

SUNDAY- SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 -9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024 | 18th Sunday after Pentecost | 9:00 AM
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / C = Congregation)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.

WELCOMING WORD Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:

712 - Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L - Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C - Amen.

L - Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Gracious God,

C - have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L - God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C - Amen

GREETING

L: 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.

+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

L: The Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 9,

C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?"³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM: "A Childlike Faith"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Pastor Barry Hoerz

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: # 595 - Jesus Loves Me

+APOSTLES' CREED pg. 105

+SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING -

MUSIC - Your Love, O Lord - by Praise Team

OFFERTORY #186 "Create in me..."

THE PRAYERS (pg. 143)

(As the pastor concludes each petition with the words:

"Lord in your mercy..." The people respond: **Hear our prayer.**")

+THE LORD'S PRAYER (pg. 145) (right hand column)

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

C: Amen.

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: # 825 - *You Servants of God*

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 139:1-18, The Inescapable God

Tuesday, James 5:1-6, Warning to Rich Oppressors

Wednesday, Jeremiah 1:4-10, Jeremiah's Call and Commission

Thursday, Psalm 19:7-14, God's Glory in Creation and the Law

Friday, Acts 12:20-25, The Death of Herod

Saturday, Matthew 5:13-20, Salt and Light

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” – Mark 9:35

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

- How do you figure out the difference between good and evil; what pleases God and what doesn't? (Jeremiah 11:18)
- When have you recently experienced what you'd describe as a spirit of wisdom? (James 3:13)
- If Jesus were leading the new member orientation in your congregation, what points would he stress? (Mark 9:30)

PRAY: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESS: God all mighty, God most merciful bless you, keep you, and give you peace. Amen.