PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Disciple Making Community"
"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 6th, 2026

"But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again..."
Matt. 18:16 NLT

Welcome! We are glad you are here today!

Our mission here at Prince of Peace is to exist to be a disciple making community for the Lord Jesus Christ. Our message is that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. If you have questions about the Christian faith or Prince of Peace, our pastor or one of our elders would be happy to talk with you.

Pastor: Rev. Peter Adelsen

Cell: 765-860-5204 Email: Pastor@WSPOP.org

Elder: Dan Kolander, 608-697-5458 Email: dkolander5458@gmail.com

Elder: Joe Scholze, 608-780-6771 Email: josephscholze@gmail.com

Church Office: 608-786-3938 Email: Office@WSPOP.org

(staffed voluntarily – office hours vary widely)

Accompanist: Deb Dunnum Choral Director: Sarah Kolander

Our Communion Practice: Prince of Peace is a member congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). The LCMS practices the Biblical and historical practice known as Close or Closed Communion (1 Corinthians 11:18-22). In this Supper of Our Lord, we receive the real presence of Jesus Christ's true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25). Since this is also a sign of our communion, or common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we welcome to the Lord's Supper all those who are catechized members in good standing of the congregations of the LCMS or those in fellowship with the LCMS, such as The American Association of Lutheran Churches (TAALC).

It is indeed a consequence of the division in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to receive the Lord's Supper. Reception of the Sacrament of the Altar by those who are not fully united with us would confess a oneness that does not yet exist and for which we must all pray. New member classes are offered regularly, so that those who are not in fellowship with us can be welcomed to the Lord's Table in the future! We thank you for your respect for our Biblical and historical practice. Guests, please ask an elder or Pastor Adelsen before the service if you have any further questions about the Sacrament of the Altar, including the desire to become a member so we can all join together at the Lord's Table.

Please let us know you were here. Please fill out a Connection Card. You may leave it on the table at the back of the sanctuary or place it in the offering plate. Or leave it at the end of your row. *Thank you!*

Theme for Today's Service: God's laws are just. His prophets and pastors exercise authority in condemning sin, wickedness, and evil. Iniquities cannot be ignored; all are subject to God's authority. We are also subject to early governments and authorities who strive to restrain unruly behavior. As citizens in both kingdoms, our conduct should reflect humility, love, duty, and honesty. As members of the church, it is just that we are called to care for and regain unrepentant sinners.

Order of Service: Divine Service 3, pp. 184 ff.

Welcome

Hymn of Invocation: 725 Children of the Heavenly Father

Confession and Absolution of Sins *LSB 184, 185*

Service of the Word

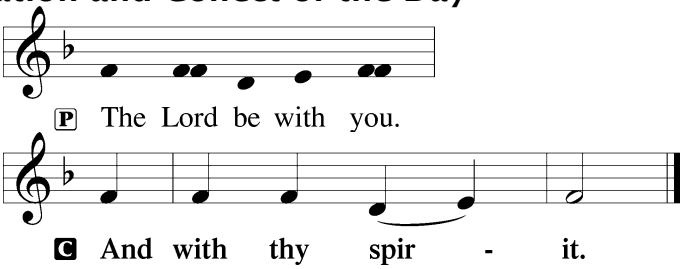
Introit *Psalm 92:1–4; antiphon: v. 5*

How great are your works, | O LORD!*
Your thoughts are | very deep!
It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*
to sing praises to your name, | O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the | morning,*
and your faithful- | ness by night,
to the music of the lute | and the harp,*
to the melody | of the lyre.
For you, O LORD, have made me glad | by your work;*
at the works of your hands I | sing for joy.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
How great are your works, | O LORD!*
Your thoughts are | very deep!

Kyrie *LSB 186*

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray. O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading *Ezekiel 33:7–9*

7 "So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of
Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give
them warning from me. 8 If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you
shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn
from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his
blood I will require at your hand. 9 But if you warn the wicked to turn
from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall
die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle *Romans 13:1–10*

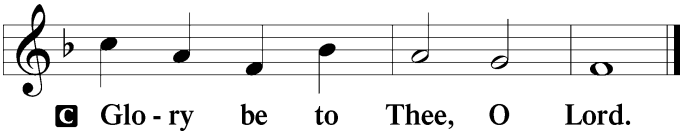
[1]Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. [2]Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. [3]For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, [4]for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. [5]Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. [6]For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. [7]Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. [8]Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. [9]The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." [10]Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia & Verse *LSB 190*

Holy Gospel *Matthew 18:1-20*

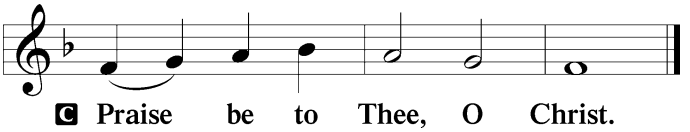
℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



[1]At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" [2]And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them [3]and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. [4]Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. [5]"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, [6]but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. [7]"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! [8]And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. [9]And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. [10]"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. [11]For the Son of Man came to save the lost. [12]What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? [13]And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. [14]So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. [15]"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. [16]But if he does not

listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. [17]If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. [18]Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. [19]Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. [20]For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles' Creed

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker

Sermon: "Caring for the Wandering Brother" *Matthew 18:1-20*

Prayer of the Church
Following each prayer read aloud ending "Lord in Your Mercy," the congregation may respond, "Hear our prayer."

Offering and Offertory *LSB 192*

Service of the Sacrament *LSB 194-202*

Distribution Hymn: 622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

Distribution Hymn: 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

Salutation and Benedicamus *LSB 201*

Benediction *LSB 202*

Hymn to Depart: 686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Announcements

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SERVING OUR LORD AND ONE ANOTHER

	Today	Next Week	Sept. 20th
Song Leader	Sarah K.	Brooklynn S.	Holly F.
Ushers	Moen	Brunk	Otto
Counters	B. Alsobrooks E. Schmidt	D. Dunnum C. Leis	B. Hinds O. Childs
Acolyte	Greydanus	Kolander	Sheffer
Altar Guild for September: Barb Hinds & Ginny Emmons			

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GIFTS

Last Week's Sun. & Mon. Attendance: 43
Weekly Need 2026 Budget: $3,172.46
Week of Aug. 30th Offering: $2,711.50
(Full Financials are posted on the kiosk in the lobby.)

THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

Today	**9:00 am**	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**
	after	*Fellowship time*
	10:30 am	Adult Bible Study
	11:15 am	Elders' Meeting
Mon. Sep. 7		**Labor Day Holiday**
	7:00 pm	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**
Wed. Sep. 9	9:30 am	Adult Bible Study
	7:30 pm	POP Choir
Sat. Sep. 12	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study (meets online)
Sun. Sep 13	**9:00 am**	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**

Prince of Peace News and Notes for September 6th, 2026

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Catechesis at Prince of Peace, Early Communion & Youth Confirmation resumes Sunday, Sept. 13th at Noon. See Pastor for follow up.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Adult **Information/New Member Class** for any adults interested in learning more about the Lutheran Church or would like to seek membership to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, please contact Pastor Adelsen. (There are no obligations on membership.)

Small Group Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

Sunday Mornings after Fellowship: Augsburg Confession - The Augsburg Confession remains the basic confession not just for Lutherans, but for every Christian. Join us!

Wednesday Morning's (9:30 a.m.) The Book of Isaiah: In the pages of Isaiah, the prophet brings comfort and hope in the coming of the Savior.

Selected Tuesday Evenings, at Features (5:00pm), Men's Bible Study **Scheduled to meet again Sept. 15th** Focusing on: Nahum, Habakkuk and Zephania The people of Assyria were notoriously brutal. They believed that their kingdom would last forever. Those who feared this cruel nation needed to do so no longer for the Lord would protect and deliver His people.

Saturday's – Online, Women's Bible Study (9:00am) Starting soon, new topic - Ruth: More Than A Love Story. Embedded in the historical narrative of this short Old Testament book are connections to God's fulfilled promise of a Messiah and how God loves us and cares for us in Christ. See the wonderful picture of how God watches carefully over every little detail so His grace may come to fruition and fully abound. See Carrie Horstman about how to join.

PRINCE OF PEACE PRAYER CHAIN: We have received the gift of prayer from God to receive gifts from God in prayer. We pray in order to receive the gifts that God has for us and others. And best of all, prayer itself is a gift! If you have prayer requests for the email prayer chain, send them to Pastor Adelsen at Pastor@WSPOP.org

MUSIC BRINGS JOY TO THE PERFORMER AND JOY TO THE HEARER!

Prince of Peace is blessed with many with musical talent, even those who say they aren't talented, certainly are talented! And if you think, however wrongly, that singing is not your talent, there are other ways to musically praise the Lord! One other way to praise the Lord is in the use of handbells! So, if you are musically inclined, or you may think you are not, please take some time in completing this short survey by scanning this QR code. There may also be a paper survey, if needed. If you have any questions or concerns, please see Pastor Adelsen.

This Week's Life Thought from Lutherans for Life: *At the end of earthly life, we might cry out: "Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?" (Jeremiah 15:18). Don't take your life, or anyone else's, into your own hands. Receive St. Paul's encouragement for all your for-life conversations: "Love one another with brotherly affection … associate with the lowly … live peaceably with all … do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:9-21). Even though many of us may "taste death" before the Son of Man returns, we set our minds on the things of God—life! —and not the things of man (Matthew 16:23, 28).*

SERMONS ONLINE Going away for the weekend? Would you like to listen to the sermon again? Did you know that you can listen to Prince of Peace sermons online? Check it out:

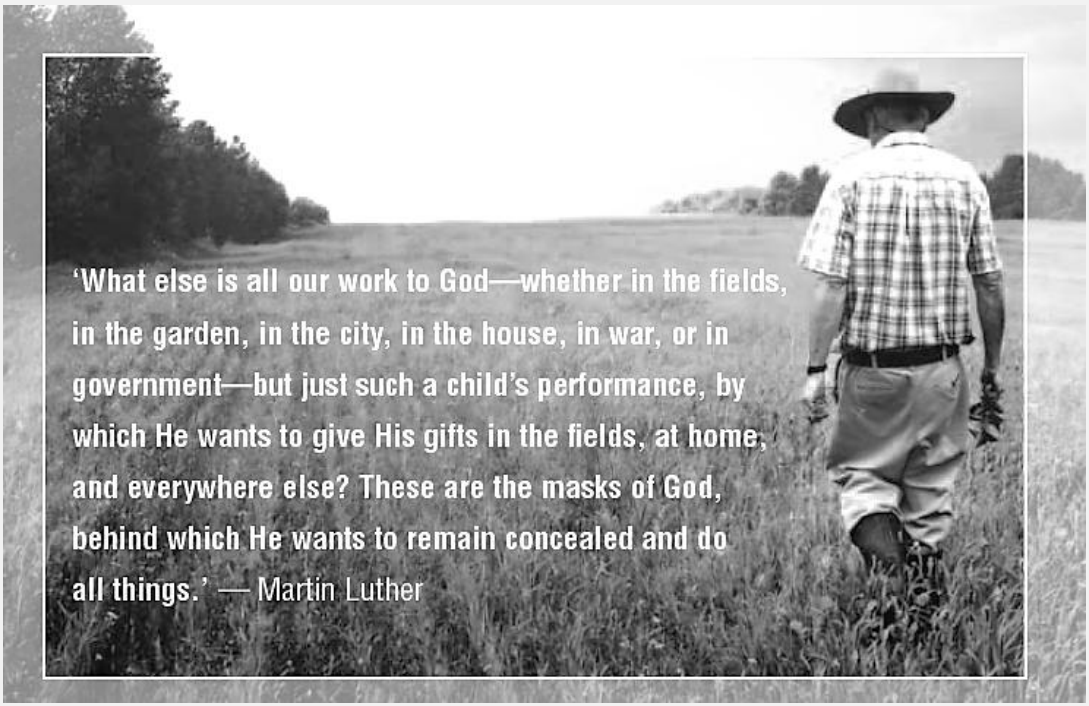
- Sounding the Scriptures POP cast on Spotify & Apple Podcast
- Facebook.com/WSPOPLCMS
- Our website at WSPOP.org

Luther on Labor Day (copied from Lutheran Witness, Sept. 2010)

Christians have good reason to celebrate Labor Day, which, in light of vocation, can be an occasion to thank God for His gifts and His presence in the work that He gives us to do and in the work through which we are blessed by others.

Luther wrote centuries before the institution of Labor Day, but he sums up well the true meaning of the holiday:

> If you are a manual laborer, you find that the Bible has been put into your workshop, into your hand, into your heart. It teaches and preaches how you should treat your neighbor. Just look at your tools—at your needle or thimble, your beer barrel, your goods, your scales or yardstick or measure—and you will read this statement inscribed on them. Everywhere you look, it stares at you. Nothing that you handle every day is so tiny that it does not continually tell you this, if you will only listen. . . .All this is continually crying out to you: "Friend, use me in your relations with your neighbor just as you would want your neighbor to use his property in his relations with you."
> *(The Sermon on the Mount and the Magnificat; Luther's Works 21:237).*



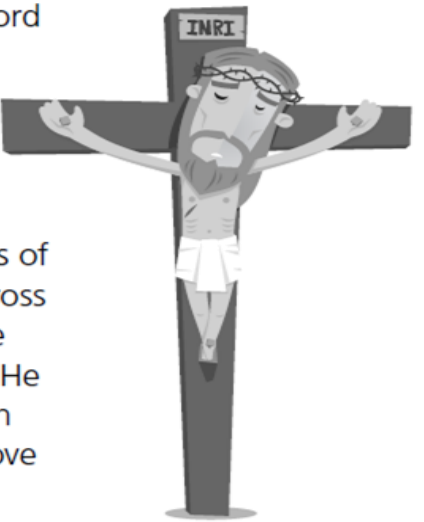
KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

A great big word of love.

A word that you often hear used in the church is the word "redemption" (pronounced ree-DEMP-shun). All of the events in Jesus' life work together to form God's plan of redemption.

What does "redemption" mean?

The word "redemption" is a very important word used to describe what Jesus has done for us. Redemption comes from the root word "redeem" which means "to buy back." God's plan of redemption was His plan to buy us back from sin, death and the power of the devil. This all happened when Jesus fulfilled the requirements of the Law perfectly and died on the cross in our place. He payed the high price for sin, and He bought us back! But He didn't stop there. He overcame death for us and rose from the dead to prove it! What a great Redeemer we have!



Parents:
What our God has done for us in Jesus reflects the Fatherly love He has for all people. As parents, we share this love with our children through the means our Lord has provided: Word and Sacrament. This is where we receive the real fruits of redemption.

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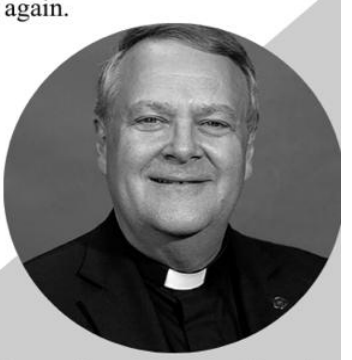
Event: Saturday, September 19th 9:00am – 11:00am at Faith Lutheran

LCMS in the Time of Seminex

In the 1970s, a theological controversy rocked the LCMS. A party of theologians who denied the historicity of the Bible took root in one of our own seminaries (schools to train pastors). These theologians denied such things as that Adam and Eve existed and that we could trust the Bible. The leadership of our church body worked to censure their teachings, but not without them taking many others with them. A walkout staged at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis on February 19th, 1974 birthed a rogue seminary called Concordia Seminary in Exile, or Seminex. Learn more about how this has impacted our church body and how we can prevent future issues from happening again.

Saturday, September 19th
9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.
Faith Lutheran Church
1407 Main Street
La Crosse, WI 54601



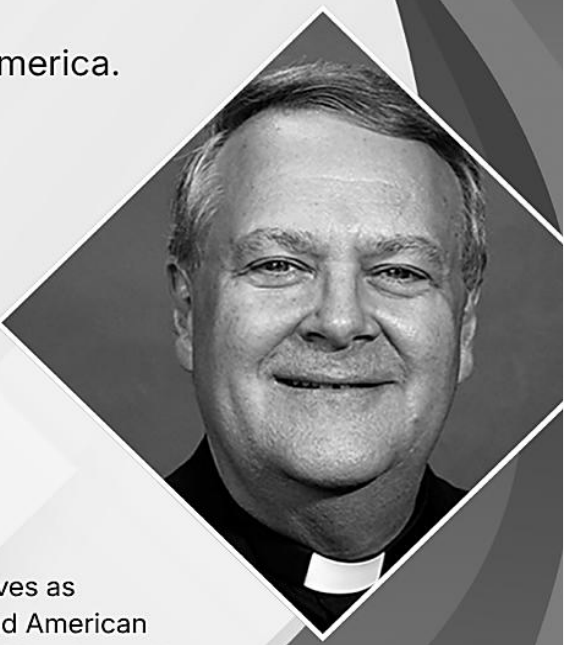
Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast
Professor, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN
Former President of CTSFW

Event: Saturday, September 19th 5:30pm – 6:30pm at UW-La Crosse

Faith On Main (LCMS-U) presents:

DID GOD CHOOSE YOU?

A debate about the doctrine of predestination in 19th century America.



DATE
18 SEPTEMBER, 2026

START
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

UWL STUDENT UNION
521 EAST AVE. N
ROOM 2310

SPEAKER:
REV. DR. LAWRENCE RAST

The Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. serves as Professor of American Christianity and American Lutheranism at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. From 2011–2024 he served as the sixteenth president of CTSFW

questions? Email lcmsu@faithonmain.com

One Thing's Needful

In Luke 10:42, Jesus says, "one thing is needful," referring to the importance of prioritizing time with God and listening to his word, as exemplified by Mary, over being consumed by worldly tasks like Martha's serving. It emphasizes that nurturing one's spiritual life through intimacy with God is more essential than getting caught up in external activities, even those done with good intentions.

INVOCATION In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

INTROIT Page 3

MEDITATION Psalm 32 – "The beginning of this psalm teaches two things: first, that all are in sins [no one is righteous] and no one is blessed; second, that no one is capable of meriting the forgiveness of sin, but it is the Lord alone who forgives freely by not imputing [guilt]" (Luther's Works, American Edition, 10:147). Psalm 32 also shows the physical, mental, and spiritual implications of being silent in sin. God calls us to confess our sins quickly with contrite hearts in order to receive absolution. Only He can relieve the troubled heart. [Lutheran Study Bible notes on Psalm 32]

THIS WEEK'S DAILY READINGS

6 Sept	2 Kng 4:8–22, 32–37	Eph 5:15–33	
7 Sept	2 Kng 4:38—5:8	Eph 6:1–24	
8 Sept	2 Kng 5:9–27	Phil 1:1–20	
9 Sept	2 Kng 6:1–23	Phil 1:21—2:11	2 Kng 6:24—8:29
10 Sept	2 Kng 9:1–13; 10:18–29	Phil 2:12–30	2 Kng 13:1—18:8
11 Sept	2 Chr 29:1–24	Phil 3:1–21	
12 Sept	2 Chr 31:1–21	Phil 4:1–23	

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

- The Leyh family, Josh and Faith, and their pre-school age son Peter currently attending Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- Shepherd of the Hills, in calling a faithful Pastor
- Faith Lutheran Church, in calling a faithful pastor
- Pray for: Gary & Marietta Adelsen, Barb Alsobrooks, Travis Glick, Bill & Sal Stichman, Tom Schran, Jeff Schmidt, Jeramy Schaub, Anna Wachholz (niece of the Kolanders); Deb Dunnum

LEARN BY HEART Matthew 5:3: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia."

COLLECT Page 4

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION *The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace*. (Numbers 6:24-26)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Genesis 50:15-21; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35