

St. Paul Lutheran Church

9:00 am Worship Service

6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 2025



Please fill out the Goldenrod sheet in your bulletin.

*Indicates when the congregation is invited to stand as they are able.

Bold print indicates everybody speaks in unison.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME HOME

Isaiah 56

trad. Hebrew song

1. Come and serve the living God who dwells up-on the moun-tain. Come and
2. Come and rest up-on the rock, the rock of our sal-va-tion, where the

wor-ship with-out an-y fear. Come and hear the ho-ly Word, the
Lord wipes a-way ev-'ry tear. Come and sing the joy-ful songs and

truth a-bout for-give-ness and the love that will al-ways be here. Wel-come
thank the God of heav-en for the love that will al-ways be near. Wel-come

home, wel-come home to the place you be-long, to the

place where you'll al-ways be free; Wel-come home, wel-come home to the

house of the Lord; come and join in the great ju-bi-lee!

Chords: Emi, Ami, D, G, Ami, B7, Emi, Emi, C, Ami, D, G, Ami, B7, Emi, Ami, E7, Ami, D, G, C, Ami, B7, Emi

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (*Silence for reflection.*)

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Goodness Of God

(based on the recording by Jenn Johnson)

Words and Music by
Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram,
Ben Fielding and Brian Johnson

♩=63

VERSE

G C

1. I love _ You, Lord. ____ Oh, Your mer - cy nev - er fails _
(2. I love _ Your voice.) ____ You have led me through the fi -

3 G D/F# Em7 C

me. All _ my days ____ I've been held in _ Your hands. _
- re. In dark - est night, ____ You are close like _ no oth -

5 D(4) Em7 C

- er. From the mo - ment that I wake up un - til I lay
I've known You as a fa - ther, I've known You as

7 G D/F# Em7 C D(4) G

my head, I _ will sing _ of the good - ness of God. _
a friend. I _ have lived _ in the good - ness of God. _

CHORUS

10 C² G C²

All my life _ You have _ been faith - ful. All my life _ You have _ been so, .

13 G D⁽⁴⁾ C² G D/F# Em⁷

— so good. With ev-'ry breath — that I — am a - ble I — will sing .

16 C² D⁽⁴⁾ Last time to Coda ⊕ 1. G 2. G

— of the good - ness of God. — 2. I love — Your voice. —

BRIDGE

19 G/B C² D⁽⁴⁾ G

Your good - ness is run - ning af - ter, it's run - ning af - ter me. —

21 G/B C² D⁽⁴⁾ G

Your good - ness is run - ning af - ter, it's run - ning af - ter me. — With my life —

23 G/B C² D⁽⁴⁾ Em⁷

— laid down, — I'm sur - ren - dered now; — I give — You ev - 'ry - thing. —

25 G/B C² 1. D⁽⁴⁾ G

Back to Chorus

Your good - ness is run - ning af - ter, it's run - ning af - ter me. —

27 2. D⁽⁴⁾ G D.S. al Coda

run - ning af - ter me. —

*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

READING – Genesis 18:1-10a

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.

PSALM – Psalm 15

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear
the LORD.**

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes
against the innocent

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

READING – Colossians 1:15-28

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*sung*)

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

GOSPEL – Luke 10:38-42

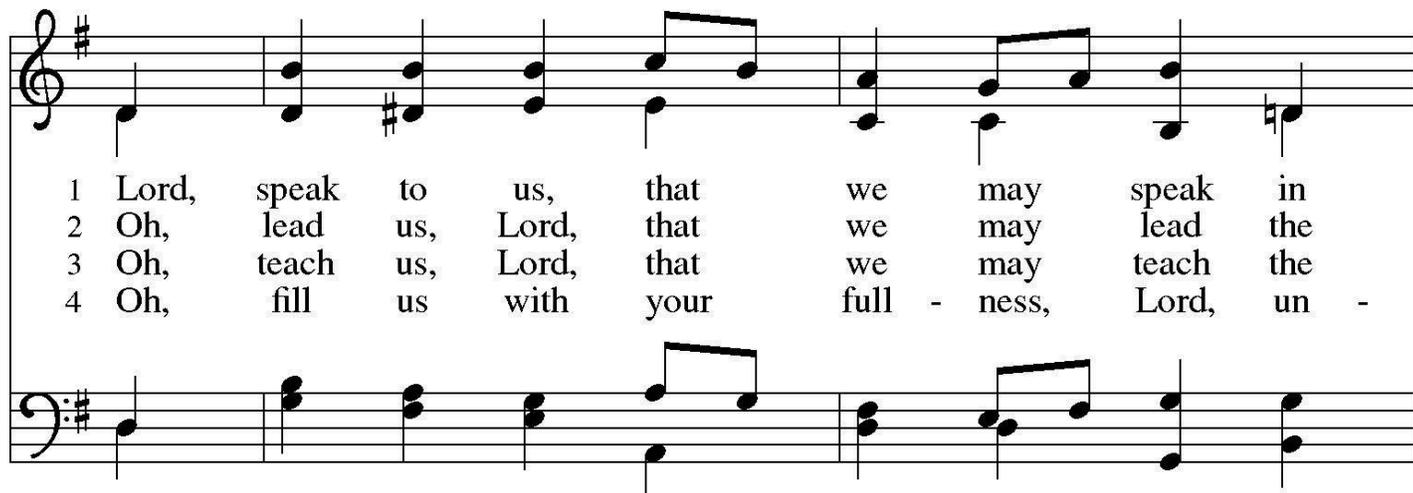
The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

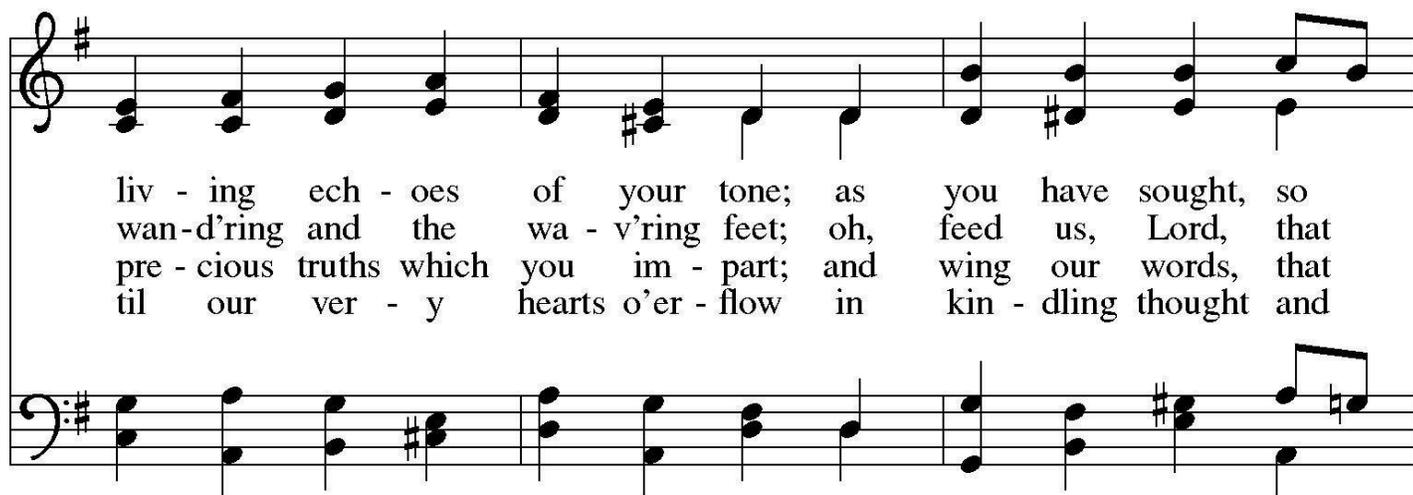
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak



1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -



liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that
pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that
til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and



let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.
they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

We confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*PRAYERS

*Each request ends: God of grace,
hear our prayer.*

*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

We share God's peace with one another.

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

Draw Me Close to You/I Need Thee Every Hour

*OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good, and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Please stand or remain seated, whichever you prefer, as we prepare for
Communion.*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is indeed right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho-ly ho - ly, ho-ly, ho__ ly, Ho-ly, ho__ ly, Lord God Al - migh ty. And we
 lift our hearts be-fore You as a to-ken of our love. Ho-ly ho - ly, ho-ly ho__ ly.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

***THE 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.**

COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Everyone is welcome at Christ's table! You are invited to move into the aisle and form a large double circle, symbolizing the unity and unending welcome of Christ to all people.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

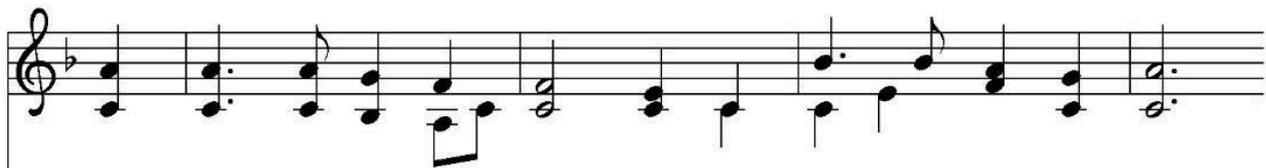
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor, and ☩ give you peace.

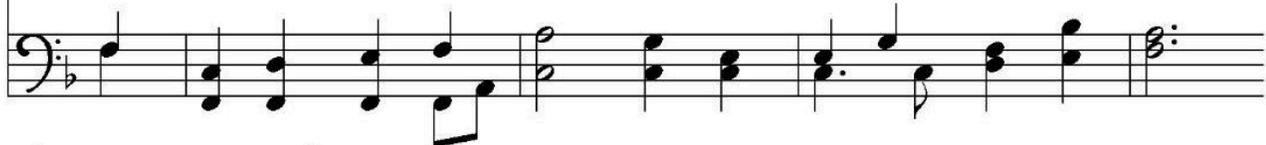
Amen.

SENDING HYMN (*next page*)

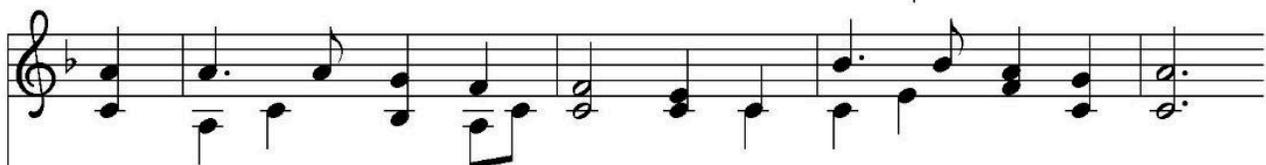
O Savior, Precious Savior



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,



O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;



we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,



we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!



SENDING

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING:

Clergy – Pastor Jonathan Stufft

Reader – Juanita Shenberger

Ushers – Tammie and Gerry Saddler

Communion – Michael Murray, Tammie Saddler, Rob Shenberger

Sound Booth – Don Harding

Technology – John Harsch, Luke Stufft, Cara Marhenke

BIRTHDAYS:

20 Michelle Hartley

21 Mindy Wood

22 Bill Worner

26 Emmary Dill

ANNIVERSARIES:

21 Doug & Rosemary Shirk

26 Paul & Marciene Hurlburt

THIS WEEK WE ARE PRAYING FOR:

Cindy Beckel

Kenny Barr

Jeannie McLaughlin

Dick Brenneman

John Coppersmith

Joyce Moore

PLEASE fill out the Goldenrod sheet. Contact the church office if you have a change of address, a different e-mail or a change in your phone number.

THE GIFT OF THE MONTH for July is school supplies for local schools and Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Please see the insert and the flyer on the church bulletin boards for details. Thank you for your donations and generosity!

HAND CHIME PRACTICE resumes today following worship in the Social Room.

OUR CHOIR PRACTICES on Wednesday nights will be suspended until September. The choir will continue to sing every other Sunday with rehearsals prior to the worship service.

SUPPORT IS NEEDED for Laura and Tom Constance. Tom suffered a severe injury to his hand at work and the weeks ahead hold much uncertainty – physically, emotionally, and financially. Please pray for Laura and Tom in these trying times. If you would like to offer financial support, please place gifts in the offering plate or drop them to the church office (if a check is written to the church, please write “Tom & Laura” on the memo). We will collect donations through July 27th.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Church office hours: Monday – Thursday *9:30 am – 2:30 pm*

Sunday, July 20 th	9:00 am	Worship Service
	10:15 am	Hand Chime Practice
	11:30 am	Fellowship Brunch @ Panchos Tacos
Monday, July 21 st	8:00 pm	AA Meeting - Library
Wednesday, July 23 rd	6:00 pm	Council Meeting
Sunday, July 27 th	9:00 am	Worship Service
	10:15 am	Hand Chime Practice

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

President	Chris Laux	419-564-8900
Vice-President	Mike Bing	419-571-8119
Secretary	Bonnie Brenneman	740-504-0841
Members	Larry Fenton	419-883-3353
	Tammie Saddler	407-319-3591
	Deb Ruckman	419-886-2983

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LIVING & SHARING



GOD'S LOVE

St. Paul Lutheran Church

48 Church Street

Bellville, Ohio 44813

419-886-3521

Email: church@stpaulbellville.org

Web: www.stpaulbellville.org

Prayer Request: church@stpaulbellville.org

Free Wi-Fi: SPLC Guest

Pastor Jonathan Stufft

614-560-3736

pastor@stpaulbellville.org

Administrative Assistant: Laura Constance

Contemporary Music Director: Cheryl Lantz

Traditional Music Director: Denise Lang

Sexton: Jeannie McLaughlin

Church office hours: Mon. – Thurs. 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

JULY 20, 2025
SIXTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Listening to Jesus is an act of love.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 10:38-42	Only one thing needed
Monday	Genesis 18:1-10a	A son is promised
Tuesday	Colossians 1:15-28	The supremacy of Christ
Wednesday	1 Samuel 3:10-21	The Lord speaks to Samuel
Thursday	Proverbs 12:15-22	Speak the truth
Friday	James 1:19-27	Hearing and doing the word
Saturday	Psalms 15	Worshiping the Lord
Sunday	Luke 11:1-13	Jesus teaches about prayer

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken from her."

Luke 10:41-42 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, you are the source of all that is good and holy; give us faith to trust you with all our hearts through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for the food that gives us strength and your word of promise that gives us hope and courage, we give you thanks in Jesus' name. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a servant's heart.



JULY 20, 2025

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Listen to the Word



taking
faith
home

WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- How have you shown hospitality to someone?
- If Jesus came to visit you, what would you do?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 10:38-42.

The familiar story of Mary and Martha can be unsettling. Mary can appear to be a bit lazy. She is gladly listening to Jesus but seems to be ignoring her sister, Martha, who is providing Jesus proper hospitality, an important, caring practice in the Bible. This story follows on the heels of the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) where someone took the initiative to act with loving service. These two stories are linked to point out that service to others is important, and that service is best done with the message of Christ in our hearts. Service that is done in faith is not distracted but energized by Jesus' message. It is neither loving service or attention to Jesus but loving service that is motivated by the message of Jesus. It is essential to our lives of faith and love, to listen to Jesus. This results in lives of service that will not be a distraction but will be acts of love through Jesus.

Discuss: How does listening to Jesus motivate you to care for others?

Pray: Loving God, help us to center our lives on your strength and wisdom so that we may serve you as we love others through Jesus Christ. Amen.

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show hospitality to another person?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Even when we are busy, we need to take time to listen to Jesus, as Mary did. If you're not in the practice of taking a few moments each day to hear God speak to you, consider setting time aside to do so. Turn off all electronics and other distracting noises. Take a few deep breaths and relax. Sit quietly for a few minutes.

Finish with this prayer: Lord help me not to be worried or distracted by many things and listen to you. Amen.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

JULY

GIFT OF THE MONTH



Lutheran World Relief Kits

School supplies kits and personal care kits (optional) are put together and sent out to Lutheran World Relief. You may donate any of the items listed below or an entire kit.

Thank you so much for your generous giving and support of the Gift of the Month!!

School Supplies Kits:

1. 4 – 70 sheet notebooks, wide or college ruled (no loose-leaf paper)
2. 1 – 30-centimeter ruler or ruler with inches and centimeters
3. 5 – unsharpened #2 pencils
4. 5 – ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
5. 1 pencil sharpener
6. 1 pair of safety scissors
7. 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons
8. 1 eraser 2/21"

Personal Care Kits: (OPTIONAL)

- Bath size towel 52x27" or similar, darker colors
- 2 bath size bars of soap in original packaging
- 1 adult size toothbrush in original packaging
- 1 sturdy comb (remove packaging)
- Nail clippers (remove packaging)



Weekly Worship Attendance

Please fill it out and pass it down the pew before the service begins. Thank you!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

PRAYER REQUEST:

Name	Specific Request	Prayer Chain*
_____	_____	Y N

*Circle "Y" if you wish to share your prayer request publicly.