FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST G.I.F.G. Sunday

August 26, 2018 - 10:30 AM



Living Springs Lutheran Church

4224 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223 www.livingspringscolumbia.org

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

G.I.F.T. SUNDAY—CALL TO WORSHIP (we stand and face the baptismal fountain)

Leader: The heavens declare God's glory, and the sky proclaims its Maker's handiwork.

People: Teach us your ways, O God, that we may Grow in Faith Together!

Pastor: Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light on our path.

People: Teach us your ways, O God, that we may Grow in Faith Together!

Pastor: O God, we disciples come before you this day, asking for your blessing upon the

ministries of Faith Formation we will share in the year ahead:

People: As we Grow in Faith Together, bless us with the Spirit's fruit!

Leader: For your blessing upon Sunday morning "Faith Alive" for children, youth, and

adults, we pray:

People: As we Grow in Faith Together, bless us with the Spirit's fruit!

Leader: For your blessing upon Children/Youth Faith Milestones, Confirmation Ministry, Jr.

& Sr. Youth ministries, SPARK & summer ministries, we pray:

People: As we Grow in Faith Together, bless us with the Spirit's fruit!

Leader: For your blessing upon Bible Studies, Young Adult Ministry, Devotional gatherings,

Adult Faith Milestones, Parent & Senior Adult ministries, we pray:

People: As we Grow in Faith Together, bless us with the Spirit's fruit!

Leader: For your blessing upon our Child Development Center, Faith Friends, FAITH5, and

daily devotions in our homes, we pray:

People: As we Grow in Faith Together, bless us with the Spirit's fruit!

All are invited to extend a hand of blessing upon the shoulders of those around you ...

Pastor: Almighty God, extend your hand of blessing upon us that we may bear the Spirit's

fruit in our lives and thus be a blessing to others—here in NE Columbia and throughout the world. Bless this community of disciples with an abundance of your Spirit this faith formation year, so that your gift of faith may shine brightly in us to bring your light of hope & grace to all people, through the power of the Holy

Spirit and the presence of Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray.

People: Amen. Amen. May we be filled with the Spirit's fruit of love, joy,

peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-

control, as we ... GROW IN FAITH TOGETHER!

PEACE IS SHARED

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

We greet one another, with the words that the risen Jesus spoke to his disciples: "Peace be with you."

"FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT" PROCESSION (All Children & Youth gather at the back of the sanctuary)

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God. We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing . . . We are praying . . . We are singing . . .

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984; Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

APOSTOLIC GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the

Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Gracious God, set us free to live as disciples of Christ. Fill us with your Spirit, so

that we all may bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no limit to this fruit. May it be so

in our lives. Amen.

People: Amen. (We are seated)

Prayer (we stand)
Sung Response

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

Leader: A reading from First Corinthians.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

People: Holy Spirit, let us show love.

Sharing—LOVE

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

LS Child Development Center

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere their high communion find; his service is the golden cord close binding humankind. ELW #650

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS JOY

James 1:2-4

Leader: A reading from James.

My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking

in nothing.

People: Holy Spirit, let us show joy.

Sharing—JOY LS Jr. Youth Ministry

Prayer (we stand)
Sung Response

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

ELW #836

Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933

John 14:27

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS PEACE

Leader: A reading from John.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world

gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

People: Holy Spirit, let us show peace.

Sharing—PEACE

LS Confirmation Ministry

Prayer (we stand)
Sung Response

"Let Not Your Hearts Be Troubled"





Heav-en and earth have been gath-ered.

Be not a-fraid.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS PATIENCE

Romans 8:25-26

Leader: A reading from Romans.

But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

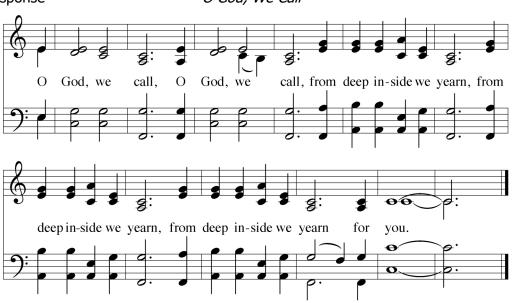
People: Holy Spirit, let us show patience.

Sharing—PATIENCE

LS Sr. Youth Ministry

Prayer (we stand)
Sung Response

"O God, We Call"



Text: Linnea Good; Text © 1994 Borealis Music (linneagood.com). All rights reserved. Used by permission.



THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS KINDNESS

Leader: A reading from Ephesians.

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has

forgiven you.

People: Holy Spirit, let us show kindness.

Sharing—KINDNESS LS Young Adult Ministry

Prayer (we stand)

Sung Response "Where Charity and Love Prevail" ELW #359

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.

Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess, that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.; Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS GENEROSITY

I Timothy 6:17-19

Ephesians 4:32

Leader: A reading from First Timothy.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life

that really is life.

People: Holy Spirit, let us show generosity.

Sharing—GENEROSITY

LS Lifelong Discipleship Ministry

Prayer (we stand)
Sung Response

"Goodness Is Stronger than Evil"

ELW #721

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death; vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text from An African Prayer Book selected by Desmond Tutu, © 1995 by Desmond Tutu. Used by permission of Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc., and Lynn C. Franklin Associates, Ltd.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS FAITHFULNESS

Hebrews 11:1; 12:1-2

Leader: A reading from Hebrews

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen....Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith...

People: Holy Spirit, let us show faithfulness.

Sharing—FAITHFULNESS

LS Worship & Music Ministry

Prayer (we stand)
Sung Response

"Guide My Feet"
Guide my feet
while I run this race.
Guide my feet
while I run this race.
Guide my feet
while I run this race,
while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain.

Text: African American spiritual



THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS GENTLENESS

Philippians 4:5, 1 Peter 3:15

Leader: A reading from Philippians & First Peter.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near ... Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope

that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence.

People: Holy Spirit, let us show gentleness.

Sharing—GENTLENESS

LS Fellowship & Mutual Care Ministry

Prayer (we stand)

Hymn

"Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory"

ELW #561

Joyous light of heav'nly glory, loving glow of God's own face, you who sing creation's story, shine on ev'ry land and race.

Now as evening falls around us, we shall raise our songs to you.

God of daybreak, God of shadows, come and light our hearts anew.

You who made the heaven's splendor,
ev'ry dancing star of night,
make us shine with gentle justice,
let us each reflect your light.
Mighty God of all creation,
gentle Christ who lights our way,
loving Spirit of salvation,
lead us on to endless day.

Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent., para. Marty Haugen; Text @ 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.; All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS SELF-CONTROL

Titus 2:11-13

Leader: A

A reading from Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the

manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: Holy Spirit, let us show self-control.

Sharing—SELF-CONTROL

LS Hope Ministries

Prayer (we stand)



OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN

For those without cash or checks who still wish to give thanks to God for the blessings of your life, our GIVELIFY app is available. Please see the announcements for details.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

""The Gift of Love"

offered by the Celebration Choir



We stand as able

OFFERTORY HYMN

"To God Our Thanks We Give"





Text: Botswanan traditional, as taught by Daisy Nshakazongwe; tr. I-Loh; Text © 1986 World Council of Churches and the Asian Institute for Liturgy and Music.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assist: Let us pray.

People: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every

living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today, on G.I.F.T. Sunday, we form a circle around the outer edges of the sanctuary to receive Holy Communion in a special way. Chairs are available at various spots around the edge for those who need to be seated.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

People: 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.

Pastor: Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

People: Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

This meal is the Lord's Supper of grace and is open to ALL Christians of any background or denomination. As Lutheran Christians, we believe in **Christ's true presence** in, with, and under the elements. We invite you to have your name tag visible so that the ministers may include **your name** as they offer you the elements. Communion at Living Springs is by **intinction** (bread is dipped into the wine or grape juice). In response to the words, "Body of Christ, given for you. Blood of Christ, shed for you," each worshipper may respond with, "**Amen."** If you require a **gluten free wafer**, please let your worship assistant know so they can accommodate you. Each chalice contains two compartments: wine is located in the larger compartment, while **alcohol-free grape juice** is located in the smaller compartment for those who require it. **Children** who have not received communion instruction are invited to come forward for a special blessing, as well as anyone else not desiring to receive the elements. Simply fold your hands to indicate you would like to receive the blessing.

EUCHARISTIC BLESSING & PRAYER

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

People: Amen

Assist: Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but

your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of

peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

People: Amen

+ G.I.F.T. SUNDAY SENDING +

The cross and "Fruits of the Spirit" banner come to the center aisle, where all children are invited to gather with the Pastor. The congregation follows this lead group in procession out of the sanctuary to re-form our circle around the portico and church lawn.

PROCESSION OUTSIDE

G.I.F.T. SONG & BLESSING OF LUNCH

led by Pastor, Staff, and children

BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

Pastor: May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or

imagine, grant you the Spirit's gifts each day. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and

Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: Amen.

Assist: God's people, go in peace to bear the Spirit's fruit for the sake of the world!

Left Side: LOVE! Right Side: JOY!

Left Side: PEACE! Right Side: PATIENCE!
Left Side: KINDNESS! Right Side: GENEROSITY!
Left Side: FAITHFULNESS! Right Side: GENTLENESS!
Both Sides Together: SELF-CONTROL! THANKS BE TO GOD!

While final food preparations are being made in the fellowship hall, all are invited to help form our annual "Human Chain of Hope" to unload the Stuff-a-Bus collections for LS Backpack Food Ministry.

+ CONGREGATION POT-LUCK LUNCH & "FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT" BINGO +

God At Work Through Living Springs Faith Formation





G.I.F.T. Zone Worship-Learning Area For Parents

We offer the parent-friendly G.I.F.T. Zone (in the left-hand transept of the main sanctuary) so that parents may share the worship experience with their children in a meaningful, stressfree way. This parent-friendly worship experience is located in the left-hand sde area of the sanctuary. **Every child in the** G.I.F.T. Zone should be accompanied by a family **adult**—as the purpose is to provide an area for parents to help teach their children the routines and meaning of worship (until they are old enough to worship in the pews for the entire service).

For families who wish to take advantage of the G.I.F.T. Zone, there is child-friendly worship furniture plus adult chairs for parents. Feel free to sit in the special area throughout the service with your child - or come to the area with your child following the Children's Message. Parents and children use guided activities to help our youngest worshipers follow the readings, sermon, hymn, creed, and prayers. This is an awe-

r. Zon

Kid Friendly Worship Experience



some way for parents to share the rhythm of worship and have children/ parents engaged together in worship with the whole congregation, while learning the liturgy. At the 10:45 service, our nursery is also available for ages 0 - 3 (for children who have not yet reached the point to focus and benefit from the G.I.F.T. Zone activities).

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Hungry for an Answer

One Sunday morning in a little village church, a man, sitting in a corner alone at the far end of the last pew, shouted at the preacher. His log-splitter voice cracked the sermon into pieces like a steel blade brings shivers to dark grain in a white oak stump. "I don't understand! What do you mean?" Though many in the congregation thought it was a gimmick, planned for dramatic effect, the bewildered man in the pew was not a prop—he was hungry for an answer.

Today's gospel, the fifth and last in a series of episodes that dwell on Jesus as the living bread of life, finds Jesus no longer on a grassy hillside or on the stormy sea. He is teaching in the village synagogue at Capernaum. Reactions are not favorable. Some of the disciples, bewildered and offended, balk at his words with a protest question: "Who can accept it?" (John 6:60). They are hungry for a reasonable answer. But Jesus won't release the tension. He does not sort those who can from those who cannot "accept it." Instead, he turns right back to the words he delivered, saying they are spirit and life. With that, he issues a challenge: "Do you also wish to go away?" (John 6:67).

Those two questions hang like cobwebs, practically invisible in darkness yet shimmering in light, holding on, waiting. They stretch and cling from the wide branches of Jesus' inexhaustible readiness to give his very self to anyone who dares to believe that what he offers is life itself.

At the end, hungry for an answer, Simon Peter speaks for the twelve with one last and lasting question that broadcasts its own answer that had always been there; "Lord, to whom can we go?" (John 6:68).

Gospel: John 6:56-69

[Jesus said,] "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY!

ASSISTING MINISTER

Steve Padgett

LECTOR

Jan Berger

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Steve Bloss Audrey Turnmire

USHERS

Jan Berger Mike Grimmer John Imbert Wes Levitt

INSIDE GREETER

Nancy Franck

OUTSIDE GREETER

Marshall Hurlbert

ACOLYTE

Wesley Graves

CRUCIFER

Leslie Bloss

TORCHBEARERS

Adam Woodruff Pat Bartucca

NAME TAGS

Karen Kranz

FLOWERS

Gabbards

MUGGER

Karen Kranz

ALTAR GUILD

Cindy Day

COUNTERS

Mike Grimmer Scott Graves Marshall Hurlbert

COUNCIL DISCIPLE

Mike Grimmer



Pentecost Seasonal Emphasis

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. - Galatians 5:22-23a

LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

4224 Hard Scrabble Rd., Columbia, SC 29223 Office: (803) 736-0661 – Preschool: 736-0776

E-Mail: contact@livinspringscolumbia.org
www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia

www.livingspringscolumbia.org

Ministers: People of Living Springs. Our Ministry Staff cont	acts are:
Rev. Eric Fink, Senior Pastor	.pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org
George Donovan, Jr., Dir. of Music & Worship	.george@livingspringscolumbia.org
Deacon Lexanne Graves, Min. of Faith & Life (Children & Families)	.lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org
Christopher Girardeau, Min. of Faith & Life (Sr. Youth & Young Adults).	.christopher@livingspringscolumbia.org
Ellen Girardeau, Associate for Jr. Youth & GIFT Zone Ministries	.ellen@livingspringscolumbia.org
Tammy Mancuso, Preschool Director	.tmancuso@lslcps.org
Lisa Petty, Administrative Assistant	.lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org
Sherry Forsgren, Bookkeeper	.sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org
Mark & Laura Cunningham, Food Ministry	.laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org
Praver Ministry	.praver@livingspringscolumbia.org

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP THIS DAY!

We greet all who worship in the name of the Risen Savior! May the Spirit speak to your heart the message of God's redeeming love for everyone, through the grace shown to the world in Jesus.

We gather as a community of disciples. Our center is Jesus Christ, and we are here to know and share the blessing of his forgiving, healing hand. If you have any questions about our congregation, please call 736-0661, drop by our office (M - F 8:30-4:30) or visit our website at www.livingspringscolumbia.org.

WELCOME GUESTS! – We are especially blessed by your presence today and look forward to worshipping with you again. Please take time to fill out the green slip in your bulletin and/or sign the welcome book in the narthex. New members are always welcome into our congregation. To learn more about becoming part of Christ's family of faith here at Living Springs, please contact the office (736-0661) or Pastor Eric (917-2749).

BULLETIN GREEN SLIPS - may be completed and placed in the offering plate for prayer requests, God Stories, guest information, address/phone updates, and a record of communing. Please complete at least one slip during 2018 to ensure we have a record of communing.

SEASONAL NAME TAG – In order to show hospitality, we ask everyone to stop by the table under the portico and complete a name tag with our seasonal scripture verse. The tags allow everyone to use names as we share the Peace - and allow communion ministers to speak your name (*please make sure your name is visible when you come to the altar rail*).

RESTROOMS – are located in the Administration Building on both levels. Greeters/ushers will be happy to show you the way. Main level restrooms are equipped with diaper changing stations. For your child's safety, please accompany them when they leave the Sanctuary to use the restrooms.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS - are now available, please see an usher or greeter.

HEARING ASSISTANCE – The ushers have headsets which will amplify the sound for you. Please return to an usher or leave in the pew at the conclusion of the service.

GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS & ALCOHOL-FREE GRAPE JUICE— are available during communion, for those who desire either.

G.I.F.T. ZONE - is a special area in our worship space for parents and young children who wish to worship together with more child-friendly furniture and special resources to utilize during worship.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS – are distributed during the children's sermon.

NURSERY — is available for infants-3 years old during the 10:45 Worship Service; located downstairs in the preschool in the Education Building. Greeters/Ushers will be happy to assist you.

CHILD SAFETY — is very important to us, so we ask at least 1 adult to accompany your child if he/she leaves the Sanctuary during worship. Please do not allow children to play on the playground without parental supervision. During the week, church doors are kept locked to maintain security for our Preschool. Please ring the intercom by the office doors to check in.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME – is held each week following the 8:15 service and prior to the 10:45 service, inside the education building.

OUR PRAYER MINISTRY – As a community of disciples, we pray for one another and others - not just in times of illness, but also for praise, thanksgiving, and forgiveness. If you have a prayer request, simply fill out the bulletin green slip and place in the offering plate (or call/email the office). Please indicate if your request is for public or private prayer.