

## Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Christian Supplement Worship - Series B

### First Lesson: Deuteronomy 4:1,2,6-9

<sup>1</sup> Hear now, O Israel, the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. <sup>2</sup> Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

... <sup>6</sup> Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” <sup>7</sup> What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? <sup>8</sup> And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup> Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

### Second Lesson: James 1:17-27

<sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

<sup>19</sup> My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, <sup>20</sup> for man’s anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. <sup>21</sup> Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it — he will be blessed in what he does.

<sup>26</sup> If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

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

<sup>1</sup> The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and <sup>2</sup> saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were “unclean,” that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup> When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

<sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with ‘unclean’ hands?”

<sup>6</sup> He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

“ ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

<sup>7</sup> They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.’

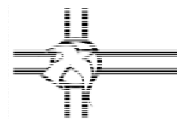
<sup>8</sup> You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men.”

<sup>14</sup> Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.

<sup>15</sup> Nothing outside a man can make him ‘unclean’ by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him ‘unclean.’ ”

... <sup>21</sup> For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, <sup>22</sup> greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup> All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’ ”

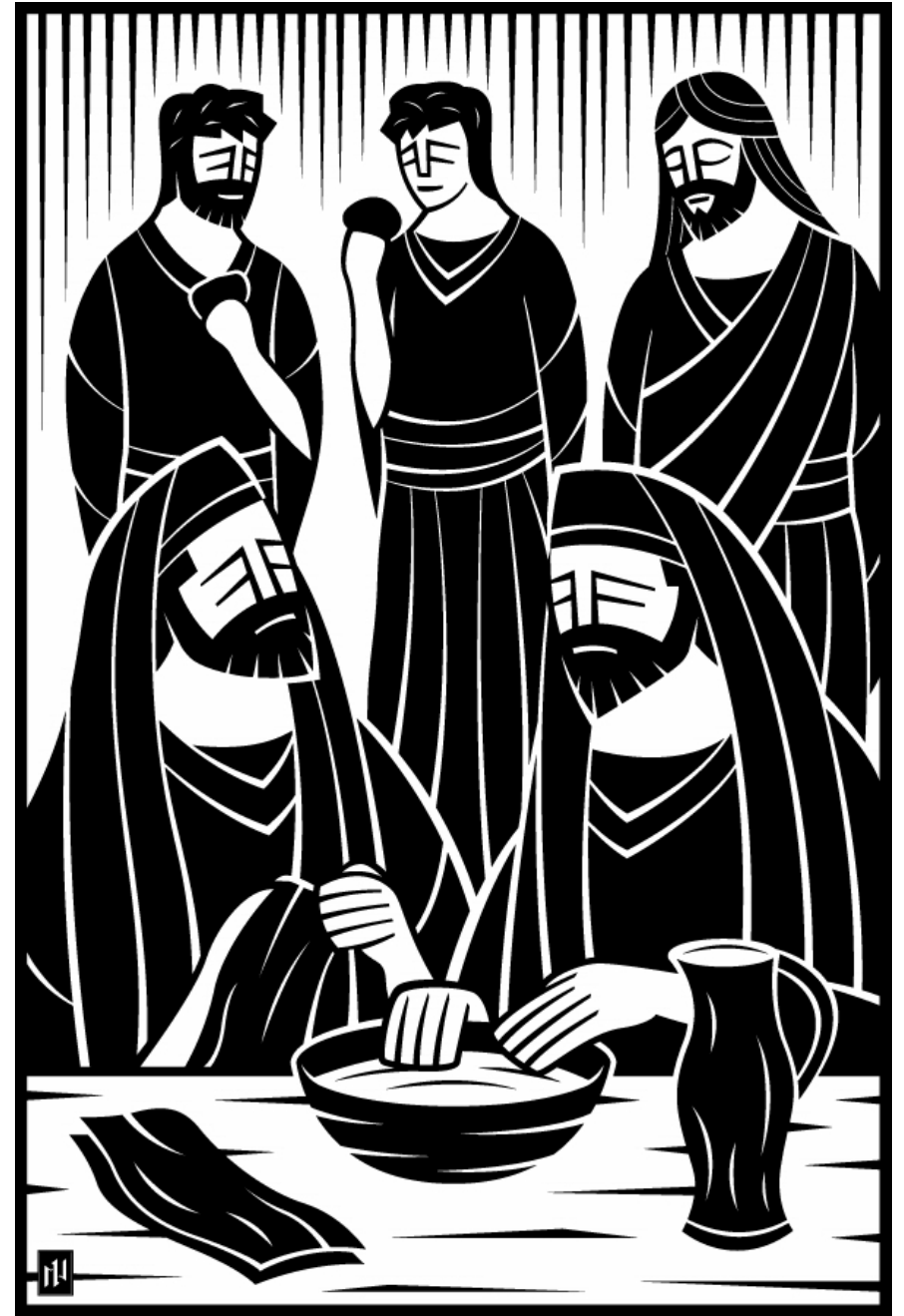
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## Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Welcome  
to  
Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Christ's Love,  
Our Calling.

To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to our first time guests we extend it most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with the risen living Redeemer, membership in His Church, and citizenship in His eternal kingdom. Our message is as old as the Word of God to man and as new as the new life it brings: *Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to give eternal life to people everywhere.*

**Dear Visitors:**

- **The bookmark** in this service folder will guide you through our service.
- If you **need assistance** in worship, ask an usher. We offer worship partners.
- Before you leave today, **please sign our guest book**. It is located in the Narthex.

**Personal sound enhancement receivers** are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.

**Today's Service** is being broadcast at [www.peacewithgod.com](http://www.peacewithgod.com). Click on the blue box labeled "Live Online Services." It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

✘ ✘ ✘ **Before participating in Communion** ✘ ✘ ✘



We welcome all people to our services, those who are fully united with us in Christ's teachings as well as those who do not yet share our confession of the Faith. However, it is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to all Christians to receive Communion with us. Our Lord teaches (1 Cor. 10:17 and elsewhere) that Communion is an action of the celebrating community that declares their oneness in the Faith, life, and worship. Communing with Christians not in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS] or our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS], would imply a oneness that does not truly exist, but for which we pray. Our pastor will gladly talk with you about establishing communion fellowship here at Peace.

**Suggestions for Pre-service meditation**

**Meditate** on the readings (on the back of the bulletin cover) keeping in mind *Today's Theme* and the comments on the lessons written below. Then do the same with the words of the *Psalm of the Day* and the words of the *hymns*. Both are listed on the worship *bookmark*.

*The Theme of Today's Service*

**Hold on to God's pure word. It alone rescues us from sin's deceptions.**

**Prayer of the Day**

*O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**The Lord speaks to us in his word:**

**The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

*We will not discover true wisdom in us or around us. Only God's word gives wisdom and understanding. Conform to God's word. You will become truly wise and raise children that are made wise.*

**The Psalm: Psalm 119c**

*Look what God's word can do. It gives understanding and leads us to live a truly wise life.*

**The Second Lesson: James 1:17-27**

*Of all the good gifts our heavenly Father gives us, James notes that our new life through God's word is the highest good. Don't live the lie! Live the word of truth. Let its goodness reign in and through you.*

**The Verse of the Day: 1 Timothy 1:10b**

Alleluia. Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.

**The Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

*True worship of God is not man-made. The "worth-ship" God deserves is hearts and lives that are transformed to conform to all his word and will. Saving faith always agrees with God's word.*

**The Sermon: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

**This is Christian Living**

*Sermon written by Rev. Phil Huebner. Used with permission. Ministering Elder: James Dietz*