

Martha welcomed Jesus
into her home

LUKE 10:38

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155

www.stpaulsyork.org

Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net

www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

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

YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church - South George St. York

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 186 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 (George St). Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms as well as in the nursery.

Our Communion is "open" to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist.

The Nursery is accessed through the front right double doors. The 9:15 AM liturgy is live-streamed into the Nursery.

Today we thank Christine Kates for serving as our guest organist while Victor Fields is on vacation.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

Entering and Leaving the Church:

*Wearing a mask while in worship is optional, recommended or required based on the local percentage of infection. 5% or lower/Optional, Between 5% & 10%/Recommended, 10% or higher/Required. **The instruction will be posted on the entry doors. Please be sure to bring a mask in the event of required/recommended masking.***

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

Communion Procedure:

- 1. Come to communion using the center aisle (about 8 adults per side).*
- 2. Communion glasses are placed on credence tables at the front pews (left and right side).*
- 3. Take a communion glass from the tray of glasses.*
- 4. Take your place along the chancel step. The ministers will bring the bread and wine to you.*
- 5. Extend your hands to receive the communion host.*
- 6. Consume the communion host before you leave the chancel edge.*
- 7. Hold the communion glass with both hands at chest height so that the communion assistant can easily pour the wine into the glass.*
- 8. Consume the wine.*
- 9. Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.*
- 10. Return to your pew using the side aisle.*

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 17, 2022
Holy Communion 9:15 AM

TEMPLE TALK

President Tristan Ericson

PRELUDE

The Peace May be Exchanged.

Locklair

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

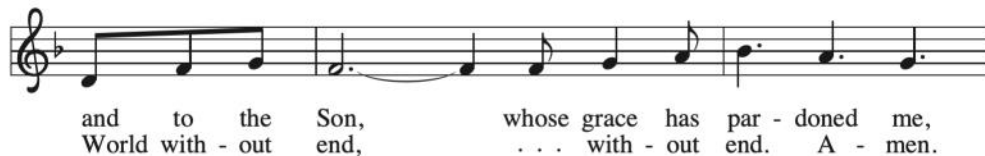
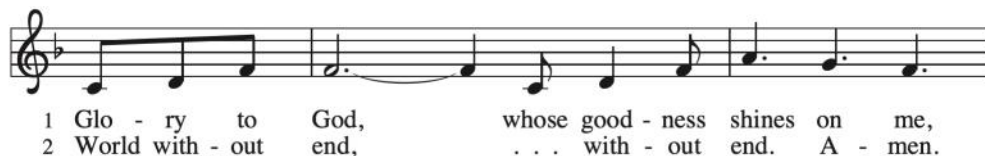
APOSTOLIC GREETING

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



HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

O God, you see how busy we are with many things. Turn us to listen to your teachings and lead us to choose the one thing which will not be taken from us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 18:1-10a *(back cover)*

PSALM

Psalms 15

Spoken responsively by whole verse.

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?*

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

² **Whoever leads a blameless life and does | what is right,***
who speaks the truth | from his heart,

³ there is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil | to his friend;*

he does not heap contempt up- | on his neighbor.

⁴ **In his sight the wicked | is rejected,***
but he honors those who | fear the LORD.

⁵ He has sworn to | do no wrong*
and does not take | back his word.

⁶ **He does not give his money in | hope of gain,***
nor does he take a bribe a- | gainst the innocent.

⁷ Whoever | does these things*
shall never be | overthrown.

SECOND LESSON

Colossians 1:15-28

(back cover)

Stand

VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 10: 25-37

(back cover)

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

At the conclusion of the Gospel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

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

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

Lord God, in Christ you fill all things. As your church gathers to hear your word, share your meal, and receive your blessing, teach us to welcome strangers as we have been welcomed by you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you created all things, visible and invisible. Teach humankind to honor and protect all creation, including living things that remain hidden from our eyes such as air, atmosphere, molecules, and microscopic creatures. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you reconcile all things. Motivate those in power to end enslavement, dehumanization, or brutality of any kind and to protect and improve the lives of Indigenious peoples. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you bring peace. Assure all who are worried and distracted by many things of your constant presence. Soothe those suffering in mind, body, or spirit. Sustain all who are afflicted and those who serve as caregivers (*especially Peggy Jacobs, Carl Jacobs, Katie Guyer, Eddie Turner, Gloria Kendrick, Amy Hollis, Heidi Glaudel, Kristine Gross, Rachel Barnes, Courtney Snell the family and loved ones of John Uffelman*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Turn us toward neighbors in need. Bring aid and support to those who are poor, beaten down, abused, forgotten, silenced, or avoided (*local outreach ministries may be named*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In Christ you make your word fully known. Inspire this worshipping community
(*congregation may be named*) to abide fully in your word as we sit at the feet of Jesus.
Bless the ministry of teachers and Bible study leaders. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In Christ you brought forth the firstborn from the dead. We give thanks for the saints
you have gathered at your table. Gather us with them in your eternal glory. God of
grace,
hear our prayer.

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we en-
trust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

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.

OFFERTORY

As the pastor prepares the altar the people sing.



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 dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

And also with you.

We lift them 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



THANKSGIVING

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 glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen

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

AGNUS DEI *sung by all*



☒ 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.

COMMUNION HYMN *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness (WOV 730)*



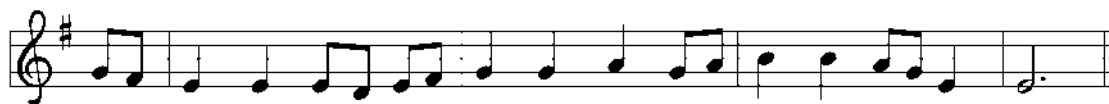
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer-cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom-ise to our par-ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

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

Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **Amen**

BLESSING

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

HYMN

Day by Day (WOV 746)

1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my



com - fort to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you
 serve and wis-dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to
 bur - dens grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will



send me draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.
 guide me o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day.
 hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.



Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal mea - sure, brings to
 I will fear no e - vil of the mor - row, I will
 Day by day, no mat - ter what be - tide me, you will



naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav - ior, lead me to the home I
 trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior, help me bear life's pain and
 hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior, with your pres-ence here to



trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
 sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
 guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

POSTLUDE

The People Respond - Amen!

Locklair



Flowers This Week

The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God In honor of our 35th Wedding Anniversary by Jim & Carolyn Kapoun

Prayerful consideration needed for Congregation Treasurer. Interim Treasurer, Peter O’Conor is bringing those duties to a close with completion of the 2021 audit (August 31). The duties associated with the treasurer’s position have been greatly clarified during the past several years. If you are willing to consider this ministry opportunity or would like more information, please speak to President Tristan Ericson or Pastor Reep.

The Nominating Committee is beginning its work to secure persons willing to serve on Congregation Council, Benevolence Committee, Mutual Ministry Committee, and Voting Members to the Synod Assembly. Please contact Tristan Ericson or Kathryn Wicker if you would be willing to serve.



Food Pantry—July

Items needed: Rice (1 or 2 lb bags), dehydrated potatoes, powdered milk, tomato sauce and soup. 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	Communion Assistants	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Set-up & Altar Clean-up
7/17	9:15 AM	Janet Fitch	Ann Ulrich	John Monk	William Snyder	John & Kathy Monk	Alex Bastian , Michael Poster, Dave Kopp, Sandy Dickensheets	Ron & Norma Reise

Our next Outdoor Service will be held Sunday, July 31, Vespers at 7:00 PM. The service is preceded with a covered dish supper at 6:00 PM. Please bring something to share and join us for prayer!

Harvest Dinner Tickets are on sale. The dinner will be held on October 8, 2022. Proceeds benefit the Food Pantry. This year will feature select regional wines and local microbrews paired with the menu. Contact the office for tickets.

Altar Flowers sponsors are needed. Please check out the Springettsbury Hall-way bulletin board for the sign-up sheet and available dates for the year. Cost is \$30 per vase.

Ukraine Offering—Offerings to give aid to Ukrainian refugees, orphans, widows and humanitarian help can be given through St. Paul's website www.stpaulsyork.org by selecting the designated button or through our pew envelopes marking them "Ukraine".



Sunday Coffee Hour—If you would be willing to help by contributing baked goods, fruits or veggies for Fellowship following any of our Summer 9:15 AM services simply notify the church office or sign up in the Good Shepherd room and we can add you to the schedule. The desire is to have fellowship opportunities following worship each Sunday throughout the summer. A member of the Fellowship Committee will provide oversight for each gathering.

This Week at St. Paul's

Church office open 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Mon—Thurs

Sunday, July 17

9:15 AM Holy Eucharist
10:15 AM Fellowship—Good Shepherd Rm
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm

Monday, July 18

6:00 PM Mpuguso Meeting
7:00 PM Finance Committee—ZOOM

Tuesday, July 19

9:30 AM Pantry
5:30 PM Picnic in the Park—John Rudy—
Blue Spruce Pavillion

Sunday, July 24

9:15 AM Holy Eucharist
10:15 AM Fellowship—Good Shepherd Rm

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Children Choirs 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

Summer Worship
Combined Service time at 9:15 AM with Fellowship to Follow

Following each service there will be a time for fellowship held in the Good Shepherd Room. A member of the Fellowship Committee is scheduled to provide oversight with the set-up, serving and clean up each week. Please do volunteer to provide fruit or veggies or a baked good for one of these fellowship times. A sign-up sheet is located on the server in the Good Shepherd Room if you are able and willing to provide and item or two. Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for taking the lead on making these important times possible.

Preschool Webpage—We are excited to let everyone know that St. Paul's Preschool has a new webpage (stpaulspreschoolyork.com). Please take a few minutes to check it out and share it with people you know who may have children 2, 3, or 4 years of age. Applications for 2022-2023 enrollment are being accepted now.

Confirmation instruction will begin in September and will be held on Sunday morning. Students entering the 7th Grade should be enrolled in the program. Please contact Pastor Reep for additional information.

Family Ministry - Picnics in the Park
God’s Beautiful Creation 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Join your friends from St. Paul’s for an evening picnic and bible activities at one of York Counties local parks. Each family is asked to bring their own picnic dinner to enjoy as we gather. The evening will include an interactive bible story and craft. All pavilions are located close to the park playground so your children can enjoy time playing with their friends. Restrooms and parking are located within walking distance.

5:30 – Picnic
6:00 – 7:00 – Bible Story and Craft

July 19th John Rudy Park Blue Spruce Pavilion God Creates the Animals	August 16th Kain Park Perch Pavilion God Creates the Creatures in the Sea
--	--

Entertaining is an art form. A previous generation seems have been far better at laying a table, preparing a menu, and gathering guests in rooms designated with the sole purpose for dining. My seminary liturgics professor Dr. Brown and his wife Marge were part of that generation. They were among those who were inspired by Julia Childs, and cookbooks that moved beyond Fanny Farmer.

Brown as everyone called him headed the division for worship in the former Lutheran Church in America. At that time, nearly half a century ago, he was associated with global liturgical and theological scholars. On the Lutheran side names of leading contributors were; Ralph VanLoon, Charles Anders, S. Anita Stauffer, and a young new comer, Gordon Laithrop. And among the Anglican Communion there were names like; Jaspers, Geoffrey Wainright and Canon Gray who was at the time in charge of Westminster Abby. Brown brought them to speak and present papers for students at Susquehanna University and for gatherings of ecumenical clergy. And with every presentation and speaking engagement each one of the presenters ended up at the Brown's home for a dinner party in their honor. Marge cooked.

It was my friend Marge, when I was young and single, who taught me to entertain simply. She had mastered the art of preparing what she called one pot meals. She calculated the preparation and timing of an evening's dinner party so that she maximized her time with the guests. She didn't want to miss out on any of the conversations. In those days she was all about advancing the place of women in the church. If she wasn't present to press the conversation, well her point of view might go unheard.

Her outline for entertaining; start with a hearty cheese board and drinks, make a mixed green salad in advance adding dressing at the last minute, accompany it with crusty European style bread wrapped in a damp towel and popped in the oven to warm, and prepare an entree in a large cast iron enameled pot. That way, she instructed me, you can spend most of the time in the same room with your guests.

It was shortly after that that I added to by wish list an eight quart Le Crueset pot!

That day in Bethany when Jesus came to the home of Mary and Martha, they could have benefitted from a bit of Marge's entertaining outline and maybe even an eight quart Le Cruset pot! Martha wouldn't have spent the bulk of the time in the kitchen preparing. She may have spent more time listening to Jesus and would have had more time with her sister Mary in the presence of their Lord.

But we know how the story really unfolds with Mary not giving much help to her sister Martha. Mary had positioned herself in the living room, sitting on the footstool right beside Jesus. The biblical witness doesn't give any evidence that there was a cheese board. But the narrative does confirm that Mary was listening, she was listening to everything Jesus said. She was feasting on his word.

And when Martha came out of the sweltering hot kitchen thinking that she could leverage a little help whipping up dinner, well she was stopped in her tracks when the Lord himself responded to her plea for assistance "Martha, Martha," he said "you are worried and distracted

by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better portion which will not be taken away from her.” The better portion! Ah, so now I know where my friend Marge learned of the importance of being present in the room with the guest, with the one presenting, challenging, causing folks to think and think again. She gained her entertaining knowledge from the gospel of Luke, from this very story of Jesus and the exchange with Martha.

Jesus’ remark to Martha about portion has nothing to do with what is on the plate, how much gets ladled out of the Le Cruet pot, the size of the slice of pie, the amount of berries heaped on the scoop of ice cream. Here portion has to do with what is selected. The portion that is needed is the Word himself, Jesus. He alone is what will save the day, save the household, save the people, save the nation, save the world, save you and me. He is the one that provides what is needed. He gives himself so that no one need perish. He saves us.

He provides the feast today his word proclaimed and his body broken and given to feed us, sustaining us for our work, nurturing us for lives of devotion and service. He wants us sitting on the footstool listening and in the kitchen feeding but not anxiously, frantically, but lovingly as a way to provide hospitality. He is the better portion. But how many of us anxiously remove ourselves from his presence thinking that something else is of greater importance?

Last week we encountered Jesus asking a question of the lawyer “Who was neighbor to the man who fell among robbers?” The lawyer responded “The one who did mercy, the one who showed mercy, the one who did mercy to him.”

The question for us this morning; “What portion are you seeking?” Have you picked out the portion that will fill you? Have you selected the portion that is most tempting? Perhaps the portion that is most profitable? Or have you cleverly figured out the portion that is least demanding? How little can I do? Jesus calls us by name today. Perhaps saying it twice like “Martha, Martha” in order to get our attention. He fills our house with his presence and shares freely his Word of life. His desire is that we choose the better portion, not the one that is most appealing, or most lucrative, or least challenging or the one that smacks of tokenism. The better portion is Jesus. His desire is that we respond to his call ordering our days and our deeds feasting on his Word. He desires us to listen to him. With such listening comes a redirecting of our lives; our words and actions.

I was the recipient of many invitations to dinner at the Brown’s. Those dinner parties rank among my most vivid memories. I remember, listening to the guest of honor, engaging in conversation, gleaned ideas that advanced parish ministry, enjoyed the assortment of cheese laid out on the board, the lid being lifted from the giant Le Cruet pot revealing the evenings’ dinner selection, but mostly the sense of welcome, acceptance, generosity and love.

Today the table is set and the meal prepared. We receive an invitation to the Lord’s Holy Supper. Here it is that our loving God, made known to us in Christ Jesus, welcomes us, accepts us, and generously gives himself for us in love so that we have the better portion, so that we have life. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a}Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Psalm 15

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-28

[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth

or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 18:20-32; Psalm 138; Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]; Luke 11:1-13.

Cover: *Christ in the House of Martha and Mary* (1654-1656) by Johannes Vermeer. Scottish National Gallery. Photo copyright © Incamerastock/Alamy Stock Photo. Used by permission.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at www.augsburgfortress.org.

Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-R