

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 2024

The Second Reading

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

The First Reading

Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22

The ungodly by their words and deeds summoned death; considering him a friend, they pined away and made a covenant with him, because they are fit to belong to his company. For they reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves, "Short and sorrowful is our life, and there is no remedy when a life comes to its end, and no one has been known to return from Hades. Let us lie in wait for the righteous man, because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions; he reproaches us for sins against the law, and accuses us of sins against our training. He professes to have knowledge of God, and calls himself a child of the Lord. He became to us a reproof of our thoughts; the very sight of him is a burden to us, because his manner of life is unlike that of others, and his ways are strange. We are considered by him as something base, and he avoids our ways as unclean; he calls the last end of the righteous happy, and boasts that God is his father. Let us see if his words are true, and let us test what will happen at the end of his life; for if the righteous man is God's child, he will help him, and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries. Let us test him with insult and torture, so that we may find out how gentle he is, and make trial of his forbearance. Let us condemn him to a shameful death, for, according to what he says, he will be protected." Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray, for their wickedness blinded them, and they did not know the secret purposes of God, nor hoped for the wages of holiness, nor discerned the prize for blameless souls.

Psalm

Psalm 54

1 Save me, O God, by your Name; *
in your might, defend my cause.

2 Hear my prayer, O God; *
give ear to the words of my mouth.

3 For the arrogant have risen up against me,
and the ruthless have sought my life, *
those who have no regard for God.

4 Behold, God is my helper; *
it is the Lord who sustains my life.

5 Render evil to those who spy on me; *
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

6 I will offer you a freewill sacrifice *
and praise your Name, O Lord, for it is good.

7 For you have rescued me from every trouble, *
and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The Gospel Reading

Mark 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by Samantha Rauch in memory of Francis Rauch Jr.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by David & Susan Frier Brown in celebration of our daughter Betsy Colosky

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Margot Lindsey
 2nd: Michael Buckner
 3rd: Ruby Hahne
 3rd: Tasha Root
 4th: Gloria Richards
 11th: David Brown
 11th: Terisa Kirschke
 17th: Diane Buffington
 19th: Robyn Murphy
 19th: Roxanne Brink
 23rd: Kyle Glave
 24th: Caroline Tucker
 26th: Lillian Tucker
 27th: Helen Daniel Glave
 27th: Ava Rook

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

6:00 pm Dinner & fellowship

Sunday, September 29, 2024

9:00 am Bible Study

10:00am Holy Eucharist: Fr. Sean Steele

Blessing of the Animals

Join us **Sunday, October 6th at 1:00 PM** for the Annual Blessing of the Animals. Dogs, Cats, and other pets-small and large, furry, and non-furry are all welcome. Kids are welcome to bring a stuffed animal to bless.

Please begin to bring dog food and other dog items to be donated to the local animal shelter.

Church Wide Bible Study

The study, titled "The Path," will commence on Sunday, **October 6th at 9:00 AM**. It features excerpts from Scripture guiding you from the creation narrative to the conclusion of Revelation. The primary coursebook for adults includes both the reading passages and study questions. Correspondingly, the Family Story book is organized into identical chapters, containing the same narratives along with discussion questions for families. Additionally, a coloring book will be offered. For those interested in purchasing any of these books, a sign-up sheet can be found in the narthex.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to donate the flowers for the service, the Flower Dedication forms for 2024 are in the narthex.

This Sunday's Servers

Acolytes: Diane Buffington

Cameras & Streaming: Michael Greathouse

Danny's Team: Bryan White

Eucharistic Ministers: Amy Brown

Greeter: Susan Kuhlman

Lector: Sheila Thrash

Nursery Helper: Carolyn Deakins

Ushers: Joe Frank Brown, Louis Zak

Vestry People: Bryan White, Joshua Martinez

Worship Tech: Wayne Workman

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Angelina Bynum
- Mtr. Tracey
- Andrew McWhorter
- Libby Menger
- The Akinson & Brown Families
- Lorraine and Margie Litterski

Bereavement For:

- Pete Litterski's Family
- William Read's Family

Other Prayer Request:

- Jonathan secures employment, enabling the Bowman family to relocate to Longview.

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
08/25/24	\$2,661	\$3,302	-\$641
09/01/24	\$2,194	\$3,302	-\$1,108
09/08/24	\$3,647	\$3,302	\$345
09/15/24	\$1,275	\$3,302	-\$2,027
YTD TOTALS	\$127,125	\$122,180	\$4,945

Next Sunday's Servers (09/29)

Acolytes: Jonathan Roberts

Cameras & Streaming: Robert Brown

Danny's Team: Melinda Smith

Eucharistic Ministers: David Brown

Greeter: Patti Maxwell

Lector: Susan Brown

Nursery Helper: Roxanne Brink

Ushers: Stan Williams, Chip Doran

Vestry People: Roxanne Brink, Joshua Martinez

Worship Tech: Tommy Smith

St. Michael & All Angels' Episcopal Church

The Rev. Tracey F. Carroll

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