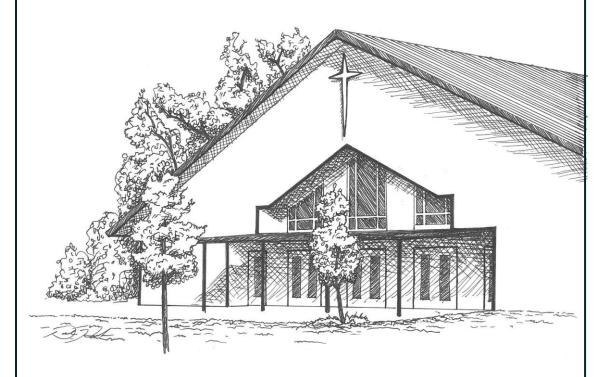
Celebration Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 14, 2025

Take this bulletin home and use it for prayer, Scripture reading, and encouragement throughout the week.

Celebration Lutheran ChurchLCMS

810 Roberts Road St. Johns, Florida 32259 (904) 230-2496 www.celebrationlutheran.org

Pastor: **Rev. Santiago Keinbaum** pastor@celebrationlutheran.org

Director of Music Ministry: **Deborah DeGrado** music@celebrationlutheran.org

Congregational President

Kenny Lovelady president@celebrationlutheran.org

Board of Elders:

Tom Anderson, Adam Bringman, Rich Larson, John Schumacher, Gary Vondrasek elders@celebrationlutheran.org



Welcome to Celebration Lutheran Church

You have entered a holy place where Christ serves His people. In the Divine Service, He forgives sins, feeds the faithful, and strengthens His Church through Word and Sacrament. He does this to prepare us to live by faith, love our neighbor, and bear witness in the world.

Whether you are a lifelong Lutheran, a visitor, or new to the faith, **we are glad you are here**. May you receive His mercy, His promises, and His peace.

What to Know Before Receiving the Lord's Supper

Our Communion Statement

We believe, teach, and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the Sacrament of the Altar. His body and blood are given in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, just as He says: "This is My body... this is My blood" (Matthew 26:26–28).

In faithfulness to God's Word and in care for all who commune, we practice closed communion. All who are baptized, instructed, and confirmed members of this congregation or of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are welcome to receive the Sacrament. In receiving the Lord's Supper, we not only receive Christ's gifts but also confess a shared faith.

Communion is not a general Christian right. It is an invitation to the holy banquet, and our Lord calls us to be prepared, clothed in faith and understanding. Scripture warns, "Whoever eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:29).

Those not communing today may come forward for a blessing by crossing their arms. Before communing, Luther's Small Catechism encourages each Christian to ask:

Do I believe I am a sinner?

Do I believe in Christ and His words in the Sacrament?

Do I intend, with God's help, to turn from sin?

If you have questions, Pastor Keinbaum or one of the Elders would be glad to speak with you.

Preparing for the Divine Service

Before the Service – Speak to God. During the Service – Let God speak to you. After the Service – Speak to one another.

Please enter the sanctuary quietly and prayerfully, allowing others time for reflection. We ask that all electronic devices be silenced before the Service begins.

"Let all the earth keep silence before Him." (Habakkuk 2:20)

Prayer before the Service

Almighty and eternal God, I, a poor, unworthy sinner, come before You in the name of Jesus Christ. I pray that You would graciously prepare my heart by Your Holy Spirit, that I may rightly hear Your Word, receive Your grace, and offer You praise and thanksgiving. strengthen my faith and lead me in holiness of life, that I may serve You in joy, now and forever. Amen.

Reading Summary

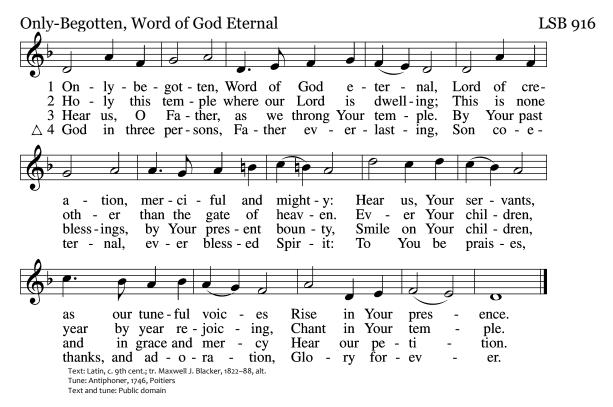
What the Word Is About This Week

Jesus Christ Is the Great Shepherd of His Sheep

"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15). As He had mercy on Paul, in order to "display his perfect patience" (1 Tim. 1:16), so also does He seek out His sheep "from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness" (Ezek. 34:12). To deliver His flock, He "will seek the lost, ... bring back the strayed, ... bind up the injured, and ... strengthen the weak" (Ezek. 34:16), and "they shall no longer be a prey" (Ezek. 34:22).

He sets over them one great Good Shepherd, the Son of David, who "shall feed them and be their shepherd" (Ezek. 34:23). For Christ Jesus is the one man who, "having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them," would "leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it" (Luke 15:4). When He finds the lost one and brings it home rejoicing, "the angels of God" and all the company of heaven rejoice with Him, with great joy (Luke 15:7, 10).

Processional Hymn



Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit Psalm 30:2–5; antiphon: vv. 11a, 12b

You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever! Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



This Is the Feast LSB 155 Refrain feast This is the of vic-to-ry for our God. \mathbf{C} Al-le-luia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu ia. 1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain. whose 2 Pow rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and er, with the peo - ple of God, 3 Sing all and 4 Bless ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to Lamb_____ who was 5 For the be slain has blood set us God. Refrain free to be peo - ple of bless ing, and glo - ry are hon - or, His. Refrain in the hymn of all cre - a tion: Stanza 4 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. Α men. Refrain gun His reign. Al - le - lu ia. Final Refrain Final Refrain This is feast of vic-to-ry for our the God.



Al-le - lu ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le lu ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-24

"For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land.

"And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

"As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water,

that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

"Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing! Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle 1 Timothy 1:5–17

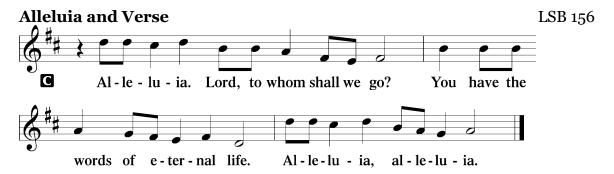
The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, in accordance with the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand



Holy Gospel Luke 15:1–10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.



Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

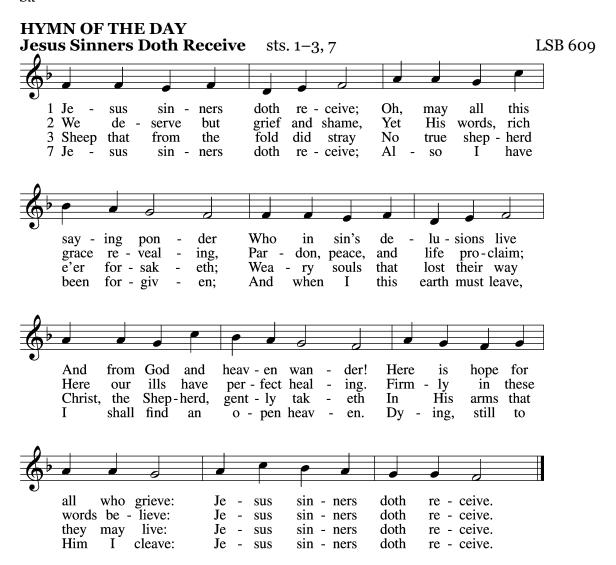
So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit



Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756
Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter; for Your holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of all faithful and just people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that You have done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness in lives that are wholly given to Your service. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

P Grant Your wisdom and heavenly grace to all pastors and to those who hold office in Your Church that, by their devoted service, faith may abound and Your kingdom increase. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Send the light of Your truth into all the earth. Raise up faithful servants of Christ to advance the Gospel both at home and in distant lands. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Take from us all hatred and prejudice, give us the spirit of love, and order our days in Your peace. Prosper the labor of those who work to bring peace and justice to the nations of the world that mutual understanding and common endeavor may be increased among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

By Your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Be with those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Sit

Glory to God in the Highest And on earth, peace to all those of good will.

Stand



Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



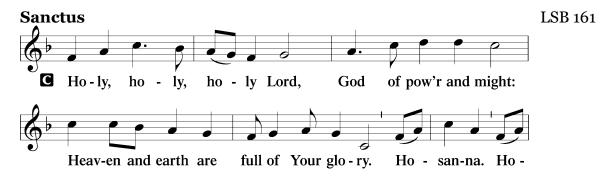
P Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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 Words of Our Lord

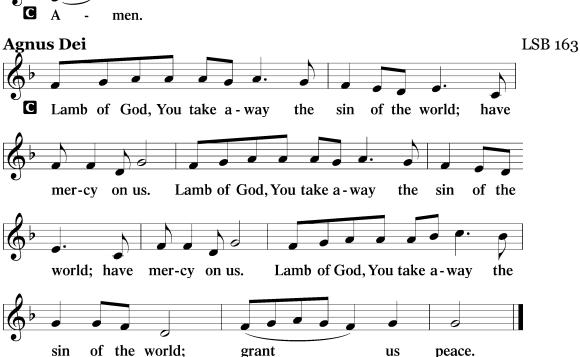
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

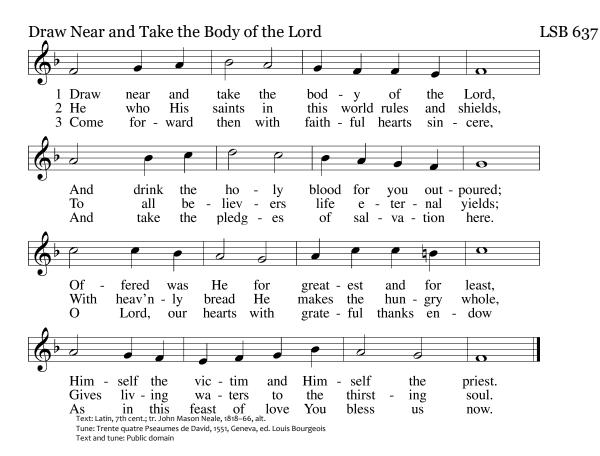




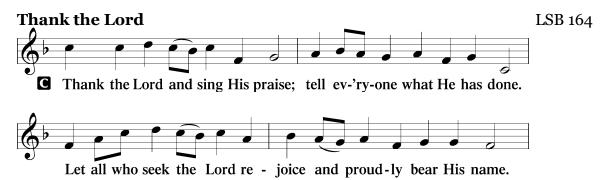
Sit



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Stand





He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



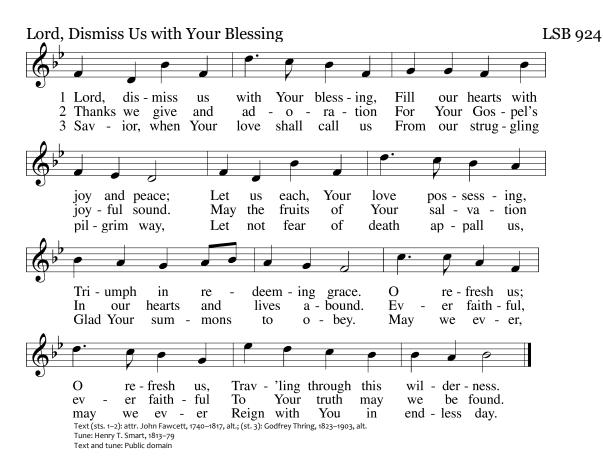
Benediction LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.





Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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PRAYING FOR THOSE IN NEED

In the Divine Service today, we lift up those in need of healing, comfort, strength, and peace. If you would like someone to be named in the Prayer of the Church during the Service, or if you need private prayer, please speak with Pastor Keinbaum or one of the Elders.

"Cast all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

FROM THE TREASURER

Monthly Offering Goal – September 7 Goal Progress: 15%

Thank you for your faithful and generous giving. Your offerings support the preaching of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments, the care of souls, and the ongoing work of the Church here at Celebration Lutheran.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

LIFE TOGETHER AT CELEBRATION

YOUTH AND FAMILY NIGHT: All ages welcome on Wednesday, September 17th! We will start with dinner at 5:30pm (subs and sides), Pastor Keinbaum's devotional and answering our hot topic questions at 6:00pm, and age group break outs at 6:30pm. Feel free to join us for all, or part, of the night!

NEW MEMBERS: The next New Members' Class will start on Wednesday, Oct.1 at 6:30 pm. As we gather in faith, we will explore God's Word, deepen our understanding of His calling, and strengthen our walk with Christ. Whether you are new to our congregation or seeking a renewed commitment, we welcome you with open hearts.

USHERS NEEDED If you are interested in serving as an usher, please see Ray Janney for more information, or sign your name on the sheet found on the chair row and indicate your interest. We will reach out to you.

SAVE THE DATE: We will be having a 'Spruce Up the Church Day' on the morning of Saturday, October 11, to get ready for a number of fun upcoming events. We'll be working inside and out, so there will be something for everyone. All ages welcome! More details to follow.

BOOK CLUB! The next meeting of our book Club will be Thursday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m. We are reading *Held* by Anne Michaels.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY A new Women's Bible Study begins Monday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. and will meet weekly. The first study will be *Meant for Good:* A *Study of Joseph*, led by Debra Weier. All women in the congregation and community are invited. Bring a friend and join us in the Fellowship Room.

APOLOGETICS STUDY: Continues **TODAY** for Upper Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers! We are working through a brand-new *Apologetics Study* from the *Enduring Faith Confirmation Curriculum*. This study explores topics like creation, science, trust in God, Christian living - helping our Youth grow in their identity as children of God. Kenny Lovelady is leading the class.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL needs you! This ministry is growing and we need more workers. See Ellie Brand, even if you can only serve occasionally.

LOOKING AHEAD: Middle Schoolers are invited to the Florida/Georgia Youth Gathering, November 7th-9th. See Hillary, or email: youth@celebrationlutheran.org, if your child is interested in attending, or if you are interested in serving as a chaperone!



HAVE YOU ADDED THE APP? Stay connected through our mobile app, website, and TV app. *See Jeff Hughes if you need help finding the app.* Once you download the app, it is important to log in and create an account to make sure you stay up to date with the latest announcements and events.

CHRIST'S CUPBOARD PANTRY: PLEASE save your brown paper bags for the Pantry drive-through food bank. See the website for a list of items needed. There is a food donation bin to the left of the office door for donations. **If you have perishable food or a large donation, or if the bin is full,** please call Lynn at 904-514-5621 to meet at the church and unload your donations.

THRIVENT MEMBERS: Don't forget that grants or Choice Dollars may be available to you! These grants can be used to supplement the ministries of your choice. If you need any help writing a grant application or releasing your Choice dollars, please see Lynn Ramsey.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

14	9:00 am	Bible Study led by Pastor Keinbaum
	9:45 am	Coffee & Service Preparation
	10:15 am	Divine Service
	11:15 am	Fellowship
	11:30 am	Lay Programs and Children's Sunday School
	11:30 am	Apologetics Class
16	9:00 am	Christ's Cupboard Preparation (Volunteers Welcome!)
17	8:00 am	Christ's Cupboard Distribution (Volunteers Welcome!)
17	3:30-5:30 pm	Pastor Keinbaum's Office Hours
17	5:30 pm	Youth and Family Night
17	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
18	6:30 pm	AA Meeting

20	7:30 am	AA Meeting
25	7:00 pm	Book Club
1	6:30 pm	New Members Class
6	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study



To see the full calendar scan the QR code.

DEVOTIONTake My Life and Let It Be

"Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold; Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose."

"Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine; Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne."

God gave Israel the words that became for them a confession of faith in the God who saved them: "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is One" (Deuteronomy 6:4). Unlike the Egyptians and the nations around them, who worshiped many gods, Israel trusted in one true God. They were to love Him with all of their heart, soul, and might, to serve Him with everything they had and everything they were, but they often failed to live in total commitment to the Lord.

When the Son of God, Jesus our Lord, was asked to identify the greatest commandment of God's Law, He summarized Israel's ancient confession of faith: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37b). Our hymn echoes that confession: "Take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt chooseo...Take my will and make it Thine...Take my heart, it is Thine own." There are no halfway measures when it comes to faith in Christ Jesus. "Take my intellect...my will...my heart." It is a theme that continues throughout the hymn. "Take my life, my moments and days, my hands, feet and voice, my silver and gold and my love."

Faith in Jesus is not just for Sundays. To trust in the Savior is be fully committed to Him, but we are not always so generous in giving ourselves to the Lord. The Israelites often failed in their trust, turning to worship the gods of other nations. We too fail and withhold from the Lord the gifts He has given to us. Our intellect turns to follow the temptations of the world around us. We would rather live according to our own will, instead of God's will. Our hearts are often unfaithful.

Yet even though we may be unfaithful, our Lord is not. Jesus was one with His Heavenly Father, obedient to the Father's will with heart, soul, and mind. Jesus was fully committed

to giving Himself as the sacrifice for our sins. His hands and feet were nailed to the cross. His voice cried out that our redemption was complete. He gave all of His moments and days and yielded up His spirit to accomplish our salvation. In wonder and gratitude, we look to the cross and pray, "Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to You. Take my intellect, my will, my heart, my hands, my feet, my love—all of me. I am Yours!"

WE PRAY: Lord, shape my intellect, will, and heart to be of service to You. Amen.

Dr. Carol Geisler wrote this Daily Devotion. It is based on the hymn, "Take My Life and Let It Be," which is number 783 in the *Lutheran Service Book*.

Reflection Questions:

1. What special gift or aptitude has God given you to serve Him and others?

4.

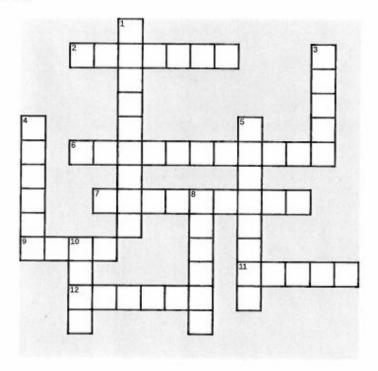
- 2. How dedicated was ancient Israel to the one true God? Can you give examples of when they were devoted to Him? When they went astray?
- 3. How does the Holy Spirit empower and enrich our lives to serve God faithfully? See John 16:13, Romans 8:26-27, and Galatians 5:16-25.

NOTES

Please take your bulletin home and use it for prayer, Scripture reading, and encouragement. Keep the calendar and announcements in mind for your planning.



Bible Trivia



Across

- 2 After the flood, what sign did God give that He would not destroy the earth with a flood again?
- 6 What river was Jesus baptized in? (HINT: Add river to the end of your answer)
- 7 What job did Jesus' earthly father, Joseph, do?
- 9 What is the name of Jesus' mother?
- 11 Who was the son of Abraham and Sarah?
- 12 How many disciples did Jesus have?

Down

- 1 What did Simon Peter do for a living?
- 3 Who denied Jesus three times?
- 4 What did King Solomon ask God to give him?
- 5 How many books are in the Bible?
- 8 How many brothers did Joseph have?
- 10 Who did Boaz marry'

