

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021

The First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

After the Reading, the Reader says The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 15

- 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 upon 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 against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

The Second Reading

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

After the Reading, the Reader says The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

Sequence Hymn

The Gospel Reading

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines."

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Jerry Ritchie
 4th: Harper Martin
 7th: Pete Litterski
 8th: Austin Keith
 13th: Donna Richardson
 14th: Margie Litterski
 20th: Ella Cammack
 21st: Carli Lara
 22nd: Monika Henry
 27th: Ayedin Nail
 29th: Paige Lindsey Jackson
 30th: Jason Richardson
 31st: Kari Dickson
 31st: Jim Watson

New Church Directory

Please help us update our information and pictures so we can publish a current directory. **TODAY is the LAST Sunday** Christina Richardson will be in the church office to take you and/or your family's picture either before or after the service. If you would like to send your own picture and contact information, please E-mail christina@smaalongview.org

Volunteers Needed

We need one or more volunteers to train/help in Streaming, Sound Board, & Worship Tech. If you would like to Volunteer, please contact Bryan White, 903.757.2990 or by email: b4hntn@cablerynx.com

Longview Community Ministries

They are the principal organization in Longview that helps people with all sorts of emergency services, including food. They have asked us to help by donating canned fruits and vegetables during this season when food bank donations are down, and the need for services has increased. We will have a basket in the Narthex for ongoing donations. Please donate if you are able.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers in the sanctuary, the flower dedication forms are in the entryway.

NEXT Sunday's Servers (09/05)

Cameras & Streaming: Danielle Martin
Danny's Team: Stan Williams
Eucharistic Ministers:
Greeter: David Brown
Lector: Mary Lynn Dawes
Ushers: Jerry Ritchie
Vestry People: Susan Kuhlman, Amy Brown
Worship Tech: Jessica Sanders

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Pepe Forina (in a coma with COVID)
- Harold Hoffmeister (heart attack)
- Greg Caldwell (in ICU with COVID)
- Jeff Hahne
- Cindy Caldwell
- Rebecca Sweers
- Jim & Martha Berry
- Regina
- Aaron, Roni, & Tom
- Lorraine
- Pete & Margie

Other Prayer Requests:

- Joe McClellan (to adjust to Hawkins Creek Assisted Living Facility)

Bereaved family of:

- Roel "Roy" Martinez (Adoptive Father of Joshua Martinez)
- Tim Raif (Son of Ron & Gayle Raif)

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
08/01/21	\$931	\$2,946	-\$2,015
08/08/21	\$768	\$2,946	-\$2,178
08/15/21	\$8,848	\$2,946	\$5,902
08/22/21	\$2,698	\$2,946	-\$248
YTD TOTALS	\$82,281	\$100,179	-\$17,898

This Sunday's Servers

Cameras & Streaming: Danielle Martin
Danny's Team: Laura Buckner
Eucharistic Ministers:
Greeter: Catherine White
Lector: Becky Supercinski
Ushers: Stan Williams
Vestry People: Frank Supercinski, Andy Sanders
Worship Tech: Laura Brown

St. Michael & All Angels' Episcopal Church
 The Rev. Tracey F. Carroll

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 Church Website: smaalongview.org

Phone: (903) 759-2051