

Preparation for Worship:

“Lord ... whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts.”

(“Lord of All Hopefulness,” Jan Struther)

Please stand as you are able **Bold Items read in unison*

GATHERING *We come together to worship God*

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation/Call to Worship: **Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.**

Opening Prayer (Hebrews 13:15)

* Opening Hymn – *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Red **#184**

Communion Exhortation

Confession of Sin: **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ’s sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Response: (sung, p. 33 for melody) **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

Declaration of Grace

Prayers of the Church (P: Lord in Your mercy C: **Hear our prayer.**)

WORD – *We seek guidance from God’s Word*

Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9

Old Testament

Psalms 119:129-136

Responsive Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

Epistle

* Apostles’ Creed: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And 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, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall 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.**

* Gloria Patri: (sung, p. 4 for melody) **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

* Offertory (#391, v.1) **We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.**

Children’s Sermon

Hymn – *How Precious Is the Book Divine* Red **#266**

* Mark 7:14-23 * Gospel

Sermon – *Watch Your Heart* Pastor Barry Nelson

Hymn – *Search Me, O God* Red **#478**

MEAL *The Table of Our Lord*

* Lord’s Prayer: **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.**

Holy Communion

SENDING *We go out to live in & share God’s Word*

* Hymn of the Day – *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* Red **#456**

* Benediction & Doxology: (sung, p. 24 for melody) **Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. Amen.**

* Dismissal L: Go in Peace, and Serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gift of Work

Missionary and author Elisabeth Elliot considered work a gift and a blessing. Ponder the following quotes of hers as you celebrate Labor Day. How do they mesh with your own views of work?

“This job has been given to me to do. Therefore, it is a gift. Therefore, it is a privilege. Therefore, it is an offering I may make to God. Therefore, it is to be done gladly, if it is done for him. Here, not somewhere else, I may learn God’s way. In this job, not in some other, God looks for faithfulness.”

“Work is a blessing. God has so arranged the world that work is necessary, and he gives us hands and strength to do it. The enjoyment of leisure would be nothing if we had only leisure. It is the joy of work well done that enables us to enjoy rest, just as it is the experiences of hunger and thirst that make food and drink such pleasures.”

This Week in the Parish - September 1 - 8

WEDNESDAY	7:30 am	Hope Council
SUNDAY	9:00 am	First American Worship with New Members
	9:30am	Hope Sunday School
	10:00am	Coffee & Donuts in honor of New Members
	10:45 am	Hope Worship

Rejoicing in your presence & gifts – August 25, 2024

First American: General—\$1930. Benevolence—\$30. AFLC Seminary—\$25. Budget per Sunday—\$1742.

Welcome to worship this Labor Day weekend. May God be in our work and our leisure, our fellowship and our praise. Guests, please sign the book in the narthex.



Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus was selected by Bob Just. "I heard this on an old scratched-up record in our home before I was old enough to go to school. It has a good message for all of us."

Our prayer time during our worship service is very important. To maintain a current prayer list, requests for non-members will be printed in the bulletin for three weeks. For additional time, please update Pastor Barry. New additions will be underlined, and those scheduled to come off the next week will be in italics.

Health Needs of our Members: Sandy Baier. Howard Friederich. Allan Hale. Sue Neumeister.

Health Needs: Janice (sister of Joelyn's neighbor). Kenny Wintersteen (Menno).

Birthdays: 2 Cara Will. 4 Bob Kurtz.

Anniversary: 1 Dave & Dianne Semmler.

Sympathy: Prayers for the friends and family of Herm Peters (Avon Community).

AFLC Churches: St. Peter Lutheran, Hawks, MI; Bethesda Lutheran, Mizpah, MN; Hope Free Lutheran, Portland, ND.

Mission: The Banquet Sioux Falls, SD

"We turn not older with years, but newer every day."

—Emily Dickinson

Tripp-Delmont Parish + Association of Free Lutheran Churches
Pastor Barry Nelson

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Today's Readings

September 1, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ² Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you. ⁶ Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” ⁷ What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? ⁸ And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? ⁹ Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

Psalm 119:129-136

¹²⁹ Your statutes are wonderful;
therefore I obey them.

¹³⁰ **The unfolding of your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.**

¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant,
longing for your commands.

¹³² **Turn to me and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love your name.**

¹³³ Direct my footsteps according to your word;
let no sin rule over me.

¹³⁴ **Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may obey your precepts.**

¹³⁵ Make your face shine on your servant
and teach me your decrees.

¹³⁶ **Streams of tears flow from my eyes,
for your law is not obeyed.**

Epistle

Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish 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 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

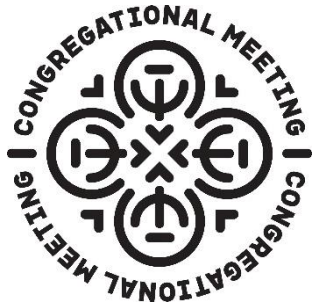
Gospel

Mark 7:14-23

¹⁴ Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. ¹⁵ Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.” ¹⁶ ¹⁷ After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. ¹⁸ “Are you so dull?” he asked. “Don't you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? ¹⁹ For it doesn't go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body.” (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.) ²⁰ He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. ²¹ For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²² adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³ All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”

Lessons – September 8, 2024 OT – Isaiah 35:3-10 Psalm 146:5-10

Epistle – James 2:1-13 Gospel – Mark 7:31-37



Congregational Meeting: First American will be having a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 15, following the worship service. We will be discussing the approval of the installation of an upstairs bathroom in the parsonage.

The **South Dakota District WMF Rally** will be held at Skrefsrud Lutheran near Beresford on Saturday, September 14. First American: please contact Jan Jerke (605-770-3002) before September 1st if you would like to attend. We will be leaving from First American no later than 7:30 am.



There will be no worship at Hope on Sunday, September 15. Instead, all are invited to the Community Worship Service at the Twin Rivers Old Iron Harvest Festival. The Community Service starts at 9:00am and will be led by Maurice Bueber and the Happy Memories Band.

Fundraiser for Operation Christmas Child: The Hope Lutheran Sunday school will be having a produce/bake sale at the Twin Rivers Old Iron Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 14. If you would like to make a donation of baked goods or garden produce, please bring your items to the Old Iron Festival by 9:00am.

Mark 7:14-23

"Watch Your Heart"

September 1, 2024

1. The Evil Inside

2. The Pollution from Outside

3. The Protection of the Lord