

“Rejoice with Me, for I have found my lost sheep.”



St. Luke 15:6B

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 11, 2022

Prelude

\*The Processional Hymn *Come thou Font of Every Blessing* (ELW) No. 807

\*The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

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.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

\*The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

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.**

\*The Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138

P: ....., let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Amen.**

\*The Hymn of Praise

*Softly & Tenderly*

(ELW) NO. 608

\*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

**C: O Lord, help Your people to avoid the infection of the evil one, and with pure hearts to follow You, our only Lord. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-24

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 119:169-176

<sup>169</sup>Let my cry come before You, O LORD; give me understanding, according to Your word.

<sup>170</sup>**Let my supplication come before You; deliver me, according to Your promise.**

<sup>171</sup>My lips shall pour forth Your praise, when You teach me Your statutes.

<sup>172</sup>**My tongue shall sing of Your promise, for all Your commandments are righteous.**

<sup>173</sup>Let Your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen Your commandments.

<sup>174</sup>**I long for Your salvation, O LORD, and Your law is my delight.**

<sup>175</sup>Let me live, and I will praise You, and let Your judgments help me.

<sup>176</sup>**I have gone astray like a sheep that is lost; search for Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.**

Second Reading

1 Timothy 1:[5-11] 12-17

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

**C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

\* The Gospel

Luke 15:1-10

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.** (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.** (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

\*The Hymn of the Day

*Amazing Grace*

(ELW) No. 779

\* The Apostle's 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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.**

\*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

\*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

\*The Offertory

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

(ELW) No. 188

\*The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Announcements

\*The Benediction (*sung response*)

**C: Amen, Amen, Amen.**

\*The Recessional Hymn

*Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

(ELW) No. 545

\*FLC Sending Hymn

*Be The Love of Christ*

arr. Michael Showalter

Roger Thornhill

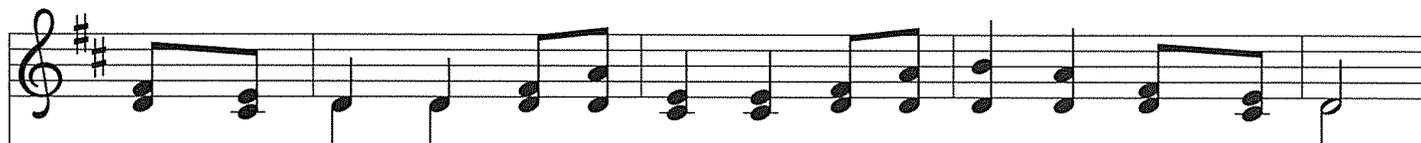
\*The Dismissal (*response*)

**C: Thanks be to God.**

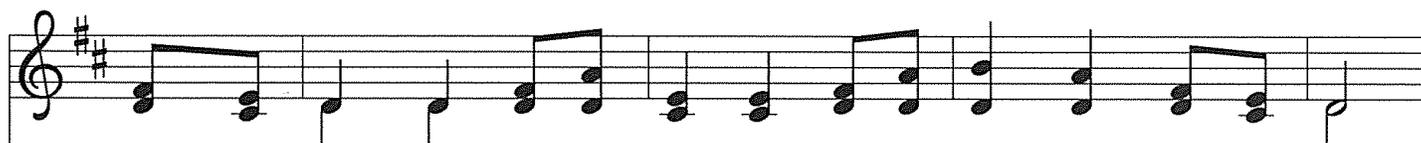
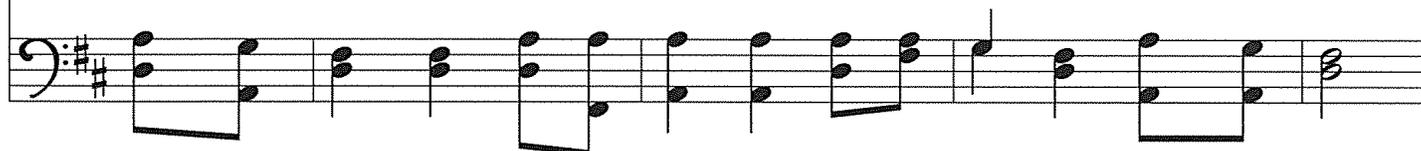
Postlude

# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

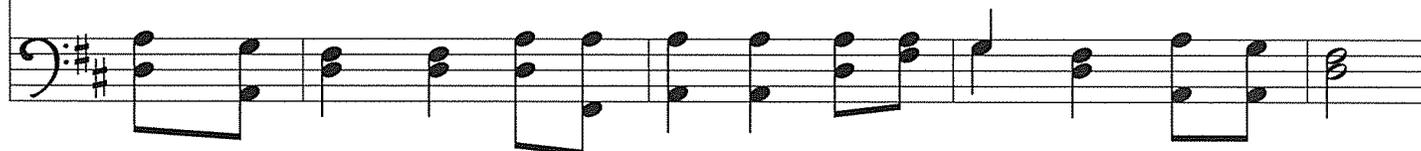
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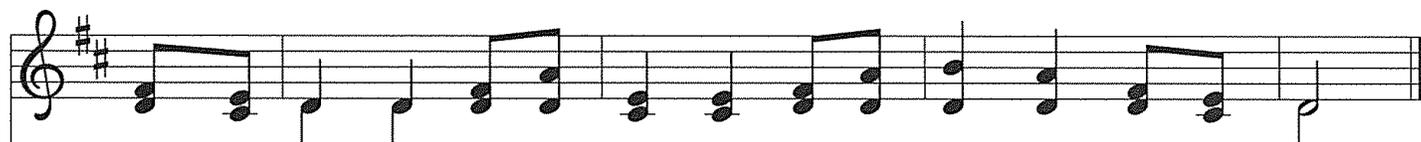
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



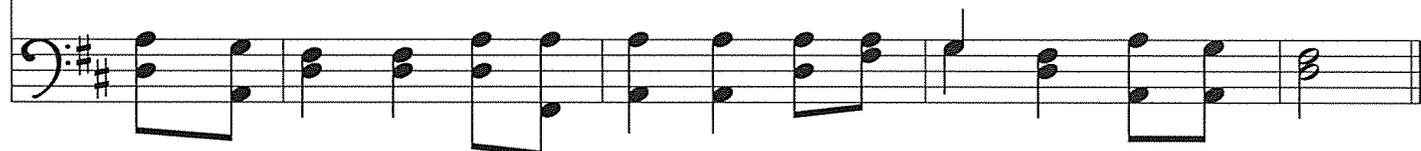
streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



## Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*

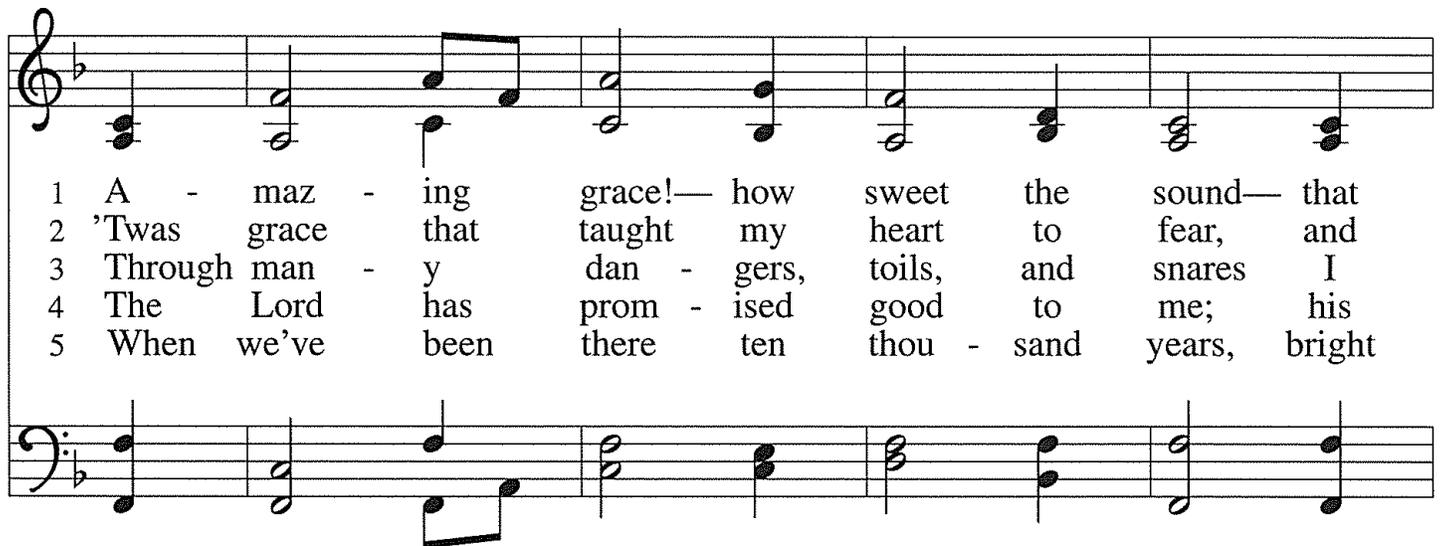
watch - ing for you and for me.  
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!"

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

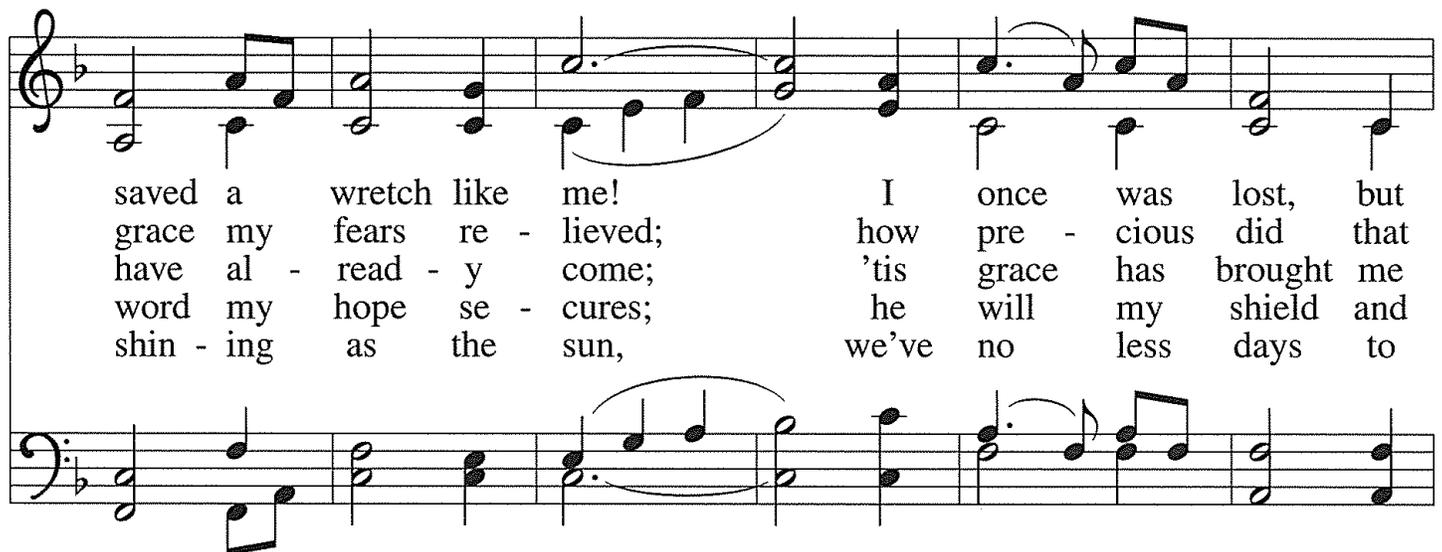
Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

# Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

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1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

## Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of music features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The accompaniment consists of block chords and simple harmonic lines.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are split across two lines. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, maintaining the harmonic structure established in the first system.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system of music continues the vocal line and accompaniment. The lyrics are split across two lines. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, maintaining the harmonic structure established in the first system.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system of music continues the vocal line and accompaniment. The lyrics are split across two lines. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, maintaining the harmonic structure established in the first system.

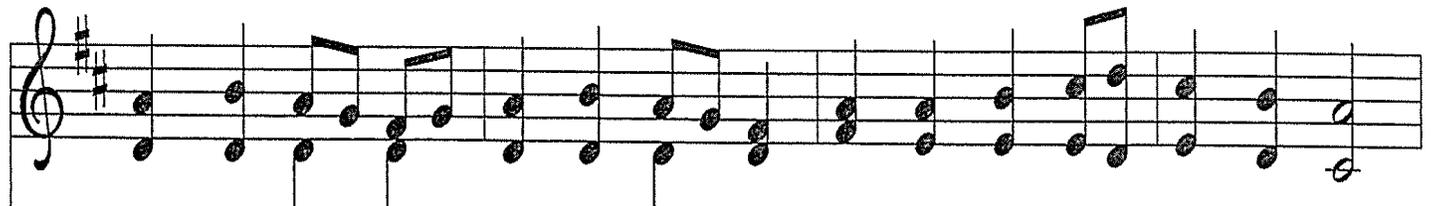
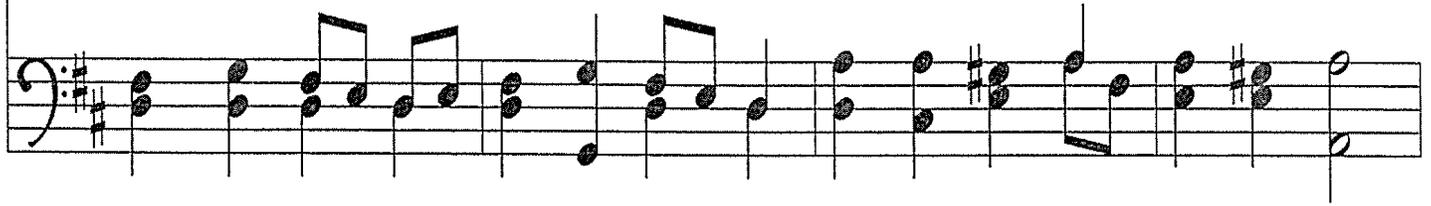
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth and final system of music concludes the piece. The lyrics are split across two lines. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, maintaining the harmonic structure established in the first system.

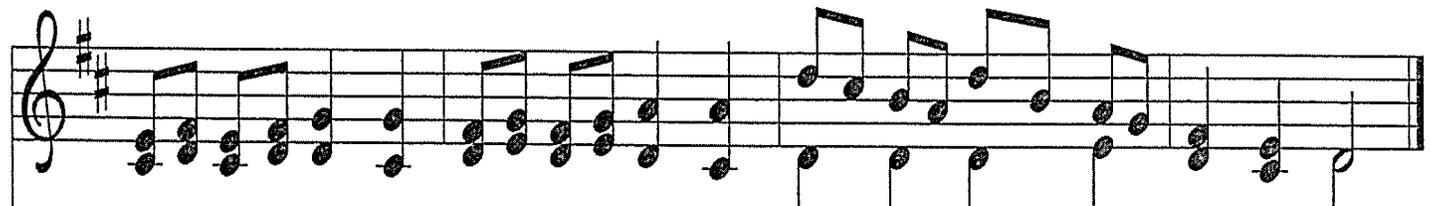
## Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess - ing, tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace.  
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
 Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.



## **First Lutheran Church**

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The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

[revrob@flcwash.church](mailto:revrob@flcwash.church)

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Guest Organist,

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**The Flowers on the Chancel** are given to the glory of God by Lisa and Richard Hager in memory of the hero's, survivor's, and victims of the 9/11 attack. May God Bless them with peace

**The Lay Reader** is Heather Quedenfeld.

**Acolytes** are Elijah Clark and Lillah Clark.

**Counters/Greeters** today are K. Luketich and D. Schmidt.

**Welcome to our Visitors!** The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

**Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church?** Please contact Pastor Grewe.

**Nursery:** We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs of infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

**Bell Choir Practice** on Monday at 6 PM.

**The Flower Chart for 2022** is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

**Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2022.** Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

**Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2022.** Please sign up.

**Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.**  
**Please consider this as a call to help others in need.**

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**Please pray for those in need of healing:**

Janet Burke, Maureen Curry, Eveline Reihner, Rocky and Carol, Shari Kienzle, Chiquita, Stacy Carroll, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, baby Isaac Christian, Allan Zimmerman, the Pollana family, Amy Verderber, Sylvia Sunstrum, Kevin Ryan, baby Ryan, Dan, Fritz Group, Amy, Lucy & Dave Mehaffey, Stephanie Kennedy, Jessi, Bill Hisiro, Richard, Ruby Rogers, Becky, Klaus Behrens, Joanne Reck, Bill Stewart, Morgan, Sharon Fritz, baby Matthew, Tim & Karen Edwards, Tom Liam, Gary, Daniel, Judy Dombrowsky, Emily Buchleitner, Jean Erdmann, Greg Mason, Alexandra Perry, Lu Mayne, Pat, Robert Schmidt, Chipper, Delores Stebella, Jerry Vitteck, Chaz Sands, Jason, Austin, Rich, Tonnia, Barbara Morton, Rev. Phil Gagnon, Jacob, Lindsay, Howie Rice, Teegan, Maxine Banko, Pastor Rob and Kimberly Grewe, Brooke, and Nicki Wenzel.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

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**Church Offering Change:** In order to keep everyone safe we have changed how we collect the Sunday Offering. We do not have our ushers pass the plates around. Instead, we have one offering plate located by the last pew and one by the choir loft. Please place your offering in one of those plates. Feel free to place your offering in the plates during our Offertory if you did not do so on the way in.

## Listening for the Promise

### Weekly Devotional

#### Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost – September 11, 2022

“But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man [Jesus] welcomes sinners and eats with them.” -Luke 15:2 NIV

Imagine the scene: teachers of the law and Pharisees, known for scrupulous observance of the Mosaic law including purity laws that separated “clean” Jews from “unclean” gentiles and sinners, witness Jesus eating with tax collectors and sinners (see Lk. 15:1). How appalling! Jesus not only ignored the purity laws by eating with known sinners but also, as if to add insult to injury, Jesus’ offensive dinner companions included detested tax collectors.

Jews of Jesus’ day despised tax collectors because they collected taxes for the hated Roman government and often demanded more money than required to fill their own pockets. In addition, these tax collectors were Jews themselves and, thus, considered traitors by their fellow Jews.

The plot thickens: in addition to ignoring purity laws and associating with loathed tax collectors, Jesus ate with them. For Jews in the first century, sharing table signaled fellowship, acceptance, and even covenantal relationship. So, in eating with these people whom the religious authorities rejected, he welcomes them wholeheartedly into relationship with himself.

How ironic: Jesus, the only truly righteous person present sought out the lost and rejoiced over their repentance (see 15:3-7), whereas those who considered themselves righteous did the opposite and shunned the lost. Still today, Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, remains the only truly righteous one present in our lives. And he continues to seek out the despised, the sinners, and the people who fail miserably, and he invites them to dine with him (see Rev. 3:20), to repent and receive his gifts.

Jesus, in Luke 15, teaches us that we need never exclude ourselves from his forgiveness, love, and acceptance because our sins deem us unworthy. Rather, he seeks us out and rejoices when we respond to him by repenting and walking in relationship with him (see 15:7). Then he tells us to tell others how he seeks them too. And notice that he initiates, he seeks us. We do not need to hunt him down or try to clean ourselves up first to entice him to accept us. We simply respond to his unconditional love with repentance and abiding in him (see Jn. 15:4-5).