance with this, contact Ann Hornes (our Thrivent Congregational Advocate) in the office.

**Donations of items for care packages:**

- ◇ We are collecting donations of snack & personal items for our care packages to send to our college students. We could also put together some care packages that could be sent to the Texas WELS churches for children that were effected by this disaster. There is a list of suggested items on the round display table. These items can be dropped off and placed in the labeled bin by this table display.