

September 6, 2015

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**FIRST LESSON. Isaiah 35:4-7a**

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

**SECOND LESSON. James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17**

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.] What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

**GOSPEL. Mark 7:24-37**

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

# Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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**Coffee and Refreshments:** Join us for coffee and goodies in the Narthex this morning, Jack & Sandy Pearson are serving.

**Altar Flowers** are given by Orrie & Dalyce Leabo in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Known Hospitalized:** Tim Overland at Lake Region Hospital.

**Large Print Bulletins are available.** If you would like a copy for worship, please ask an usher.

**Visitors!** If you didn't get a "Visitors Bag" when you came in this morning please pick one up on your way out after worship. You'll find them in a basket located on the small table on the ramp coming up from the narthex into the sanctuary.

**Job Opportunity:** We are looking for someone to fill the Nursery Caretaker position on Sunday mornings. This is a paid position - \$10-15 per hour. Please contact Pastor Jennifer, Steve Emerson, or the church office if you are interested in this position.

### First Lutheran Church Start-up Fall Schedule:

Tuesday, **September 8<sup>th</sup>:**

- BBC (Breakfast Bible Club) at 7:30 a.m. at Taco John's

Wednesday, **September 9<sup>th</sup>:**

- FLY K4 at 4:30-5:15 p.m.
- Children's Choir at 3:45 p.m.
- Confirmation Kick-Off Potluck at 5:30 p.m.
- Hosanna Handbells at 6:00 p.m.
- Adult Choir at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, **September 13<sup>th</sup>:**

- Rally Sunday – Two Services at 8:30 & 11:00
- Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
- Butterflies at 9:45 a.m. (infants-4 yrs. old)
- Adult Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, **September 16<sup>th</sup>:**

- Men's Bible Study at Lake Region Hospital at 7:00 a.m.
- FLY 57 at 4:30-5:15 p.m.
- 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.  
**(NOTE TIME CHANGE FOR 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE)**
- High School Sr. FLY at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, **September 23<sup>rd</sup>:**

- XY Men's Bible Study at Café 116 at 7:00 a.m.

### \*Gospel

Mark 7:24-37

(Congregation responds after Gospel is read: **Praise to you, O Christ**)

### Sermon

*Be Opened*

Pastor Jennifer

### Hymn of the Day

*Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*

**ELW 800**

### \*The Apostles' Creed

Back Cover of ELW Hymnal

### \*The Prayers

P ...Lord, in your mercy, **OR**  
C **hear our prayer.**

P ... Let us pray to the Lord,  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

### \*The PEACE is shared

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

### Offering

*Remember Me*

Grier & Everson

Linda Mellon - soloist

### \*Offertory

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**  
**Words of Institution**

ELW Page 152

**The Lord's Prayer**

**C: 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**

**Distribution of Holy Communion**

**Hymns during Communion:**

**ELW 631, 574**

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

**\*Post Communion Hymn**

***Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise***

**ELW 207**

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.  
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.  
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

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**\*Prayer & Benediction**

**\* Sending**

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God

**\*Postlude**

**“God’s work. Our hands.”  
Sunday Sept. 20, 2015**

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Join the wider church (ELCA) Members from Fergus Falls in a joint, large scale service project, the afternoon of September 20th! More details will come soon about service project possibilities. Service options will be given for people of all ages and physical abilities. **We will be ordering T-shirts for participants. T-shirts are \$5 each. Order your Shirt today at the info counter.**

For the past two years, thousands of members from across this church have dedicated one day to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all people. The date for 2015 is Sunday, Sept. 20.

Whether it’s gathering food items to fill shelves at a local food pantry, cleaning up a public park or volunteering at a homeless shelter, your service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: *That all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.*

**Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** Thanks to a generous donation by Barret and Harriet Wicklund, you may have noticed the new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) sitting in a white metal case in the Narthex. Although we hope that this gift never has to be used, an AED is intended to treat someone for Sudden Cardiac Arrest by monitoring their heart rhythm and administering an electrical shock if needed to restore a normal rhythm. It may sound complicated and intimidating to use, but it is actually quite easy as the unit is designed to provide step-by-step instructions once it is activated. Even though it is easy to use, a little training on how to use one never hurts. For those of you who are interested in learning how to use an AED or just want a refresher, a training is being offered on Sunday October 4 at 10:00 am. Bob Griffith from Ringdahl EMS will be here to provide the training and answer questions. The training should last between 45 minutes to an hour, depending on how many questions there are. We would again like to extend a very grateful Thank You to Barret and Harriet for this gift to the Church.

