

Faith Lutheran Church

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Meetings

AA Meeting – Tuesday and Friday at 12 noon, and Thursday at 10 am.

Choir: Rehearsals are canceled until further notice.

Boomwhackers, Bells and

Chimes: Practice is cancelled till Wednesday, January 26th at 5:00 p.m.

Faithful Community Quilters:

2nd Monday of each month from 10 am - 3 pm

Finance – 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10 am.

Council – 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm.

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 23, 2022

Welcome, we are glad to have you join us in the worship of Our Lord.
Please sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary.

Mask wearing is required.

Pastor:Rev. Peter Kuritz

Greeters/Ushers:Judie Tim

Lector:John Lyman

Music: Molly Finkbiner

Music will be spoken until further notice.

Announcements

The flowers and bulletin sponsor are to the Glory of God by Phil and Ruth Newlander – In honor of Emma's 9th Birthday.

Bible Study: Sunday mornings at 7:30 am in the all-purpose room. A new study will be posted via Facebook.

Building Maintenance: Interested in being a part of the team? Meet with Phil Anderson today right after the service at the Fellowship Room.

Souper Bowl: The field is up! This year's players are TOMECS Food Pantry Patriots vs Monroe County Panthers. Oh, but wait! TOMECS has asked Faith Lutheran Church to join now **till February 13th** to help fundraise by donating \$100 for goal posts, \$20 for helmets, \$10 for jerseys, \$5 for pants, and \$1 for shoes. Join Faith and tackle head-on.

Usher and Lector Volunteers needed, please contact Jacquie Halko or call the church to sign up.

Bulletin Sponsors and Flower Donations: New 2022 Bulletin located in the foyer table entrance of the church. In-house bulletin for \$10 and \$20 towards silk flowers or you may bring your own fresh flowers.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Peggy Rapp, President

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John Lyman, Vice President

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Paul Frantz, Council Secretary /Finance Chair

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Jacquie Halko, Worship Committee

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Thomas Hutton, Christian Learning

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Glenda Hoffman, Witness and Service

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(Please stand as you are able.)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

Rejoice in this good news: In ☩ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN: “*Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sin*” LBW 559

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

4 He breaks the pow’r of canceled sin;
he sets the pris’ner free.
His blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood avails for me.

2 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.

5 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv’n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav’n.

3 The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner’s ears,
brings life and health and peace.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

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 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.***

HYMN OF PRAISE: This is the feast...

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST LESSON:

The First Lesson is from **Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10** (NRSV)

¹ All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel.

² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month.

³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up.

⁶ Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Word of God, Word of Life, **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 19

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

² **One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³ Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

⁴ **their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

⁵ It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶ **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it
again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

⁷ The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸ **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹ The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ **More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹ By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² **Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴ **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND LESSON:

The Second Lesson is from **1 Corinthians 12:12-31a** (NRSV)

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another.

²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

(Please stand as you are able)

VERSE / GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Alleluia”

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

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to **Luke 4:14-21** (NRSV).

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

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

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Thy Word is a Lamp to My Feet” *Insert*

Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet
And A Light Unto My Path

When I Feel Afraid
And I Think I’ve Lost My Way
Still You’re There Right Beside Me
Nothing Will I Fear
As Long As You Are Near
Please Be Near Me To The End

I Will Not Forget
Your Love For Me And Yet
My Heart Forever Is Wandering
Jesus Be My Guide
And Hold Me To Your Side
I Will Love You To The End

Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet
And A Light Unto My Path

Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet
And A Light Unto My Path

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL

APOSTLES 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.

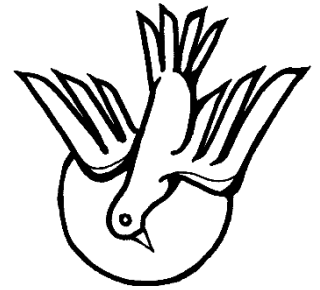
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. 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



PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made. *A brief silence.*

You reveal yourself to us in the reading of scripture. Fulfill your word through the faithful witness of your church. Send us out to bring your liberating good news to all people.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

All creation proclaims your handiwork. Teach us to love the intricate and beautiful bodies that you have created. Bless tiny insects, enormous whales, and every creature in between. Sustain species at risk of extinction. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You desire that there be no dissension among us. Where we are divided in our society, nation, or world, come quickly to reunite us into one body. Ease conflict, dispel violence, and bring an end to war. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Anoint with your Spirit all who seek your favor. Grant provision and justice for people living in poverty, people living with disability, those living with pain, or those living under oppression. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Build up the body of Christ in this place. Bless the variety of ministries in this congregation. Empower us to freely welcome and deeply value each person who enters into worship and ministry among us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

PRAYER LIST

Jason R., Robert F., RC, Mike and Brenda G., Rich, Erik C, Sabrina, Jason R., Tracey E., Drew D., Margery B, Barbara M, Kevin D, Sherry K, Walt D, Adam C. and Family, Judy H., Megan, Jim, Roberta R., Judi O'D, Diana, Wolcott, Dawn, Jeanine, Allen B., Tom and Valerie M., Ed, the congregation of St. John of Stroudsburg.

In thanksgiving we lift before you the saints for whom the promise of salvation has now been fulfilled. Tend to those who mourn. Bring us together in your everlasting glory.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

(Please share Christ's peace in social and acceptable ways.)

(Please be seated)

OFFERING Special Music: "How Great Thou Art" by Stuart K. Hine.

Sung and played by Eric Refsdal: Lead guitar, Rhythm Guitar 2, Vocals,
and Rick Halko: Rhythm guitar 1, Bass, Vocals

(Please stand as you are able)

OFFERTORY SONG: "Let the Vineyards" (during Communion Sundays)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

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 Lords our God.

It is right to give him 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 Sharing our life, he lives among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn: **Holy, holy holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n 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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life. 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

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

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

(Please be seated)

(If you would like please take a couple of moments and prepare your communion elements by lifting both films back halfway or however comfortable.)

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

“The body of Christ.... Given for you.” “The blood of Christ.... Shed for you.”

(After all have communed—please stand as you are able)

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done.

Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.

**He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.
Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of
your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by
name, ✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: “Bind Us Together” WOV 748

There is only one God.
There is only one King.
There is only one Body;
that is why we can sing:

You are the family of God.
You are the promise divine.
You are God’s chosen desire,
you are the glorious new wine.

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together,
Lord; Bind us together with love.

DISMISSAL: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

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Preludes:

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, John A. Behnke.

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Gathering: “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing,” Charles Wesley, Carl G. Glaser.

CCLI Song #1369

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Hymn of the Day: “Thy Word,” Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith.

CCLI Song #14301

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Special Music: “How Great Thou Art,” Stuart Wesley Keene Hine.

Sung and played by Eric Refsdal: Lead guitar, Rhythm Guitar 2, Vocals and Rick Halko: Rhythm guitar 1, Bass, Vocals. CCLI Song #14181

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Sending: “Bind Us Together,” Bob Gillman.

CCLI Song #1228

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Postlude: The Singing Trumpet, Edward Broughton.

#1046315

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Kyrie: – In Peace Let Us Pray, Lutheran Book of Worship. #AF2019204

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Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast, Lutheran Book of Worship.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia Lord to Whom Shall We Go, Lutheran Book of Worship. #63981

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Preface: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lutheran Book of Worship.

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Lamb of God: Lamb of God, Lutheran Book of Worship. LBW Settings 1-3, ELW Settings 3-5. #AF2019222.

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Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Pray as though everything depended on God.

Work as though everything depended on you. —Saint Augustine

Frances Green was an 83-year-old California lady living on Social Security. Although living at the poverty line, she had sent one dollar a year to the Republican National Committee (RNC).

Then one day Frances got an RNC fund-raising letter in the mail inviting her to the White House to meet President Reagan. She didn't noticed the little RSVP card that any response should be accompanied by a generous donation. *She thought she'd been invited because they appreciated her dollar-a-year support!*

She spent some of what little money she had to book train tickets for a cross-country ride in coach for her meeting with the president. But when she got to the White House gate, her name was not on the guest list. She was understandably heartbroken.

But a Ford Motor Company executive was nearby. He talked to the guard. He spoke with a White House presidential aide. And he said to Frances Green, "Come back here tomorrow at 9 a.m."

The next day was anything but calm at the White House. A lot was going on. But Frances Green showed up at nine o'clock, full of expectation and enthusiasm. She was met by the car company official, who gave her a wonderful tour of the White House. As they were going by the Oval Office, President Reagan glanced out and saw Frances Green. He gestured her into his office.

As she entered, he rose from his desk and called out, "Frances! Those lousy computers, they messed up again! If I'd known you were coming I would have come out there to get you myself." He then invited her to sit down, and they talked leisurely about California, her town, her life and family.

The president of the United States gave Frances Green a lot of time that day — more time than he had. He knew this woman had nothing to give him, but she needed something he could give her.

And so the Ford executive and the president took time to be kind and compassionate.

In the same manner, God of all creation — there is no higher-ranking authority — will do the same for you. God beckons you to have a meeting, a conversation, a chat — to come into his presence with rejoicing.

—Timothy Merrill, based on online reports of this story

Prayer: *Loving God, thank you for inviting me into your presence and for reminding me that your door is always open. Amen.*

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Job 1-4

Monday: Job 5-7

Tuesday: Job 8-10

Wednesday: Job 11-13

Thursday: Job 14-17

Friday: Job 18-20

Saturday: Psalms 7-9

Verse to Remember

*I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult
in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.*

—Psalm 9:1-2

WORD BOXES

The book of Acts tells the story of some of the apostle Paul's journeys. Use the grid on the right to fill in the empty boxes on the left, which — when filled out correctly — will reveal the name of one of the cities Paul visited. Remember, only one of the letters derived from either the top or the bottom clue is the correct one. We've done one box for you.

C2	B5	B1	D3	B4	C5	E3
			I			
A2	E4	B2	E5	A1	C1	B4

	A	B	C	D	E
1	G	R	T	J	E
2	P	K	C	B	W
3	Y	X	F	I	H
4	U	N	Z	A	O
5	M	D	S	V	L

Answer: (spelled backward):
HTNIROC

Write a Personal Psalm!

In our **Daily Bible Readings**, we have just started to read the psalms. Have you ever tried to write a psalm? Sometimes, the author of the psalms wrote using an acrostic beginning with the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Here's what you could do: Think of a word to use as the acrostic pattern — God, for example. Then write three statements expressing praise. Each sentence begins with one of the letters of the word "God." See the example to the right.

Now you try it. Consider using words for your acrostic pattern such as: praise, goodness, thanks, prayer, etc. Write it on a sheet of paper. Share your work with someone.

Psalm of Praise

Glory to you, O God,
because you give me
comfort in my trials;
Over all the years of my
life, you have always
been there for me.
Do again today as you
have in the past!

