

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF AUGUST 16, 2020

IN OUR PRAYERS: Ed Clifford (cancer); Amy Burgland (recovering from surgery); Lane Burgland (recovering from surgery); Jim Lambert (recovering from surgery); Ashlyn (entering rehab); Bea Myers (recovering from surgery)

IN RESPONSE TO FEEDBACK, Pastor and the assisting elder will wear masks during the distribution of the Lord's Supper. We do not wish to cause any fear or doubt about receiving Jesus' body and blood!

SIGN UP FOR PASTOR'S RETIREMENT PARTY! There are TWO sign-ups: one for a headcount for the meat, and others to sign up to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert. We hope you can join us!

DROP BOXES FOR PHOTOS AND CARDS for Pastor Burgland's retirement party are located in the fellowship hall.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: Psalms of Comfort and Hope

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS: CANCELED for Aug. 20

WHILE PASTOR MULLET IS ON VACATION he will be reachable by phone. For emergencies requiring pastoral care, call Pastor Bill Mueller of Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church: 260-484-7873.

CALENDAR

Sun. Aug. 16	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study (Psalms of Comfort)
Wed. Aug. 19	7:30pm Holy Communion
Thu. Aug. 20	7:30pm Bible Study CANCELLED
Aug. 20-27	Pastor & Megan Vacation
Sun. Aug. 23	8:00 & 10:00am Worship 9:00am Bible Study (Psalms of Comfort)
Wed. Aug. 26	7:30pm Worship
Sun. Sept. 13	Picnic / Sunday School / Retirement party

INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY DEVOTIONS

These suggestions can help you and your family stay connected to the church year and focus on what we hear, sing, and pray together on Sunday. Each week looks forward to the next Sunday. Pick three days this week to do a short devotion. Each day you might do this:

1. Read one reading and the “Thinking About.” How do the readings fit together? What themes do you see?
2. Sing or read the hymn. Ask Pr. Mullet to borrow a hymnal. You should be able to find it on YouTube if it’s unfamiliar!
3. Pray the Collect of the Day and the Lord’s Prayer.

THIS COMING SUNDAY IS: August 23 / Trinity 11

OT: Genesis 4:1-15

GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-14

EPISTLE: Ephesians 2:1-10

HYMN: LSB 559

COLLECT OF THE DAY: Almighty and everlasting God, always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than we either desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy, forgiving those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things that we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THINKING ABOUT THE READINGS

“And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard” (Gen. 4:1–15). For unlike Abel, Cain’s offering did not proceed from a heart that revered and trusted in the Lord. Thus, the lowly tax collector who prayed, *“God, be merciful to me, a sinner!”* was the one who went down to his house justified before God, not the respectable, outwardly righteous Pharisee who trusted in himself and his own good living (Luke 18:9–14). *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast”* (Eph. 2:1–10). The one who penitently despairs of his own righteousness and relies completely on the atoning mercy of God in Christ is the one who is declared righteous. For Christ died for our sins and rose again the third day. Therefore, *“everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”*