



Whoever welcomes  
one such child  
in my name  
**welcomes  
me**

MARK 9:37

# 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)

Facebook: *St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George*

**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 185 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.

**The 10:30 AM Liturgy is live streamed on YouTube.** Search St. Paul's Lutheran Church S. George, York, PA. or use this link to our St. Paul's YouTube home page [www.youtube.com/channel/UCYCFdMzkJo\\_Xvbdkxn2IYIg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYCFdMzkJo_Xvbdkxn2IYIg). You may also view the service at a later time on YouTube.

*The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Shirley Haugh and in celebration of our 27th Wedding Anniversary by Stan & Emily Reep.*



Flowers This Week

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

### Entering and Leaving the Church:

*Please wear a mask while in worship and take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.*

### Offerings:

*Monetary offerings may be placed in the basins provided at the entrances to the nave 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:

*Please sit in designated pews only. You may sit together as a family. We ask that you practice social distancing from one family to the next within the pew. Occasionally an usher may seat a guest in the red zone.*

### Communion Procedure:

- *Ushers will direct you to the Chancel step alternating pulpit side (left) then font side (right).*
- *Extend your arms and cup your hands together to receive the host There is no need to hurry.*
- *We are receiving communion in one kind only (bread/host).*
- *Return to your pew by the side aisle.*

**Our COVID-19 task force** is assisting us as we remain open. Please thank Dr. Jessica Ericson, Sheridan Palmer, Deacon Harold Sargeant, Norma Shue, and Dr. Martha Thomas for their dedication and service.

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sunday, September 19, 2021**  
**Holy Communion 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM**

**PRELUDE**

*Prelude on KINGSFOLD*

Mary Beth Bennett

*Stand turning towards the font.*

**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.**

Let us pray. 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**

**APOSTOLIC 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.**

# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



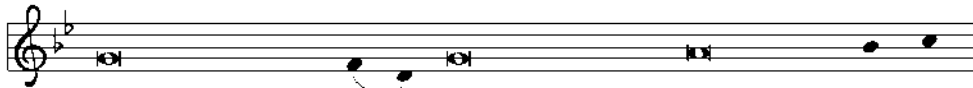
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



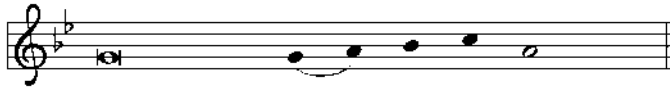
God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and

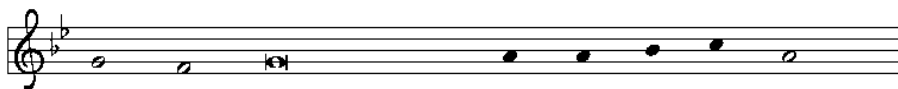


praise, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

*Continued on next page...*



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

**HYMN OF PRAISE** *The refrain is sung by all. The verses are sung by the cantor. The assembly joins in singing the final "Amens".*



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

*Continued on next page...*

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

A - men, a - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

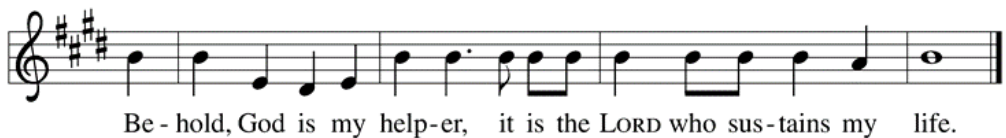
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lord God, you call us to work in your vineyard and leave no one standing idle. Set us to our tasks in the work of your kingdom, and help us to order our lives by your wisdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Sit**

**READING**                    Jeremiah 11:18-20    *(back cover)*

**PSALM**            Psalm 54 *The refrain is introduced by the Cantor and repeated by the assembly. Then it is sung by all at the appointed time.*



Be - hold, God is my help-er, it is the LORD who sus-tains my life.

**Stand**

**VERSE**

Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37 (*back cover*)

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

*At the conclusion of the Gospel.*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## SERMON

Pastor Stan Reep

10:30 AM

ANTHEM

*Children of the Heavenly Father*

Paul Sjolund

*Stand*

## 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

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Almighty and everlasting God, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the earth. Awaken in us a new desire to care for the world and support agencies, organizations, and individual efforts to heal the environment. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict (*especially*). Inspire leaders to listen to each other and work towards peaceful solutions to disagreements. Protect the vulnerable, especially children, who cannot find safety in their home or country.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Provide avenues for appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the youngest members of this congregation. Renew in us your call to welcome the children in our midst. As they grow, strengthen their faith in you, and our commitment to them. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give you thanks for our loved ones who have died and pray for all who grieve today (*especially the family and friends of Jim Ackerman*). Shine your grace on all your saints. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

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

*The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



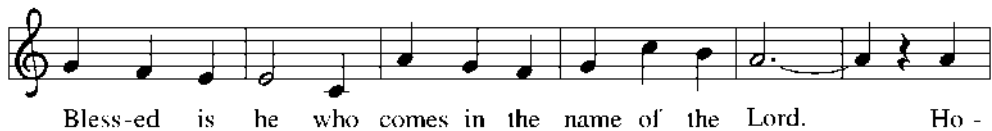
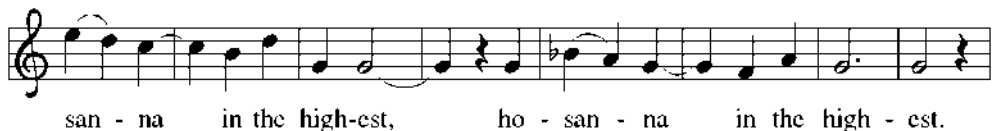
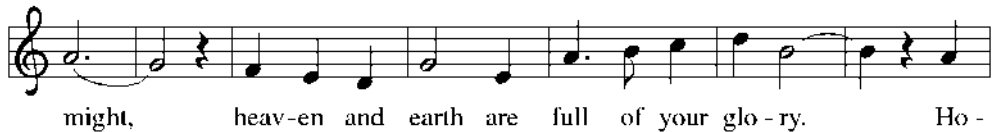
## PREFACE

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 to us 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:



## SANCTUS



## THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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**

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

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



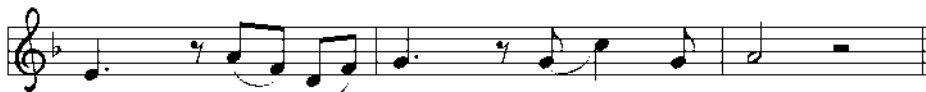
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**Sit** *The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.*

## COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

*Instructions for receiving the sacrament are on the inside front cover of the bulletin.*

*Stand*

### POST COMMUNION HYMN

*Loving Spirit (WOV 683)*



- 1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
- 2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
- 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
- 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:
- 5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.  
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.  
hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.  
in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.  
you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

### BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Bless you now and forever. **Amen**

### POSTLUDE

*Toccata on KINGSFOLD*

*Mary Beth Bennett*

*The congregation remains standing  
until the procession and ministers have taken their leave.*

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Augsburg Fortress Liturgies

**This Week at St. Paul's September 12-19**  
Church office open 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Tues—Thurs

**Sunday, September 19**

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
9:15 AM Pantry shelf stocking  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - live streamed.  
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm  
6:30 PM Confirmation Class

**Monday, September 20**

6:00 PM Mpuguso Meeting—CANCELLED  
7:00 PM Scout Meeting—ZOOM

**Tuesday, September 21**

9:30 AM Pantry  
6:00 PM CREATE—Youth & Music

**Wednesday September 22**

10:30 AM Bible Study—CANCELLED  
11:00 AM James Ackerman Funeral

**Thursday, September 23**

TBD Pantry Delivery  
10:00 AM Sandy Shellenberger Visitation  
11:00 AM Sandy Shellenberger Funeral  
6:30 PM Handbell Choir—Chancel  
7:30 PM Chancel Choir—Music Room

**Sunday, September 26**

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
9:15 AM Pantry shelf stocking  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - live streamed.  
10:30 AM Baptism—Caroline Grace Mullen  
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm  
6:30 PM Confirmation Class

**Food Pantry—September**

**Items needed:** Pancake mix, 4 pks of toilet paper, canned or boxed potatoes, stuffing mix, jelly, boxed rice. We also need paper grocery bags with handles. Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh, Patty Snyder, or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.

**Serving the Lord with Gladness**

DATE	TIME	Assisting Minister	Crucifer	Lector	Cantor	AV Team	Ushers	Early: Altar Set-up Late: Altar Clean-up
9/19	Early	Harold Sargeant	Ann Ulrich	Kathy Monk			Ron Riese Jeff Riese	
	Late	Larry Moore	Tonya Cave	Nancy Bennett	Dave Rambo	Andrew	Larry Becker Kem Vaught	Ann Anstadt Ellie Rosenmiller

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	preep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Children's Music Director	Cody Messersmith	cmessersmith.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Bell Choirs Director	Leah McComas	lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Secretary	Patee Pizzirusso	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Sexton	Ted Weikert	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Preschool Director	Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

## Announcements and Updates

Gifts for ELCA Domestic and International Disaster Relief can be made at any time by simply writing your check to “St. Paul’s Lutheran Church” which will then be forwarded with others from our congregation. Place your check or cash in an offering envelope with “Disaster” written on the outside.

Last Sunday evening the fall term of our Confirmation instruction began. We are blessed to have eight participants enrolled: Emma Castro, Tanner Culp, Anna Herdson, Maxwell Jacobs, Riley Jones, Jaelyn Kinkella, Allen Reep, and D. J. Zart. Please remember to pray for them as they study the Small Catechism and prepare to take more active roles in the life of the Church.

Please communicate all pastoral care needs through email or telephone. Don’t expect that the pastor will see something that you have posted on social media.

Last week’s “God’s Work our Hands Project” provided enough financial support to provide one house hold water system through LWR! Thank you for your generosity. If you would like to add to the gifts collected last Sunday simply mark an envelope “wells” and your financial gift will be added to the others.

Jackson Elementary school is in need of many items to help the children. The Social Ministry Committee is securing more school uniforms, head lice kits, and personal care kits. They will need your help as we approach the Christmas season with some special gift items.

Interior directional signs have been ordered and will coordinate with the room name and number signs that were added during construction. The cost associated with the interior signage has been underwritten by an anonymous donor. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Please send a card of greeting to: *Charlotte Mueller* 165 Highland Road, York PA 17403; *Betty Mehring*, Misericordia Nursing & Rehabilitation Center 998 S. Russel St. York, PA 17402 and to *Bill Banta* at SpiriTrust Lutheran, The Village @ Sprenkle Drive, 1801 Folkemer Circle, Room 301, York PA 17404. His phone # is 717-900 6724.

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Jim Ackerman. Jim’s Memorial Service will be from the church on Wednesday September 22 at 11:00 AM.

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Sandy Shellenberger. Sandy’s Funeral Service will be here on Thursday, September 23 at 11 AM. Visitation is from 10-11AM.

Next Sunday at the 10:30 AM liturgy the Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be celebrated for Caroline Grace Mullen, daughter of Charles and Nicole (Houck) Mullen.

Harvest Wine Dinner Tickets (\$100) are available through the Church Office. The October 16<sup>th</sup> fund raising event is quickly approaching. Silent Auction items will soon be on display in the Good Shepherd Room. The original water color paintings donated by Pastor Reep for the live auction are listed in the September *Our Church* newsletter.

Christ in Our Home devotional booklets for Oct/Nov/Dec are now available in the narthex and in the Good Shepherd Room

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

***Bill & Lyda Horn, Karen Missising, Rick Lloyd, Deirdre McManama, Chuck Oelsner, Betty Mehring, Drew Herdson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey, the family and loved ones of Brian Hoover, and Sandy Shellenberger***

Car trips have certainly changed over my lifetime. When I was a kid going on a car trip there was; no air conditioning (hot sticky vinyl seats), no seatbelts (other family members could easily encroach on your space as they chose to stretch out), no entertainment center (if you were lucky the AM radio would maintain a strong signal). We played family games to pass the time. The Alphabet Game using road signs and billboards was a favorite.

When I became a father going on a car trip we had; air conditioning, seatbelts, and an entertainment center. I knew the sound track of movies, like the Incredibles, by heart, but hadn't seen the images I was driving keeping my eyes on the road, and the kids were watching as the time passed! When screen time ran out we would revert to some travel games. My kids often played Counting Punch Buggies (VW Beetles) and Yellow colored cars and trucks. A yellow car or truck counts as one point. A punch buggy counts as one point. A yellow punch buggy counts two points. It is imperative to always seek out and find the yellow VW Beetle along the way. This simple game kept all of us on the lookout. It helped to pass the time. And for the most part the game was great fun.

But sometimes along the way the whole thing would break down. It often occurred when the point totals began favoring one person over another. Group dissension broke out. An argument ensued about who got what, who spotted the last Punch Buggy or the most recent yellow pick-up truck. What began always as an amusing game, a simple contest to keep us alert and watching and counting sequentially, most often deteriorated into a competitive argument. And the sad part of it was that the next few minutes, or the remainder of the trip, often ended up with someone not talking to someone else.

We all want to be winners. We all want to be the best at spotting those jelly bean colored subcompacts or pick out the sedan or jeep that looks as though it was drenched in French's mustard. We forget that it is a game and the important part of it is to pass the time so that all of us arrive together at our destination.

Along the way, the disciples of Jesus have been keeping their eyes open too. Not for punch buggies or yellow vehicles. They have seen what Jesus can do. The list is getting rather lengthy in Mark's account. By chapter 9, blind eyes have been opened. Sick people have been made well. Those who were hungry were fed. Jesus had chosen them to follow and to join him on the journey. It was inevitable that they would begin to think that they had something over the rest of the crowds. And if they were "in," then of course one or more of them would be just a little bit better, greater, more with it, than some others who were called to tag along. One of them must have been bold enough to put himself out there as the greatest, best, first, favorite. Image this after last week when we heard Jesus' rebuke of Peter. Peter had been in that position but after his encounter with Jesus, well I think it rather bold to even bring up who is first. But they argued just the same about who was indeed the greatest. They kept walking until they reached Capernaum.

The argument happened. Jesus confronts them. They were silent. This after Jesus had told them the second time about what would happen when he arrived in Jerusalem. It was as though they were so busy trying to figure out which of them was the greatest that they didn't have any time to think about Jesus being betrayed, handed over, killed, and raised up. They were keeping score. One of them would surely be the winner. One whose eyes were keen would surely be deemed the greatest.

But that's not how it played out. It ended in silence. It ended pretty much the same way when the punch buggy game would break down with me and my family on a car trip. The game ended in silence. The disciples when asked flat out what they were arguing about along the way, they were silent. Jesus addressed the twelve, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."

I think that the disciples really did hear Jesus when he brought up the primary role servant hood plays in his realm. But before they had a chance to seek clarity on serving, Jesus propels the story with the important part that follows. Jesus takes a child, places the child among them, and embraces the child. Then he says, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Children had no status in Bible times. Unfortunately they were thought less of than women were in that time. Children were ones who didn't count, would never be given a place, let alone be seen as having worth or value. What was Jesus really communicating to the twelve? What did He want them to grasp? Where does greatness fit when called by Jesus to follow in the way of the cross?

These questions are important. They remind us that servant hood is not about title, fame, appreciation, attention, or status. In Baptism we are welcomed into the community of faith. We are embraced by Christ and are given a place at his table, a life to be lived in love, an identity as heir of his kingdom, and a promise that is equal for all who believe and call upon him to be saved. The disciples on that day as they traveled to Capernaum thought for sure that at least one among them was the greatest, that one was just a little bit more important, a little bit more worthy than were his counterparts.

Sentiments such as these are far too common. They plague nations, politicians, churches, pastors, community organizations, athletes, musicians, physicians, educators, entertainers, news anchors, neighborhoods, school boards, school districts, law enforcement personnel, accountants, attorneys, CEOs and all whose prejudices blind them from reaching out to those who have no status, place, or position.

Often I am silent because I know all too well that I have not lived fully into my baptismal calling. It is easy for me, for us to slip into the mindset of the inner group of the twelve. Easy for us to begin to think more highly of ourselves than what it is that we bring to the table. We forget that our discipleship isn't a game, not something to pass the time, but is the work that Jesus calls us to, so that everyone arrives together at God's promised destination.

Today, it is Christ Jesus who welcomes us, who calls us to His table of love and forgiveness. We are given position and status only through the One who was willing to suffer for our sake. There is only one who is the greatest and that is Christ Jesus. All of us are called to follow, to serve, and to love as we travel up the road to Jerusalem. A couple of good games might help to pass the time, make the trip more pleasant, or keep someone else from getting tired, bored or antsy along the way. But each of us is needed, each of us is redeemed, and each of us is loved, because Christ made the trip to Jerusalem, to suffer and die and to be raised up, so that through him we are raised up too. This news is indeed good. Whether the journey is long or short, servant hood is the trademark, welcoming those along the way who lack position, or title is what our Lord models, so that we arrive together at our promised destination. Amen.

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20**

It was the LORD who made it known to me,  
and I knew;

then you showed me their evil deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me  
that they devised schemes, saying,  
“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
let us cut him off from the land of the  
living,  
so that his name will no longer be  
remembered!”

<sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge  
righteously,  
who try the heart and the mind,  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.

*or Wisdom 1:16—2:1, 12-22 [not printed]*

**Psalm 54****SECOND READING: James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a**

Who is wise and understanding among you?  
Show by your good life that your works are  
done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But  
if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in  
your hearts, do not be boastful and false to  
the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down  
from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish.  
<sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition,  
there will also be disorder and wickedness of  
every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is  
first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to  
yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a  
trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest

of righteousness is sown in peace for those  
who make peace.

<sup>4:1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you,  
where do they come from? Do they not come  
from your cravings that are at war within you?  
<sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you  
commit murder. And you covet something and  
cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and  
conflicts. You do not have, because you do not  
ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you  
ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on  
your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore  
to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from  
you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near  
to you.

**GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37**

[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed  
through Galilee. He did not want anyone to  
know it; <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, say-  
ing to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed  
into human hands, and they will kill him,  
and three days after being killed, he will rise  
again.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he  
was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when  
he was in the house he asked them, “What  
were you arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But  
they were silent, for on the way they had ar-  
gued with one another who was the greatest.  
<sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to  
them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last  
of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little  
child and put it among them; and taking it  
in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever wel-  
comes one such child in my name welcomes  
me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not  
me but the one who sent me.”