



July 25, 2021

Friendship Sunday

Welcome to our visitors! We appreciate your joining our worship family this morning, and we invite you to sign our guest book. If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor at 414-427-9337.

Sunday family worship....9:00 a.m.

Today's Worship

"There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother" (Prov. 18:24).

Greeting and prayer:

VBS children: Ready, Set, Gold

*1. The contest is over; the gold medal's been won.
The victor's none other than Jesus, God's own Son!
The prize He won is forgiveness, salvation full and free,
And God took that prize and He handed it to me!*

Refrain:

*Tell the world God gave us first place.
Heaven's ours through Jesus' grace,
So go out and finish the race: Ready, set, GOLD!*



Uganda – Pastor Daniel Mugeni has been studying with CLC missionaries and attending pastoral conferences in Kenya for many years. Missionary Mike Gurath, along with a representative of the CLC appointed by President Eichstadt, will begin the formal process of reviewing Pastor Mugeni's doctrinal positions for a possible recommendation for a declaration of fellowship. Pastor Mugeni serves a congregation in Uganda and also cares for several orphan children. **Pray** that the Lord would bless this process of establishing God-pleasing fellowship. **Pray** for the children that Pastor Mugeni cares for and that He would continue to provide for all their needs. **Ask** the Lord to continue to bless the preaching and teaching of His saving word in Uganda that many more will be led to repent and believe in Jesus Christ for salvation.

Christian School Instructor Supervisor (CSIS) - Retired teacher, Ted Quade, who also serves as the chairman of the Kinship Committee, has accepted this call. This new position was created to aid the school headmasters and teachers in the schools that Kinship supports in Kenya. The CSIS will offer support and encouragement in the area of teaching Bible stories, teaching methods, and classroom management, as well as Christian Doctrine and Christian leadership. **Ask** the Lord to bless Ted with the necessary wisdom, patience, zeal, and love for this work. And **pray** that the Lord would bless those with whom he will be working, that they too will be gifted with wisdom, patience, zeal, and love for the work they have been given by the Lord. And **pray** for the children entrusted to the care of these two schools in Kenya that they may grow in the understanding of God's saving word, that faith in Jesus will be guide and strength through life and into eternity.

Togo, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, D.R. Congo, and Mexico – please continue to pray for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world who are struggling to stay healthy, provide for their families and the ministry as they proclaim the Gospel...trusting the promise of our Savior that His word will not return to Him void but will accomplish that for which He sent it.

Mission Trips – are being planned for Nigeria and East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, and Uganda) over the next few months. The Covid pandemic continues to make planning uncertain. **Ask the Lord** to bless the trip preparations and to clear any obstacles that may stand in the way of this work.

Missionary Evensen – was able to return to the U.S. for a furlough. He is now ready to return to Togo to continue the work of assisting in the training of pastors at the Mt. Horeb Lutheran Bible Institute. His flight leaves on July 27th. **Thank** the Lord for his safe travel back to the U.S., his service to the Lord at our CLC convention, and time spent with family and friends. **Pray** for safe and uneventful travels back to Togo and for continued blessings on His service to the Lord and His kingdom work in Togo.

New and Ongoing Opportunities – The Lord continues to provide opportunities to proclaim the truths of His saving word in different areas of the world in places such as South Sudan, Pakistan, Yemen, Egypt, Puerto Rico, Haiti, the Philippines, Russia, and Italy. **Thank the Lord** for the privilege of teaching His word to others! **Pray** for these individuals as they seek to grow in their understanding of God's word to be better equipped to spread the Gospel.

Mission Prayer List

India – Pastor T. Sampath, who has served faithfully as a district chairman in the BELC for many years, has been admitted to the hospital for heart surgery. **Pray** that the Lord would bless the efforts of the doctors and staff as they use their God-given gifts to treat our brother in Christ that the surgery will be successful. **Ask** the Lord to give comfort and strength to Sampath’s family and to the many souls that he serves.

Myanmar – Many in this country continue to struggle through the uncertainty and despair of the February military coup. Many are living in fear of daily conflicts and violence. Daily food and necessities are scarce and banks and most businesses remain closed. The pandemic has hit Myanmar very hard and reports indicate that the military Junta is withholding Covid vaccines, treatments, and even oxygen supplies as a way to control the people. Our brothers and sisters in Christ in Myanmar are suffering. The CLC has been unable to send financial resources, Kinship sponsorships for the children, and Covid relief aid. **Pray** that the Lord will keep and protect and provide for the sheep of His Myanmar flock, especially our brothers and sisters in Yangon, Kalaymyo, and Chin State. **Pray** that the truth of God’s word will have free course to strengthen and encourage the faith of His children and that many more will be brought to faith and find hope in Jesus during these uncertain times and always.

India – Pastor Jyothi B. in India, who was hospitalized in the ICU for several days while he was treated for a rather severe case of Covid, was able to return to his home a few weeks ago. He is still dealing with some weakness but has been able to return to work and has been active in assisting with the distribution of Covid relief aid to those of the CLCI who are in need. Continue to **Pray** for complete healing along with God’s strength, comfort, and courage for Jyothi, his family, and the many souls that he serves.

Nepal – Progress on the building project has been delayed by a couple of months due to the pandemic. Raju reports that they hope to be able to, at least partially, move in by late September and then begin hosting students and begin seminary classes as soon as October. **Thank** the Lord for His continued blessings on this project and ask Him to grant patience to Raju and his family and the students as they wait for completion. And then **ask the Lord** to bless the teaching of His word in this building that many more faithful preachers and teachers will be trained to proclaim the saving truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Nigeria – Mark Bohde and Missionary Ohlmann are planning a visit to Nigeria to conduct a pastoral training seminar and to meet with the various Nigeria-CLC boards and committees. **Ask** the Lord to bless these preparations over the next few weeks that visas will be granted and that Covid travel restrictions will not hinder these plans to do the Lord’s work.

Bangladesh – Pastor M. asks that we continue to pray for a man who was recently converted to Christianity from Hinduism. This man has been assaulted, persecuted, and falsely accused of crimes by his family, and was arrested in an effort to force him to return to Hinduism. **Pray** that the Lord will bless the printing and distribution of the Catechisms as a tool to train more believers in the saving truths of Scripture. **Ask the Lord** to protect and defend His new disciple and to give him the necessary strength and courage to persevere under persecution.

Liberia – Pastor Joseph K., who was involved in a serious motor vehicle accident a couple of months ago, is still struggling in his recovery. He is working with a bone specialist to treat both knee caps and one finger. **Pray that the Lord** will bless his treatments and grant full recovery from his injuries.

*2. Though we have the medal, our race still isn't through.
The world needs to know that salvation's won for them too.
So now let's all work together; just stay on Jesus' track,
And don't be afraid—He's the wind behind your back!
Refrain*

Invocation:

P: We worship God the Father who created us; we worship God the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who saved us from our sins; we worship God the Holy Spirit who gives us faith to believe and to live our lives for Christ.

C: Amen.

P: “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.

C: “Now remain in my love.”

P: “Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

C: “You are my friends if you do what I command.”

Hymn: *Lord, This Day We've Come to Worship*

Confession and Absolution:

P: We are in the presence of the true and living God, who is ever willing to forgive. Let us come to Him in repentance and faith and be assured that we are His friends.

C: Holy God, we confess that we are sinful and do not deserve to be called Your children. Every day we fail to keep Your commandments. We do not love You above all things, and we do not always love others as ourselves. We have disobeyed You and deserve to be punished. But we are truly sorry for our sins, and trusting in Jesus we pray: Have mercy on us and forgive us.

P: God, our merciful Father, sent His Son Jesus to die for Your sins. What a friend Jesus is to lay down His life for you! In Him all your sins are forgiven. Peace be with you.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Choir and children: *Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasure*

*1. Your kingdom, God, is my glorious treasure,
My pearl of incomparable worth.
Its value exceeds every standard of measure,
Surpassing the wealth of the earth.
Lord, give me Your grace and the power of the Spirit
To value this treasure aright
That never allured by the world, I inherit
Your kingdom of glory and light.*

*2. Your kingdom, O God, is alive with the power
Your Word and Your Spirit bestow.
Like yeast, they affect the whole measure of flour,—
Enabling Your kingdom to grow.
Empower me, Lord, as I live Your commission,
Though humble my service may be,
And bring every planting to perfect fruition,
A mustard seed grown to a tree.*

*3. Your kingdom, O God, is a field for the growing
Of seeds that Your mercy has sown;
But still in our midst is the enemy sowing
The weeds that imperil Your own.
Sustain me, O Lord, till Your day of returning
And harvest me homeward at last,
To shine in the homeland that quiets all yearning,
Where sorrow and danger are past.*

Closing prayer:

P: Thank You, Lord God, for nourishing our souls on this journey of earthly life with the food of everlasting life in Your holy Word. Encourage and move us to leave here and engage the people in our lives with the love poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Use us to bring Your peace into the lives of those who need Your love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing hymn: *Christ Is Our Cornerstone*

feet from every evil way, that I may keep Your word. I have not departed from Your judgments, for You Yourself have taught me. How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Gospel lesson:

John 15:9-17....By His saving work Jesus unites us to Himself as friends who want nothing more than to serve Him in love.

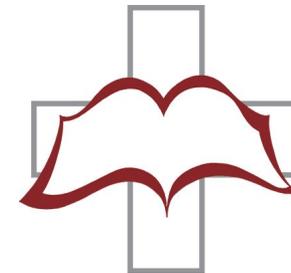
“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. These things I command you, that you love one another.”

The Apostles’ Creed:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



VBS children: Alleluia Chorus

Refrain:

*Alleluia! Praise the Lord! Alleluia! Praise the Lord!
Alleluia! Praise the Lord! Alleluia! Praise the Lord!*

*1. Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpets;
Praise the Lord with the harp and lyre.
Praise the Lord for His ceaseless wonders—
Ever lift your praises higher! Ever lift your praises higher!*

*2. Praise the Lord from the highest mountain;
Praise the Lord from the deepest sea.
Come and drink from the living fountain—
Christ has died to set us free! Christ has died to set us free!*

Installation of newly elected board members and church officers

Hymn: Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

Sermon: Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

TEAM JESUS

- I. Many members, one Savior
 - II. Different gifts, one purpose.
-
-



Seek Ye First



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God, And His
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, Seek and
3 Man does not live by bread a - lone, But by



righ - teous - ness. And all these things shall be
ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be
ev - 'ry word That pro - ceeds from the



add - ed un - to you! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
mouth of the Lord, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

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Prayer of the church

Hymn: Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds

Installation of Mr. Tiefel and Mrs. Reim

The Lord's Prayer

