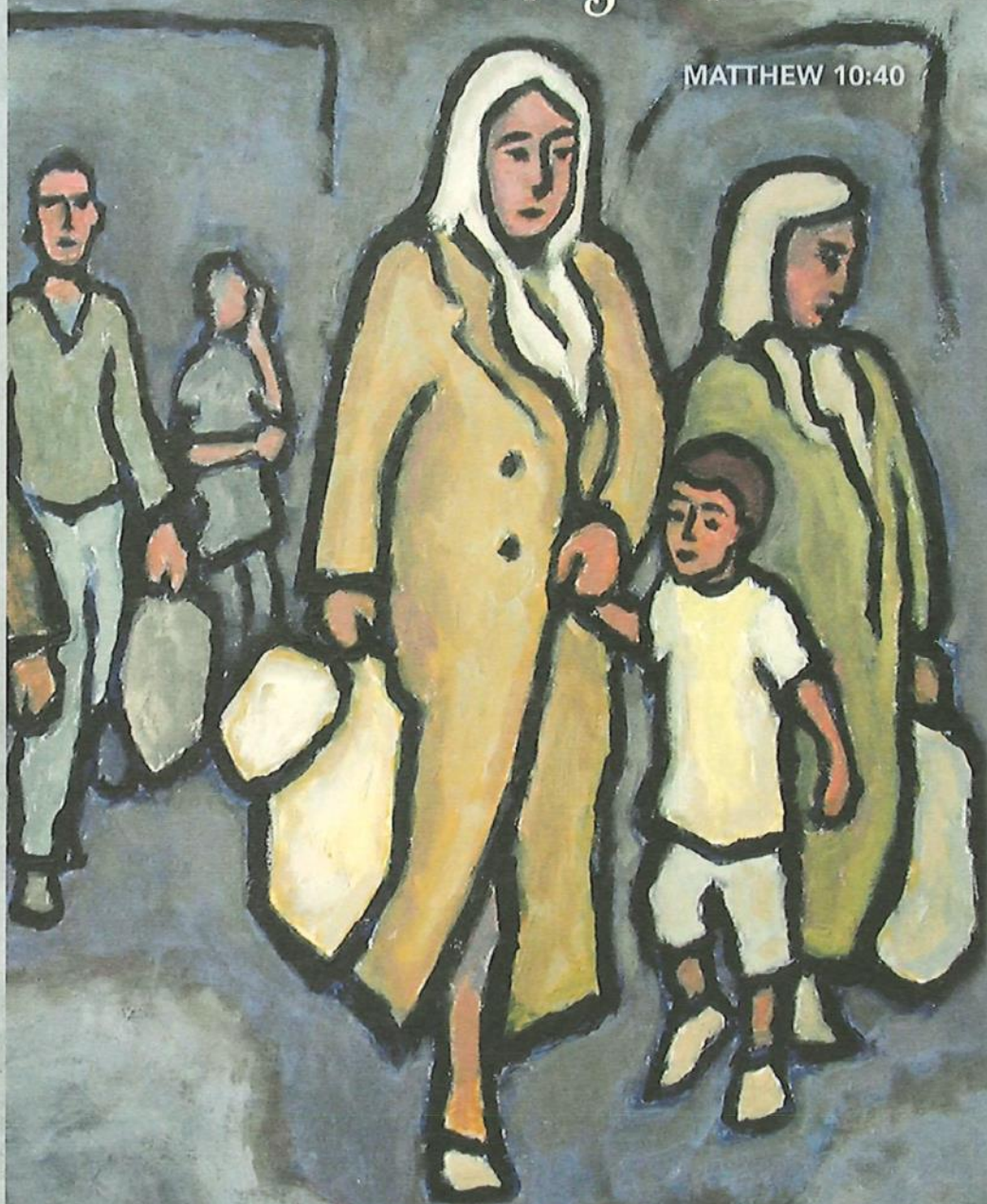


Whoever welcomes you  
welcomes me

MATTHEW 10:40



## Announcements



### 8:00 AM Service

Please remember to bring a lawn chair or blanket upon which to sit.

Thank you for your faithfulness in sending your offering through the mail or by using online options from your financial institution or through the “Donate” now from the church website [stpaulsyork.org](http://stpaulsyork.org). Your gifts are keeping us current with the commitments associated with St. Paul’s and our ministry partners.

**Ushers are urgently needed** now that we can hold services. Since new guidelines are now in place we need your response even if you were an usher in the past. Please contact the church secretary if you can serve. (New procedures were emailed to those who historically served and can also be found in the July Our Church newsletter)

**Cottage Meeting** hosts are anticipating your call! Please remember to select a meeting date, time, and location that works for your schedule. A complete list is in the July newsletter.

We continue to experience a surge in families needing assistance through the Food Pantry. We can use some additional volunteers. We are seeking folks who are not in the “at risk” category for COVID-19. Simply notify Larry or Janet Moore if you can help on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday morning. **Our most critical need is with help on Tuesday mornings.**

Members of our COVID-19 task force will assist us as we work to open up St. Paul’s and to do so in the safest, healthiest way possible. Please thank Deacon Ellen Doughty, Dr. Jessica Ericson, Sheridan Palmer, Deacon Harold Sargeant, and Tim Yakim for their service.

### *In our prayers we remember...*

*Sandy Shellenberger, Brian McKenna, George Fitch, Gene Shue, Abbie Gayle Guyton, Amanda, Jim Young, Penny Bailey, Eddie Turner, Sr., Jessica Ericson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey . Please keep all medical personnel and those in the military and in mission work in your daily prayers.*

### STAFF

Pastor  
Youth Director  
Organist, Choir Director  
Bookkeeper  
Secretary  
Sexton  
Preschool Director

Reverend Stanley Reep	<a href="mailto:prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net">prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Kelly Moore-Spencer	<a href="mailto:kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net">kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Victor Fields	<a href="mailto:vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net">vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Dale Zeiger	<a href="mailto:dzeiger.stpaulsyork@comcast.net">dzeiger.stpaulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Patee Pizzirusso	<a href="mailto:st.paulsyork@comcast.net">st.paulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Ted Weikert	<a href="mailto:st.paulsyork@comcast.net">st.paulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Deb Becker	<a href="mailto:director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com">director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com</a>

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155

[www.stpaulsyork.org](http://www.stpaulsyork.org)

Email: [st.paulsyork@comcast.net](mailto:st.paulsyork@comcast.net)

[www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com](http://www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com)

**WELCOME** Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 184 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

**Restrooms** are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex. Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms.

## Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

### Entering and Leaving the Church:

*Face masks are required both inside and outside. If you do not have a mask you may use one of the pre-packaged masks located at the entrances or at the usher stations.*

*If a face mask was provided upon arrival, kindly deposit it in the specially marked basket at the exterior doors or at the usher stations as you leave so that it can be properly washed and prepared for use again.*

*Please take your service bulletin with you or dispose of it properly. We will no longer be reusing bulletins. Please don't place it back into a basket.*

### Offerings:

*Monetary offerings may be placed in the basins provided at the entrances to the nave or at the usher stations outdoors prior to the service or immediately following the service. You may also donate via our website at [www.stpaulsyork.org](http://www.stpaulsyork.org)*

### While in the Nave or on the lawn:

*You may sit together as a family. Outside worshippers should place their lawn chairs using social distancing. Inside worshippers should sit in designated pews only. We ask that you practice social distancing from one family to the next within the pew.*

### Communion Procedure:

**For the outside service:** Communion positions are designated with a chalk cross marked on the sidewalks on Springettsbury Ave. and surrounding the lawn. Wearing your face mask., proceed to the closest sidewalk and take your place at a Communion position.

**For inside services:** Ushers will direct you. The pulpit side of the nave communes first followed by the font side.

*Wearing your face mask, come to the chancel step taking your place at one of the five positions marked on the chancel floor with a green cross.*

*Your entire household may gather at one of the five positions marked by the green cross.*

**For all to receive the sacrament:** Please extend your arms and cup your hands together to receive the host. Please do not reach out to take it from the minister. Once the minister has moved to the next group, remove your mask, receive the host, replace your mask and return to your pew/seat by the closest side aisle. There is no need to hurry. We will be receiving communion in one kind only.

# Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

June 28, 2020      8:00 & 10:30 AM  
During the time of COVID -19

## GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**10:30 AM PRELUDE**

*The Lord's Prayer*

Albert Hay Malotte

Mylea Thompson, soprano

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **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 and self-examination.*

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**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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**

## KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen**



## GLORIA IN EXCELSI

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

*All* **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:**

*Women* **We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

*Men* **Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:**

*Women* **You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

*Men* **You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**

*Women* **For you alone are the Holy One,**

*Men* **You alone are the Lord,**

*All* **You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. . . God, our maker and redeemer, you have made us a new company of priests to bear witness to the Gospel. Enable us to be faithful to our calling to make known your promises to all the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Sit*

**READING** Jeremiah 28:5-9 (on back page)

*At the conclusion of the reading*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

*(8:00AM spoken responsively by half verse/ 10:30AM sung by the cantor)*

<sup>1</sup> Your love, O LORD, forever | will I sing;\*

**from age to age my mouth will pro- | claim your faithfulness.**

<sup>2</sup> For I am persuaded that your love is estab- | lished forever;\*

**you have set your faithfulness firmly | in the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup> "I have made a covenant with my | chosen one;\*

**I have sworn an oath to Da- | vid my servant:**

<sup>4</sup> "I will establish your | line forever;\*

**and preserve your throne for all | generations."**

<sup>15</sup> Happy are the people who know the | festal shout!\*

**They walk, O LORD, in the light | of your presence.**

<sup>16</sup> They rejoice daily | in your name;\*

**they are jubilant | in your righteousness.**

<sup>17</sup> For you are the glory | of their strength;\*

**and by your favor our might | is exalted.**

<sup>18</sup> Truly, the LORD | is our ruler;\*

**the Holy One of Israel | is our king.**

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA

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

**GOSPEL** Matthew 10:40-42 *(back page)*

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

*At the conclusion of the Gospel.*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## SERMON

Pastor Reep

*Stand*

## APOSTLE'S CREED

We confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.\***

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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 OF INTERCESSION

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

Almighty and everliving God, strengthen our relationships with all of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Bless our conversations. Shape our shared future. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You make your creation thrive and grow to provide all that we need. Make us care for the environment. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your grace is poured out for all. Direct authorities, judges, and politicians to act with compassion. Teach us to overcome fear with hope, meet hate with love, and welcome one another as we would welcome you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Be with all who are in deepest need. Comfort those who are sick, lonely, or abandoned.

Strengthen those who are in prison or awaiting trial. Renew the spirits of all who call upon you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for this congregation. Give us passion to embrace your mission and the vision to recognize where you are leading us. Teach us how to live more faithfully with each other. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You gather in your embrace all who have died. Keep us steadfast in our faith and renew our trust in your promise. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Blessed are you,

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through 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. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **SANCTUS**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.  
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.  
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit,  
that by this Holy Communion we may know  
the unity we share with all your people  
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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**

**FRACTION** *The bread is broken. A brief silence is kept.*

**AGNUS DEI**



*Pastor* Lamb of God  
*Men* Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
*Women* Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
*All* Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace. Amen  
*Sit* The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.

## COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

*Please see instructions for receiving the sacrament on the inside front cover of the bulletin.*

**COMMUNION SOLO:** *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands* Traditional  
Mylea Thompson, soprano

*Stand*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, almighty God that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**8:00 AM HYMN** “*We Are Marching in the Light*” (back pages)

## BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**  
Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**10:30 AM POSTLUDE** *The Gift to Be Simple* Dale Wood

*Pastor Reep will be at the Springettsbury Ave. entrance.*

*Please be respectful of distancing and personal space as you leave. Feel free to gather outside for conversation.*

*Please take your service bulletin with you or dispose of it properly. We will no longer be reusing bulletins. Please don't place it back in the basket.*



This week's flowers are given to the Glory of God in honor of Harold's 80th birthday by Harold & Donita Sargeant and by Ron & Norma Riese in honor of their 59th wedding anniversary which was on May 24th.

# We Are Marching in the Light of God

## Siyahamba

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_  
We are march - ing \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,  
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



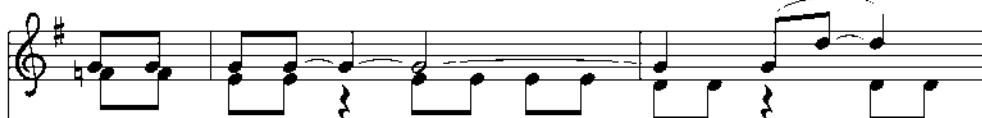
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba \_\_\_\_\_  
We are march - ing \_\_\_\_\_

oo \_\_\_\_\_  
oo \_\_\_\_\_



Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,  
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing.



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984

Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*

Tr. and arr. © 1984 Coryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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In the early morning hours two men disguised as police officers showed up at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. They arrived at the museum's side door which opens out into one of Boston's prestigious neighborhoods, Fenway. They claimed to be investigating a disturbance and were let inside by a 23-year-old security guard. The thieves, disguised as police officers, tied up the two guards on duty, and spent 81 minutes cherry-picking an assortment of treasures, from masterpieces by Vermeer and Rembrandt. That was March 1990, 30 years ago. Among the 13 stolen items, worth an estimated \$500 million, are Vermeer's "The Concert," three Rembrandts, including his only seascape, "The Storm on the Sea of Galilee," and works by Flinck, Manet, and Degas.

The heist remains the world's largest art theft and one of Boston's enduring mysteries. No one has ever been charged in the crime and none of the artwork has been recovered, despite promises of immunity and even a lucrative reward, which was increased from \$1 million to \$5 million in 1997. And most recently was doubled. The reward of \$10 million was set to expire with a deadline in 2017. Museum officials said they hoped the \$10 million reward will send an urgent message to anyone withholding information about the artwork's whereabouts, and dispel any doubts about payment. Reward.

Reward - 10 million for return of thirteen masterpieces.

Reward – Incentive used by credit card companies and business to utilize their brand.

Reward – Strategy employed to modify behavior.

Reward – Motivation to do the right thing.

Reward – Punctuating the gospel reading this morning.

The reward language breaks down conveniently into three parts; Prophet's reward, Righteous person's reward, and for the lack of a better name I'm going with, a cup of water reward. Like all rewards they are not simply granted. There is something needed. Something that is required of the participant.

**The prophet's reward** – in this case you don't really want what the prophet usually receives; that is death by some nasty form of execution. But as it is stated here, the Prophet's reward I believe has something to do with "**listening**." Do you hear what the prophet is saying? Do you modify your life style; adjust your standard of living based on the Prophet's word about what is to come? If so, you have received your reward because you have allowed for the Prophet's word to penetrate your heart and have set out in daily living with a different world view, an adjusted approach to how you use your time and talent and financial resources.

**The righteous person's reward** – in most cases the righteous person is a little bit hard to be around. They are often a bit legalistic, always pointing out the rules, sometimes they can even come off as a bit of a wet blanket, dampening spirits at a party. But as it is stated in the reading this morning the righteous person's reward has to do with "**doing**." Not in some "goody two shoes" way but in the way of living fully and completely guided by a rule and norm that is not restrictive but is grounded and rooted in God's love in Christ Jesus

(that's what Luther tried to demonstrate when he wrote his explanation of the Ten Commandments in his *Small Catechism*). Are you actively doing, structuring your days maximizing God's loving purpose for you? If so, you have received your reward because you have allowed for the righteous person's word to take up residency and create a comfortable stable ground from which to explore and entertain daily life.

**The cup of water reward** – in most cases a cup of water is just the beginning of addressing needs, taking notice of injustices, acknowledging someone who has little and certainly has nothing to offer you. The cup of water reward is like the Prophet's Reward summarized by listening, and the righteous person's reward summarized by doing, the cup of water reward is all about **"giving," generosity**, you may even say that it skirts around **sacrifice**. The cup of water reward usually comes as a bit of a surprise to those who are generous (Matthew 25:40). Those who give freely, those who act selflessly, those who spend less time calculating the cost and more time rolling up their sleeves and getting busy so that today's cup of water that has been given may become tomorrow's gushing stream, overflowing well, or ocean of new possibility.

Jesus is addressing the twelve and us with specific instructions about welcoming. When anyone welcomes any of the twelve, that one or group has in fact welcomed Jesus. And if they have welcomed Jesus they have welcomed the one who sent him. They have welcomed his word, his action, and his generosity (listen, do, give). They have secured a reward, perhaps are even a bit surprised by it. Welcome, welcoming, welcomes, these all have to do with the ministry that is being entrusted to the disciples, being entrusted to us. And in and with and through this Welcoming rewards are acknowledged. Listening, doing, giving, they are the hallmark, the shape of a new community, a different neighborhood, a transformed world. Jesus doesn't ask the disciples if they want to be part of this reward culture. He doesn't give them a mini plastic Jesus card to attach to their key ring and swipe every time they hear a sermon, offer themselves in service, or give money or a cup of water. In calling them to follow they are enrolled in a life of listening, enrolled in a life of doing, enrolled in a life of giving, not so that they will be applauded for their life's work, but because it is God's work being carried out through them, through us, through you and me.

Now this is alarming. Perhaps a crime has been committed. Perhaps we are more like the imposters who disguised themselves as police officers, entered under false pretense, discredit the young security guards, and cherry pick the treasures that appeal to our particular taste. We may even think that we are getting away with what we want. However our sinful deception is exposed in the light of Christ and covered by the gracious love of God who rewards us with forgiveness and welcome. Who washes us clean in baptism's bath and sets a place for us at the table in the communion meal, and reminds us that rewards are his for the giving. The disciples, they are all about listening, doing, giving, because that day when Jesus talked about welcoming he told them all about reward. Jesus, wants humanity back, we are his treasure. And he is ours. Amen.

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 28:5-9**

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

**Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18**

**SECOND READING: Romans 6:12-23**

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. <sup>13</sup>No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup>What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin,

which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, <sup>18</sup>and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup>and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."