

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Prayer

Leader: Proverbs 1 says that the purpose of the proverbs of the Lord is to teach people to live disciplined and successful lives in accordance with God's most benevolent will.

People: The precepts of the Lord will help us do what is right, just, and fair in God's eyes.

Leader: God says, "My child, listen when your parent corrects you; don't neglect your parent's instruction."

People: If fools entice us, trying to lead us astray from the ways of our divine parent, we will turn our backs upon them. We will turn instead to Wisdom, and we will never depart from her ways, which lead us to life.

Leader: The fear of the Lord is the foundation of knowledge; it is the foundation of life.

People: Only fools despise Wisdom and shun her discipline. Let us pray...

Pastor Jim: You are the source of Wisdom, O God, and Wisdom was the first thing you created. Through Wisdom you govern and provide for all things. You sent Wisdom to us in the form of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus, who is Wisdom personified, you showed us what it means to be wise. Jesus demonstrated who and what we can become if we entirely devote our selves to both knowing and serving you with all our mind and heart. Instruct us through this liturgy, and by this Word and this Sacrament, give us insight. Join us to yourself and enlighten our minds, so that we may more fully understand your most benevolent will and do that which is good for building a just and righteous community. Assist us in doing this, so that we may bring you honor and glory among our neighbors. We ask this in the holy and most precious name of Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

Confession of Sin

Leader: Whenever we pass through the deep waters or go through fiery trials, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, the giver of Wisdom, let us turn from our foolish and godless ways by confessing our sin and going back to God.

People: You are our impartial judge and limitless redeemer, Eternal God. Therefore, we confess that we have allowed ourselves to be enticed and led away from you by the foolish and empty philosophies or our age. We have thought less of others and more about ourselves. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear their burdens with them. We have ignored the pain of the world. We have passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sins and free us from all our selfishness, so that we may become wise. Show us how to choose your will and obey your commandments. We ask this in the name of Wisdom personified, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

Pardon of Sin

Pastor Jim: Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us because God's wisdom has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. Believe this good news and give thanks: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God!

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Leader: Through this tithe, we give glory to God. Through the offering of our worldly treasures, we do our part to spread God's wisdom, grow God's kingdom, and make it flourish among us. Heed Wisdom's call! Give as freely as you have received!

Pastor Jim: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through Wisdom, you have blessed us with many gifts, including all our possessions. Not one thing is ours to use as we see fit. All things are to be used to spread your Word and demonstrate Wisdom, so that the world may turn to you, and thus find its salvation. Use us and what we have gathered, in showing the world your love. We ask this through the one who gave himself for us, Wisdom in the flesh, Jesus Christ. Amen!

Musical Prayer for Illumination

Scripture *(see below)*

Deuteronomy 6:4-8 & Proverbs 1:7-33 (NLT)

Reflection

"Is Anyone Listening?"

Pastor Jim

The Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving
Breaking of the Bread
Prayer After Communion

Prayer of Intercession

(Pastor Jim): Let us pray for the needs of the church, the entire human family, and all the world.

We pray, O God, that churches of all traditions may find Wisdom by expressing their unity in Christ and by exercising all their combined gifts in service to all, especially the weak, the vulnerable, and the poor.

We pray that this good earth, which you created and declared good, be freed from war, famine, and disease. We ask that the air, soil, and waters be cleansed of all trash and poison.

We pray that those who govern and maintain peace in every land may exercise their powers in obedience to your just and righteous commands.

We pray that you will strengthen this particular nation to pursue fair and just priorities, so that the races may be reconciled, the young educated, the old cared for, the hungry filled, the homeless housed, and the sick comforted, and the hurting healed.

We pray that you will preserve all who live and work in this community, especially our families, in peace and safety.

We pray that you will comfort and empower those who face difficulty or trial: the sick, especially...; the disabled; those who grieve; and those in prison, that their lives may be rehabilitated and they be returned to society to live as good and honorable citizens, again.

We pray that you will accept our gratitude for all the faithful servants in Christ who are now at rest, and who, with us, await a new heaven and earth, your everlasting kingdom.

Merciful God, through Wisdom, you are making us into a new creation. By Wisdom, shape us, day by day, into your goodly image. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Wisdom in the flesh, who taught us to pray, saying, "Our Father..."



⁴“Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. ⁵ And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. ⁶ And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. ⁷ Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. ⁸ Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders.

Deuteronomy 6:4-8 (NLT)



JOYS & CONCERNS

Joy for...

Pastor Jim's return to the pulpit.

Pray for...

Tyler Smith's mom, Christi Dammert, who broke her kneecap due to a fall and underwent surgery this week.

Aggie Gay, recovering from back surgery on Friday.

Sharon Ward, recently diagnosed with stage I cancer.

Niki Price's sister, Marta, diagnosed with brain cancer. She is at UC West Chester.

The husband of Cathy Lester (Head Start supervisor and former teacher), who recently had a stroke.

The family of Ryan Sullivan, 26-year-old Troop 888 Eagle Scout, who passed away unexpectedly July 11. His Eagle Project was the LPC 'building' that houses the smoker. Tedi Blinkhorn's co-worker, Ann, dealing with cancer and upcoming surgery, in need of prayers for her daughter, Jen, recently hospitalized and suffered brain and eye damage, and upset about her mother's surgery.

Tom, brother of Tedi Blinkhorn's co-worker, sepsis and lung cancer diagnosis.

Parents discerning whether to send children to school or keep them home.

Our state and country's ability to get the COVID pandemic under control.

All who are suffering from anxiety due to these stressful and uncertain times.

Our home bound - Norma Koerkel, Gene Strand, Sunni & Karl Kadon

Please keep in your hearts and prayers all the sick and shut-ins of LPC.

Please notify the LPC office of the progress and recovery of the individuals and loved ones named above. Names will appear for 2 weeks unless the office is otherwise notified.

Thank you.

BIRTHDAYS

August 5 ~ Jeff Jamison

August 7 ~ Carla Thornton

ANNIVERSARIES

August 2 ~ Sunni & Karl Kadon

LPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to the following for their Gifts & Memorials in July:

Tedi Blinkhorn ~ Endowment Fund, in memory of Frances Thompson

Don Books ~ Endowment Fund

Jo Funke ~ Loan Fund

Roger Hoyer ~ Endowment Fund

Nancy & Bill Miller ~ Loan Fund

Tim Thalheimer ~ Loan Fund

Council of Session met this week and determined that the church office will remain closed through August and all committee meetings will continue to be held remotely. Some outside groups will begin using the building while abiding by all state, county, and CDC guidelines and mandates. Session is preparing a COVID Response Plan if someone who has tested positive or has had direct contact with a person with a positive diagnosis has been in the building or sanctuary.

Student LIFE Shop: We are in the final week of collecting school supplies for the LIFE Food Pantry's Student LIFE Shop. We will be collecting through Sunday, August 9th. If you are not out shopping but would like to make a monetary donation, please contact Leslie or Hank Westcott.

You may drop off supplies at the church on Thursday, August 6th, from 10am – noon or from 7pm – 8pm. A collection bin will be in the circle drive. Please place your donations in the bin.

2020 Student LIFE Shop Supply List

1 subject & 3 subject spiral notebooks ~ 5, 8, or 10 subject dividers

Planners ~ Dry Erase Markers ~ Post-it-Notes ~ Highlighters

Graph Paper ~ Erasers ~ Scissors - adult size ~ Calculators

Bottles of glue ~ Three Ring Binders - 1.5", 2", 2.5", 3"

Deuteronomy 6:4-8 (NLT)

⁴“Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. ⁶And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. ⁷Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. ⁸Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders.

Proverbs 1:7-33 (NLT)

⁷Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

⁸My child, listen when your father corrects you. Don't neglect your mother's instruction.

⁹What you learn from them will crown you with grace and be a chain of honor around your neck.

¹⁰My child, if sinners entice you, turn your back on them!

¹¹They may say, “Come and join us. Let's hide and kill someone!

Just for fun, let's ambush the innocent!

¹²Let's swallow them alive, like the grave; let's swallow them whole, like those who go down to the pit of death.

¹³Think of the great things we'll get! We'll fill our houses with all the stuff we take.

¹⁴Come, throw in your lot with us; we'll all share the loot.”

¹⁵My child, don't go along with them!

Stay far away from their paths.

¹⁶They rush to commit evil deeds.

They hurry to commit murder.

¹⁷If a bird sees a trap being set, it knows to stay away.

¹⁸But these people set an ambush for themselves; they are trying to get themselves killed.

¹⁹Such is the fate of all who are greedy for money; it robs them of life.

²⁰Wisdom shouts in the streets.

She cries out in the public square.

²¹She calls to the crowds along the main street, to those gathered in front of the city gate:

²²“How long, you simpletons, will you insist on being simpleminded?

How long will you mockers relish your mocking?

How long will you fools hate knowledge?

²³Come and listen to my counsel.

I'll share my heart with you and make you wise.

²⁴“I called you so often, but you wouldn't come. I reached out to you, but you paid no attention.

²⁵You ignored my advice and rejected the correction I offered.

²⁶So I will laugh when you are in trouble!

I will mock you when disaster overtakes you—

²⁷when calamity overtakes you like a storm,

when disaster engulfs you like a cyclone,
and anguish and distress overwhelm you.

²⁸ “When they cry for help, I will not answer.

Though they anxiously search for me, they will not find me.

²⁹ For they hated knowledge

and chose not to fear the Lord.

³⁰ They rejected my advice

and paid no attention when I corrected them.

³¹ Therefore, they must eat the bitter fruit of living their own way,

choking on their own schemes.

³² For simpletons turn away from me—to death.

Fools are destroyed by their own complacency.

³³ But all who listen to me will live in peace,

untroubled by fear of harm.”