

Peace Lutheran Church

205 Tennessee Valley Road Mill Valley, California 94941 415-388-2065

Bulletin - www.bulletin.plcmarin.org

Website - www.plcmarin.org

E-mail – office@plcmarin.org

Pastor Ricky Adams

Church Office - (415) 388-2065

E-mail - pastor@plcmarin.org

Mission Statement

To help all people know, believe and follow Jesus Christ

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church!

Whether you're a first time visitor or a long-time member, we welcome you to worship this morning! If you are visiting, we look forward to meeting you and hope you will join us again, soon. We would appreciate your signing our guestbook before you leave.

Some Helpful Information

Please Feel Free To Sit At Anytime During The Worship Service: During the worship services at Peace Lutheran there are many times when the people stand. Sometimes the standing can be quite lengthy. We do not want to place any undue burden on anyone worshipping with us. Therefore, please feel free to sit whenever you desire. Thank you and Christ's blessings.

Restrooms – A restroom is located to the right just as you leave the sanctuary and enter the entrance hall. Restrooms for men and women are also located at the top of the stairs in the Parish Hall. Go into the lounge, turn right and continue up the stairs.

Fellowship and Refreshments – Immediately following worship, coffee and other refreshments and treats are served in Luther Lounge (the lounge just off the entrance hall). Come relax with us and enjoy the company as we will certainly enjoy your company.

Holy Communion – At Peace Lutheran we celebrate Holy Communion on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Holy Communion is a very special meal for the children of God in Christ. All who have been baptized and believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and all those who hunger and thirst for Christ's forgiveness and God's strength for living, are invited to join in Holy Communion. **Grape juice** (instead of wine) is available in the individual glasses in the middle of the tray. The wine is red; the grape juice is white. Pastor blesses any of the children who are brought to the communion rail. Any adults who come to the rail and desire a blessing but not communion may cross their arms and pastor will bless them.

Please join us again next week!

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost August 12, 2018

Introduction

As we live out each day, we reflect on our faith in our words and actions. Each of us is an example of the Christian life as we struggle to live in forgiving love toward one another, and also as we continue to trust in the forgiveness Christ won for us. In the second reading, Paul provides a list of what our life in Christ should look like because of being clothed in Baptism. In the Gospel, Jesus spells out the connection between receiving His body and blood in the Lord's Supper and living in hope each day. He is the bread of life from heaven, who enables each of us to discard our old ways, live in the new life of God's forgiving love, and adorn ourselves with gladness. Thank you for worshipping at Peace Lutheran Church today.

Prayer Before Worship - Lord, we come to you this day with so many things going on in our lives. Some of these things are wonderful and cause us to rejoice. However, there are far too many things that cause us fear and anxiety. Humbly we wait for your presence with us. We need your healing touch. Feed us with the bread of life, that we may hunger no more. Strengthen us to do your will, for it is in Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen. – Nancy C. Townley, Ministry Matters Website

Pre-Service Music (A time for reflection)

Ringing The Bell

Welcome

Confession And Forgiveness (Please stand)

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, full of compassion and mercy,

abounding in steadfast love.

People: Amen.

Pastor:

Lord God Almighty,

All:

we confess that there are times when we have forgotten the hope that is within us. As Elijah feared and fled the forces of Jezebel, so we fear the evil around us. Although incapable of saving ourselves, we attempt to find peace and protection through our own efforts. Assure us of the new life You have given us, made certain in our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

Pastor:

Lord Jesus Christ,

All:

we confess that in our daily struggles we often lose awareness of Your presence. We neglect to be faithful in our worship; we fail to recognize the forgiveness, life, and salvation that Your body and blood provide. Renew in us a desire to hear and take to heart Your promise of eternal life.

Pastor:

O Holy Spirit,

All:

we confess that we fail to exhibit the new life, too often falling back into the old ways we thought we had put behind us. Strengthen us through the Word to see clearly the opportunities You provide to pass on the forgiveness we ourselves have received.

Pastor:

Our gracious heavenly Father sent His Son to give His life as the sacrifice for our sins. Our Lord Jesus is the bread of life from heaven, coming in the Lord's Supper to assure us of salvation until we join Him in eternity. The Holy Spirit uses Word and Sacrament to nurture our faith as we live out the new life God provides. 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 \maltese Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People:

Amen.

(We greet one another with the peace of the Lord)

Entrance Hymn - Today Your Mercy Calls Us (LBW #304, please remain standing)

- Today your mercy calls us to wash away our sin.
 However great our trespass, whatever we have been, however long from mercy our hearts have turned away, your precious blood can wash us and make us clean today.
- Today our Father calls us;
 his Holy Spirit waits;
 his blessed angels gather
 around the heav'nly gates.
 No question will be asked us,
 how often we have come;
 although we oft have wandered,
 it is our Father's home.
- Today your gate is open, and all who enter in shall find a Father's welcome and pardon for their sin. The past shall be forgotten, a present joy be giv'n, a future grace be promised, a glorious crown in heav'n.
- 4. O all-embracing Mercy,
 O ever-open Door,
 what should we do without you
 when heart and eye run o'er?
 When all things seem against us,
 to drive us to despair,
 we know one gate is open,
 one ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-1878, alt.

Psalm – Psalm 130 (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

People: O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice

of my supplication.

Pastor: If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand? **People:** Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

Pastor: I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

People: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for

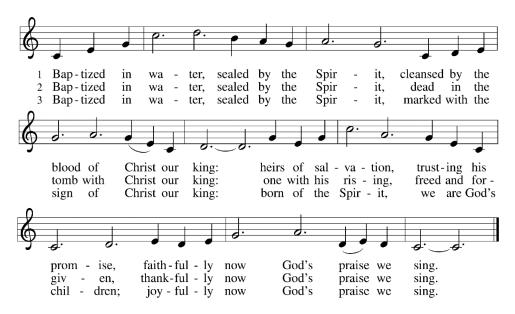
the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.

Pastor: O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

People: For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Hymn Of Praise - Baptized In Water (ELW #456, please be seated)



Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932. Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune. Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-713958.

First Reading – Zechariah 3:1-5 (Please remain seated)

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. ² And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?" ³ Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. ⁴ And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." ⁵ And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by.

Gradual (Psalm 34:9, 19, alt., please remain seated)

Lay Minister: Fear the LORD, you His saints,

People: for those who fear Him lack nothing!

Lay Minister: Many are the afflictions of the righteous, **People:** but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Second Reading - Ephesians 4:20--5:2 (Please remain seated)

Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

²⁰ But that is not the way you learned Christ!— ²¹ assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸ Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. 5:1Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, 2 and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Verse (From John 6:51, please stand)

Pastor: Alleluia. I am the living bread that came down from heaven.

People: If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. Alleluia.

Gospel - John 6:35, 41-51 (Please remain standing)

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

³⁵Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Hymn Of The Day - Rise Up, O Saints of God! (Tune: LBW #368, please be seated)

- Rise up, O saints of God!
 From vain ambitions turn;
 Christ rose triumphant that your hearts with nobler zeal might burn.
- 3. Rise up, O saints of God!
 His kingdom's task embrace;
 redress sin's cruel consequence;
 give justice larger place.
- 2. Speak out, O saints of God!

 Despair engulfs earth's frame;
 as heirs of God's baptismal grace,
 his word of hope proclaim.
- 4. Give heed, O saints of God!
 Creation cries in pain;
 stretch forth your hand of healing now,
 with love the weak sustain.
- 5. Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod and quickened by the Spirit's power, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936; O Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Message

Put On The New Self Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Confession Of Faith (Please stand)

Pastor: The new life we have was given to us in Holy Baptism. Let us confirm

our baptismal faith. ... Do you renounce the devil and all his works

and all his ways?

People: Yes, I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

People: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and

earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

People: Yes, I believe 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, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living

and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: Yes, 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.

Pastor: The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has

given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven

you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

People: Amen.

Prayer Of The Church (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Let us go to our heavenly Father, asking His blessings on the Church

around the world, for all people in their various circumstances, and for ourselves. ... For the Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, that clergy and lay leaders be united in mission, promote the unity we have in the one Body of Christ, and reflect the inviting

love of God in word and deed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all our brothers and sisters in Christ, that God would use Word

and Sacrament to remind them of their Baptism, assure them of sins forgiven, and move them to daily acts of care and compassion that

reflect His boundless love for us, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For national leaders and public servants at all levels of government,

that God give them wisdom to promote justice and the common good for all their citizens and guidance as they seek peace across their

borders, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For armed forces deployed abroad, defending freedom, and for

police, fire, and emergency personnel, responding to human and natural crises, that God protect and guide them as they go in harm's

way, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who fish and farm, who develop and produce, who

transport and build, that God would use their efforts to be blessings for all, providing food for the hungry and housing for the homeless,

let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our congregation, that the Holy Spirit would nurture us as we

seek to care for one another in all aspects of our life together, open our eyes to opportunities to share the Gospel with our neighbors through word and deed, and strengthen us to live faithfully when

apart from one another, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Additional prayers

Pastor: Heavenly Father, grant these requests and answer them in grace for

the sake of Your Son, the bread from heaven, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Sharing The Gifts Of God (Please be seated as the offerings are received)

Offering Prayer (Please remain seated)

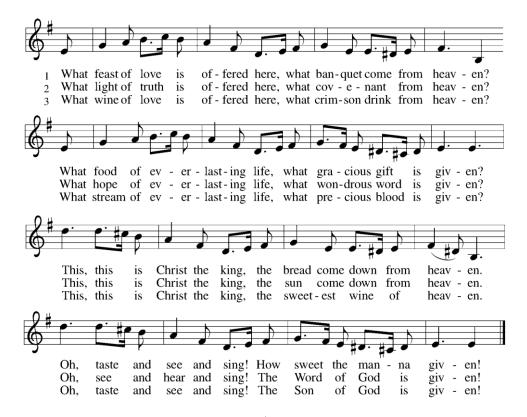
Lay Minister: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every

living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We

pray this through Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Communion Hymn - What Feast of Love (ELW #487, please remain seated)



Text: Delores Dufner, osB, b. 1939; Music: English ballad, 16th cent.; Text ©1993 Delores Dufner, admin OCP Publications.

Service Of Holy Communion (Please stand)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor:

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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus - Sing Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (Tune: LBW #36, please remain standing)

Sing holy, holy, holy Lord, The Lord of hosts by all adored; Heaven and earth with full acclaim Sound forth the honor of Your name.

Hosanna sing up in the heights, Sing we hosanna to the Lord. Blest is He coming in God's name. Hosanna sing with one accord.

Text: James Pierce. Copyright © 2018 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Pastor:

God of grace and mercy, we give thanks that You have not left us in our fallen nature but have sent us Your Son, by whose sacrifice we might have eternal life. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruit of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Help us also to live out that new life each day until we see You face-to-face.

People:

Amen

Pastor:

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." ... As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor:

O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People:

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.

Pastor: Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

Agnus Dei - O Lamb of God, You Take Away (Tune: LBW #36, please remain standing)

O Lamb of God, You take away The sin of this world; thus we pray, Grant us Your mercy and Your peace Until all days and years shall cease.

Text: James Pierce. Copyright © 2018 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Distribution (Please be seated)

Approach the altar at the usher's direction. Communion is received kneeling—the bread in your outstretched open hands, the wine in a small cup. Place empty cups in the tray carried by the acolyte or lay minister. If you wish only a blessing, just fold your hands together over your heart.

Prayer before Communion (Prayed privately before going to the altar)

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer After Communion (Prayed privately after returning to your seated)

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing (Please stand)

Post-Communion Canticle - In Peace and Joy Now Let Us Leave

(Tune: LBW #36, please remain standing)

In peace and joy now let us leave; Your word of promise we believe. Christ is the nations' light to see; For Israel's faithful, glory, He.

Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One. In the beginning and today, Glory into the endless day.

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Post-Communion Thanksgiving (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, in this Sacrament Your Holy

Spirit has again assured us of the forgiveness of sins and strengthened our faith for the road ahead. Accompany us, we pray, that we walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, until that day when faith gives way to sight and the new life You have given extends into all eternity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,

now and forever.

People: Amen.

Blessing (Please remain standing)

Pastor: May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we

can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty

God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: Amen.

Dismissal (Please remain standing)

Lay Minister: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

People: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn - Go My Children With My Blessing (ELW #543, please remain standing)



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.; Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-713958.

Announcements

Recessional

Serving The Lord With Gladness

Pastor: Ricky Adams
Organist: Janet Reese
Altar Guild: Vicki McGowan

Coffee Hour: Dorlane Krausse, Vicki McGowan

Counters: Don & Beverly Erbel

Lay Minister: Gary Glover

Ushers: Don & Beverly Erbel

Lay Reader: Nancy Adams

Activities This Week:

9:30am	Service of the Word And Sacrament
10:45 am	Lay Ministers' (PH)
9:30-12:30pm	Stage Door (PH)
10:30 am	Brown Bag (LL)
6:30 pm	Women's Bible Class (LL)
6:00 pm	Stage Door (PH)
7: 00 pm	Council (LL)
9:30 am	German Story Time (N)
8:30-9:30am	Pilates (PH)
	Stage Door (PH)
0.00a 12.00pm	J. ago 200. (111)
9:30am	Service of the Word
	10:45 am 9:30-12:30pm 10:30 am 6:30 pm 6:00 pm 7: 00 pm 9:30 am 8:30-9:30am 9:30a-12:30pm

Information About Peace Lutheran Church - If you desire to know more about Peace Lutheran Church such as teachings; affiliations, membership or other questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Adams.

Office Phone – (415) 388-2065 Home Phone – (415) 388-7190 Email – pastor@plcmarin.org **Flowers** – Flowers today are given to the glory of God.

Refreshments - will be served in Luther Lounge and surrounding areas following worship today. Guests and members stay and meet one another again or for the first time.

Birthdays – Blessings to those celebrating birthdays this week.

Monday - Brad Sides

Lay Ministers' Meeting – There will be a Lay Ministers' meeting after worship today.

Brown Bag Dinner – Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in the Lounge we will be preparing Brown Bag Dinners for Fireside. Come join us!

Women's Bible Class – Women's Bible Class is Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the lounge. Please come and join us for some food, drinks, prayer and Bible Study.

Council Meeting – Remember the Council Meeting this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Servers – We need people to help as servers during **August and September**. Please sign up to help! The sheet is in the church entrance.

Flowers – If you would like to donate flowers for worship in memory of a person or observing a personal event, please contact pastor via email at pastor@plcmarin.org

Sunday Bulletins - for Peace Lutheran church are available online for use during the worship service. The link is http://bulletin.plcmarin.org

Weekly Devotional Helps August 12 - August 18, 2018

Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Prayer For The Sick

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Scripture Readings Through The Week

Monday – August 13

Psalm 81 1 Kings 17:1-16 Ephesians 5:1-14

Wednesday - August 15

Psalm 81 Jeremiah 31:1-6 John 6:35-40

Tuesday - August 14

Psalm 81 Ruth 2:1-23 2 Peter 3:14-18

Thursday - August 16

Psalm 34:9-14 Job 11:1-20 Acts 6:8-15 Friday – August 17

Psalm 34:9-14 Job 12:1-25 Romans 16:17-20 Saturday – August 18

Psalm 34:9-14 Job 13:1-19 John 4:7-26

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday

Pentecost 13

Proverbs 9:1-6 Psalm 34:9-14 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58

Commemorations

August 13 - Florence Nightingale, died 1910; Clara Maass, died 1901; renewers of society: Nightingale was born in England, and horrified her wealthy family by deciding to become a nurse. She led a group of nurses in ministering in the midst of the Crimean War, and worked for hospital reform. Maass, a native of New Jersey, was also a war nurse, and volunteered as a subject for research on yellow fever. She died of the disease. - Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009220.

August 15 - Mary, Mother of Our Lord: The church (including Martin Luther) honored Mary with the title theotokos, meaning "God-bearer," for her role in giving birth to the Son of God. Her song, the Magnificat, speaks eloquently of God's lifting the lowly and feeding the hungry. - Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009220.

August 16 - Isaac, the ancestor of Christ: To old Abram God gave the promise: you will have a son. To older Abraham God clarified: you will have a son through Sarah. Sarah, listening at the tent door, laughed as only a ninety-year-old can laugh. God heard her. He thought that was as good a name as any for the child: Isaac, which means 'laughter'. - Weedon, William. Celebrating the Saints. Concordia Publishing House. Kindle Edition.

August 17 - Johann Gerhard, Theologian: Gerhard was truly a great teacher, a preacher of Christ, a man of prayer who teaches us how to meditate upon the commands and promises of God so as to be comforted in conscience and strengthened in faith. He died this day in 1637. - Weedon, William. Celebrating the Saints. Concordia Publishing House. Kindle Edition.