Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2020 • 9:45 a.m.

Grace and Peace are yours, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ!

I am overjoyed that even in the midst of a pandemic I am privileged to write a letter of joy and thanksgiving. Even as the world seemingly crumbles around us, God has granted us a time of unity where Ascension can be a light to the world, proclaiming and demonstrating the Good News of Jesus Christ. CARChurch:FM (90.5) has been such an incredible success, and it is all thanks to you! Incredible volunteers from PMC and the congregation have helped with sound, parking, and logistics. The congregation’s creative and innovative ideas have made Car Church a true group effort, a collaboration between all of God’s people here at Ascension. Members of the congregation have told their friends, shared Facebook posts, and even gotten us into the local paper! Above all, the biggest contribution has been your presence. What a blessing it was to see all the cars in our lot worshipping on Sunday! The plan is to continue meeting in our cars at 9:45 a.m. until it is safe to meet inside again. If there is an overflow in our parking lot, the homecare business next door has offered their parking lot.

Pastor Ulm

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing of Peace

P The peace of the Lord be you with always.

C And also with you.

(Congregation will share the peace of the Lord with one another by waving to your neighbors)

Opening Hymn

God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It
LSB 594

1 God’s own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.

Do I need earth’s treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!
2  Sin, disturb my soul no longer:  
    I am baptized into Christ!  
I have comfort even stronger:  
    Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.  
Should a guilty conscience seize me  
    Since my Baptism did release me  
In a dear forgiving flood,  
    Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

3  Satan, hear this proclamation:  
    I am baptized into Christ!  
Drop your ugly accusation,  
    I am not so soon enticed.  
Now that to the font I've traveled,  
    All your might has come unraveled,  
And, against your tyranny,  
    God, my Lord, unites with me!

4  Death, you cannot end my gladness:  
    I am baptized into Christ!  
When I die, I leave all sadness  
    To inherit paradise!  
Though I lie in dust and ashes  
    Faith's assurance brightly flashes:  
Baptism has the strength divine  
    To make life immortal mine.

5  There is nothing worth comparing  
    To this lifelong comfort sure!  
Open-eyed my grave is staring:  
    Even there I'll sleep secure.  
Though my flesh awaits its raising,  
    Still my soul continues praising:  
I am baptized into Christ;  
    I'm a child of paradise!

———

Baptism of Kendra Krya

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Reading of the Psalm

Psalm 27:1-9

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;

though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his
tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.
And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the L ORD. Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me! You have said, “Seek my face.” My heart says to you,
“Your face, LORD, do I seek.” Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service of the Word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kyrie</strong> (spoken)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>P</strong> In peace let us pray to the Lord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong> Lord, have mercy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>P</strong> For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong> Lord, have mercy.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>P</strong> 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong> Lord, have mercy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>P</strong> For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong> Lord, have mercy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>P</strong> Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong> Amen.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Prayer of the Day**
**P** The Lord be with you. 
**C** And also with you.
Let us pray: Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .
for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Give Thanks to the Lord

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.
His love endure forever.
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.

Pastor will Lead

(Repeat 1x)
Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20th Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ So the last will be first, and the first last.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon
1  See this wonder in the making:
   God Himself this child is taking
   As a lamb safe in His keeping,
   His to be, awake or sleeping.

2  Miracle each time it happens
   As the door to heaven opens
   And the Father beams, “Belovèd,
   Heir of gifts a king would covet!”

3  Far more tender than a mother,
   Far more caring than a father,
   God, into Your arms we place him/her/them,
   With Your love and peace embrace him/her/them.

4  Here we bring a child of nature;
   Home we take a newborn creature,
   Now God’s precious son or daughter,
   Born again by Word and water.

Nicene Creed

1  I believe in one God,
   the Father Almighty,
   maker of heaven and earth
   and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
   the only-begotten Son of God,
   begotten of His Father before all worlds,
   God of God, Light of Light,
   very God of very God,
   begotten, not made,
   being of one substance with the Father,
   by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Hear us as we pray in His name and as he has taught us:

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.
Benediction  

P  The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
C  Amen.

Closing Hymn  

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy  

1  Baptized into Your name most holy,  
   O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
   I claim a place, though weak and lowly,  
   Among Your saints, Your chosen host.  
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,  
Your Spirit now shall live within.

2  My loving Father, here You take me  
   To be henceforth Your child and heir.  
My faithful Savior, here You make me  
   The fruit of all Your sorrows share.  
O Holy Spirit, comfort me  
When threat'ning clouds around I see.

3  My faithful God, You fail me never;  
   Your promise surely will endure.  
O cast me not away forever  
   If words and deeds become impure.  
Have mercy when I come defiled;  
Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

4  All that I am and love most dearly—  
   Receive it all, O Lord, from me.  
Let me confess my faith sincerely;  
   Help me Your faithful child to be!  
Let nothing that I am or own  
Serve any will but Yours alone.

Text: Public domain
Go in peace to serve the Lord.

Proclaiming and Demonstrating the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the Church

In peace, let us pray to the Lord and offer to Him the petitions and supplications of a people confident of His promise to hear and answer us with mercy.

That we may seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him in the day of salvation, and be prepared by His mercy for the Day of Judgment, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That we may delight in the light of Christ and His salvation, and that sinners may find refuge in His mercy and comfort in His forgiveness, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That we may hear the voice of God speaking in His Word and be nurtured by faithful pastors who preach and teach this Gospel, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That this Word may be the foundation of the home, that husband and wife may be united in this faith and hope, and that their children may hear and be nurtured in this Word by faithful parents, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That the Church may nurture the lives of our children in Sunday school and catechism classes, and that we may all be grounded in the doctrine of Scripture through the study of God’s Word, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That the Lord may bless missionaries far and near, that He may nurture newly planted congregations, and that He may renew those congregations in distress, that those from every nation and culture may be united with us in faith and life, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That we may enjoy the blessing of good government, faithful leaders, peace in our land and peace among the nations, and that we may be good citizens and neighbors, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.
That the sick may be healed, the troubled know peace, the grieving be comforted and the dying be delivered to everlasting life in Christ, and especially for those listed in Our Prayers and Thoughts, especially____________; and that we may all be delivered from fear, anxiety and despair by God’s gracious care, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That we may commune in faith, that no unrepentant sin may hinder our reception of Christ’s body and blood, and that the fruits of this communion may be reflected in a manner of life in keeping with who we are as God’s children by Baptism and faith, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That we may honor the Lord with praise and thanksgiving and bring to the Lord the tithes and offerings of a grateful people, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That we may not forget the witness of the faithful who lived and died in Christ, and that we may at last be joined with them in the marriage supper of the Lamb in His Kingdom without end, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

Hear the prayers of Your people, O Lord, and grant to us all things good and wholesome and keep from us all things harmful. Give us contentment, that trusting in Your mercy we may delight in Your saving will where the last are made first by Your generosity and grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

We encourage you to include these individuals in your personal prayer life. If you have a prayer request, please fill out a card in the narthex and place it in the box.

Recent Requests: John Zaffle (father of Lisa Larissey); Richard Baker

On-Going Requests: Connie Baker; Jim Battenhouse; Lisa Behrendt; Erich Birk; Kay Brabander; Paul Daniels; David Dillon; Richard Fisher; Bill Group; Rich Helmink; Jim Hauser; Matt Matjasic; Gil Moyer; Fred Oppenlander; Kyle Payne; George Prok; Lynn Robertson; Jason Saylor; Shirley Scheuermann; Art Wilms; John Williams; Diane Zierow Lillian Zutz

Shut-Ins: Tom Becker; Ann Docy; Alice Hoover; Greta Mekus; Mattye Mills-Rini; Mary Ann Rapasi; Dawn Ziebarth
Family & Friends in our prayers:

Clara Battenhouse (granddaughter of D&J Battenhouse, dep—Germany)
Wyatt Battenhouse (grandson of D&J Battenhouse)
Allison Behrendt (Air Force-Hawaii)
Paul Black (friend of David Dillon)
Philip Byron, cousin of Jan Summer
Rev. Chris Just
Samuel Cowden (infant son of Nancy Cowden,
Nancy Cowden (Mary Ulm’s sister)
Alice Dore (friend of Mary Ilenin),
Della Dunn (Mike Dunn’s niece)
Glenn Gallo (Virginia Gallo’s son)
Joan (friend of the Fisher’s)
Johnny Grays (Cheris Dunn’s brother-in-law)
Caroline Hill (JoJo Helmink’s sister)
Mike Hoelter (son of David & Ellen Hoelter)
Joseph (friend of Ryan Peters)
Myron Joseph (Cynthia & Rich Fisher’s brother-in-law)
Kim (daughter of Mary Martin)
Ben Mathus (Cousin of Jan & Bob Fitzpatrick)
Alissa McLellan (friend of Pastor Ulm)
Karen McNabb (Cheris & Mike Dunn’s sister-in-law)
Megan and Sarah (Deborah Decker’s daughters-in-law)
Pam Mehlman (co-worker of Miriam Saylor)
Brent Miller (friend of Pastor Ulm)
Seth Nakashige (Laurie Schneider’s nephew)
Theresa Otto (sister of Mary Martin)
Karen Naylor (sister of Mary Martin)
Robert Ochoa (son-in-law of Art Wilms)
Chris Parker (friend of the Graham’s
Rhonda Peters (daughter-in-law of Ralph Peters)
Linda Polcha (sister-in-law of Pat Dillon)
Tommy Prok (George Prok’s brother’s grandson)
Karen Peters (sister-in-law of Ralph Peters and aunt of Gerald Peters)
Winnie Regan (2-year old, brain surgery)
Andrew Robertson (son of Lynn Robertson)
Mary Rosser (friend of the Ilenins)
Matt Schneider (husband of Laurie Schneider)
Jack Secue (grandson of Richard & Cynthia Fisher)
Clinton & Debi See (Stacy Peters Aunt & Uncle)
Nancy Sergi’s Father
Jodi Sevigny (cousin of Noreen Mekus)
Ava Joan Taylor (granddaughter of Tammy Hausmann’s friend)
Lyn Tomsik (friend of Mary Ilenin)
Nancy (sister of Mary Ulm)
Ann Wadas (daughter of Dotti Mulford)
Krystal Walker (granddaughter of Kathy Walker)
Mary Zeigler, friend of Sandra Graham

Preparing for Next Week’s Worship Services—September 27—Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Monday Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Tuesday Psalm Psalm 25:1-10
Wednesday Epistle Reading Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18
Thursday Holy Gospel Matthew 21:23-27
Friday Collect
Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Saturday Reflection
The way of Christ stands firm against all transgressions. God’s chosen, sinful people frequently gripe, complain, and hurl insults against God, daring to challenge His authority. But God heartily desires that His people would be transformed with a new heart and a new spirit. His way is one of comfort, love, affection, sympathy, and joy. God’s people receive all of this incredible goodness when they turn from transgressions, confess guilt, acknowledge His authority, and receive His grace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BAPTISM—Today, we receive Kendra Krya Council in Jesus’ name as a child of Christ. Kendra was born on July 21, 2019 and is the daughter of Angela and Nick Council. Her sponsors are Kimberly Percival and Patrick Kelly.

SUNDAY SERVICE OPTIONS
The 8:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary—MASK REQUIRED
The 11:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary—MASK REQUIRED
Please e-mail ascnlutheran@gmail.com or call the office at 440-777-6365 to reserve a seat since there is a limited number of seats in both services due to “safe distancing”.
Car Church continues to be available at 9:45 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY—THE BOOK OF ACTS
Continues Wednesday @ 11:00 a.m.
If you would like to join us on Zoom, contact Pastor for the link or you can Join us on Facebook.
During the pandemic I learned a new technique for engaging with the Bible, and I am excited to share it with you! Join me on Saturday, September 26 at 2 pm for a brief workshop to learn this new skill and add it to your arsenal! You will leave with all the knowledge and materials you need to get started. If it is nice, we will have the class outside at socially distanced tables. If it rains, we will hold the class in the sanctuary with masks. The class will also be streamed on Facebook Live. The class is free, but we will take a freewill offering to offset the cost materials. I hope you will join me!

Please email pastorulmascension@gmail.com or give him a call at 330-419-2720 to register so that materials can be purchase. - Pastor Ulm

HELP WITH CAR CHURCH—We are SO THANKFUL for all of Keith Behrendt’s work assembling and running our Car Church service! We need an individual or individuals to learn the Car Church system with the goal of giving Keith an occasional break and a substitute if needed. Keith has the system boiled down to user-friendly procedures (with accompanying pictures) and is willing to teach someone else how to run the system! Please contact the church office if you are willing to volunteer.

Quarterly Mission—God Cares Ministry
Two weeks left for the Quarterly Mission—God Cares Ministry. This ministry is a local organization in Avon Lake and they provided our Helpers of Joy Ministry with resources, training material, Bibles and devotional materials. All these resources are provided for a simple donation.

If you would like to make a donation in your weekly envelope, please write on your envelope “God Cares” and the amount. If you write a separate check, make the check payable to Ascension Lutheran Church and we will get the funds to the organization.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for July-September 2020 is now available. You can receive a copy on your way out of church.
**SMILE**—On Monday, November 9, we will be having family photos taken for a new church directory! This is an excellent way to get to know and remember the names and faces around Ascension and every family will receive a directory free of charge! You are under NO obligation to purchase photos, but the opportunity will be available. The photographers follow strict COVID protocols and families will be scheduled one at a time with time between to sanitize the area. Be on the lookout for more information as the date approaches.

**YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT PASTOR ULM TO RECEIVE COMMUNION**

**PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR ULM TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS**

330-419-2720

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**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Amount Needed</th>
<th>Received-to-Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debt Reduction</td>
<td>$1,896.68/mo.</td>
<td>$130.00/thru Sept. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminarian Support</td>
<td>monthly</td>
<td>$25.00/thru Sept 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarterly Mission—God Cares Ministry</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,326.00</td>
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**ATTENDANCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September 6, 2020</th>
<th>September 13, 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car Attendance</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car Attendance</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Church: 8:00</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Church: 8:00</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Church: 11:00</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>In-Church: 11:00</td>
<td>11</td>
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</tbody>
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**PASTOR CONTINUES TO WORK FROM HOME**

Pastor’s Phone Number is 330-419-2720.

Until further notice, please make this number your first point of contact for church issues rather than the church office phone.