



Sunday, July 25, 2010
Lectionary 17 / Proper 12
Holy Communion Setting 10

INTRODUCTION

Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."

BECKS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

441 Becks Church Rd.

Lexington, NC 27292

(336) 249-2056

www.beckslutheranchurch.org

Pastor: The Rev. K. Raymond Sipe

Director of Music: Carole Gasque

Ministers: The People of Becks

Welcome to Becks Lutheran Church as we worship God, and learn and grow in faith.

Please take a moment during the announcements to sign our **Fellowship Register**.

Hearing devices are available for those who are hearing impaired. Please see an usher for assistance.

Doodle bags filled with quiet activities for children are available in the narthex.

The Sanctuary Candle is lighted to the glory of God and in honor of Pastor Ray Sipe by Jim and Vickie Whitehead.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God, and in memory of Mr. & Mrs. John Briggs, and Mr. & Mrs. A.W. Klass by Jack and Peggy Klass, and in memory of Elmer and Tessie Parker by Mark and Becky Klass.

Thanks to Judy Conrad for playing the piano while Carole is on vacation.

Serving at Worship Today:

ACOLYTE: *Hannah Frey*

CRUCIFER: *Scott Allen*

LECTOR: *Jim Whitehead*

PRAYERS: *Vickie Whitehead*

GREETERS: *Kathy Hunt*

NURSERY:

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: *Kathy Hunt*

USHERS:

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New Office Hours are Tuesday and Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Please call Pastor Ray's cell phone (425-9682) anytime if you need assistance.

Vickie Whitehead has accepted the administrative assistant position with Becks.

2010 Volunteer sign up sheets are now posted! We still need a Nursery attendant for August. If you can help, please call the church office at 336-249-2056

2010 Congregation Council is looking for volunteers to prepare meals before council meetings. Please contact President Tom Garrett if you can help with this ministry.

Exercise group will meet on Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the FEB. Please contact Doris Allen for more information.

Circle of Faith will meet on Sunday, August 1, at 3:00 P.M. in the Office Complex.

Circle of Hope will meet in August, watch for more details in the August Newsletter.

Circle of Love will meet on Tuesday, August 3, at 7:00 P.M. in Pastor's classroom.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will not meet in August.

This Week: July 25 - 31

Monday 7:00 p.m. Exercise Group (*FEB*)

Current Financial Update		
Attendance Last Week:		88
Budget:	Offering Last Week	\$ 1,830.00
	Estimated Weekly Expenses	\$ 3,808.00
Building Fund:	Offering Last Week	\$ 390.00
	Monthly Expense	\$ 5,963.50
Line of Credit:	Balance as of June 7	\$23,066.00

Looking Ahead: August 1 - 7

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	3:00 p.m.	Circle of Faith (<i>Office Complex</i>)
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Exercise Group (<i>FEB</i>)
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Circle of Love (<i>Pastor's Classroom</i>)
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	Young at Heart (<i>Lexington Style Trimmings</i>)

EYEGASSES NEEDED

In August, Becky Hoppensteadt will be going to Nicaragua on mission trip. We will be giving eyeglasses to those who need them. So if you have any eyeglasses to donate to MOST Ministries for this purpose, please put them in the "eyeglass basket" on the table across from the restrooms.



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Last Call for Beach Retreat – we have seven paid reservations and Council has agreed to keep the reservation for Agape. More reservations are needed in order to keep the cost down, and a volunteer to help lead and/or plan the retreat is needed. Please contact the church office if you are interested!!!

TEXTS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–23, Psalm 49:1–12, Colossians 3:1–11 and Luke 12:13–21

Assistance Fund – we have received and filled several request for financial assistance and our fund is low. While we always need food for the pantry, sometimes we also need to assist with power bills, rent, and other needs which require us to write a check. If you can, please help us to replenish our fund. Mark your checks Assistance Fund.



We Remember These Persons In Our Daily Prayers

If you have names to add or remove from our prayer list, contact the church office.

COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Thursday, July 22, 2010
Mary Magdalene, Apostle

Sometimes called "the apostle to the apostles" because she told them of her encounter with the risen Lord, Mary was a woman of Galilee who followed Jesus throughout his ministry. She was present at Jesus' crucifixion and his burial.

Friday, July 23
Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church, died 1373

Birgitta married at age thirteen and had four daughters. Widowed at age thirty-eight, she gave all that she owned to the poor, and founded a community of monks and nuns led by a woman. Her work is continued today by the Society of St. Birgitta.

Sunday, July 25
James, Apostle

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

Wednesday, July 28
Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, Messiah, is a setting of scriptural texts.

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LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

Having recently learned the most important commandment—love God and love your neighbor as yourself—through the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), the disciples now have the presence of mind to ask Jesus how to pray. They are learning their catechism.

Christians can give thanks that the disciples asked the question, because all those who have memorized and prayed the prayer Jesus taught are beneficiaries. It is a prayer of comfort, grace, and strength, fathomless in its depths and multifaceted like a diamond. It is a beautiful prayer.

It is likely the words of this prayer, the Lord's Prayer, are some of most prayed in human history. And for good reason. They teach us to praise God, invite the kingdom, stay focused on daily bread, seek forgiveness, forgive others, and seek relief from temptation and suffering.

The catechism class on prayer continues with instructions to be persistent and focused in prayer. Keep praying, be confident, and be specific. Don't leave a prayer unprayed because you doubt it will be answered. Persist. Pray it.

And then, in a surprise turn, instructions on what specifically to pray for: pray for the Holy Spirit, because God will not deny the Spirit to those who ask. This second part may be in at least some of our communities a less-often-prayed prayer. "Come, Holy Spirit," a prayer sometimes sung through the words of the hymn "Veni Sancte Spiritus" (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, #406). Set to music by the Taizé community, a song like this goes deeper and becomes a profound prayer through repetition, much like the Lord's Prayer when prayed as a meditation.

Lord, keep teaching us to pray this way. Come, Holy Spirit.

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