*“Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart…” Who, reading these words, doesn’t agree to this aspiration? For in saying one wants to BE a Christian, one is saying one wants “to be a Christian in [one’s] heart.*

*Who we are comes from what is in our hearts. Those things in life that we pursue after with great effort and zeal. It is my prayer that being a Christian from our hearts is who we truly aspire to be.*

 *– Pastor Randy*

***Crescentville & Frankford Memorial United Methodist Churches***

**14th Sunday After Pentecost August 29, 2021**

**Welcome**

 Chorus of Welcome *“The Family of God”*

I’m so glad I’m a part of the family of God—I’ve been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!

Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod; for I’m part of the family, the family of God.

 **Call to Worship** *James 1*

 *Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak,*

 *and slow to grow angry. This is because an angry person doesn’t produce God’s righteousness.*

 *Therefore, with humility, set aside all moral filth and the growth of wickedness,*

 *and welcome the word planted deep inside you—the very word that is able to save you.*

 *You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. Those who hear*

 *but don’t do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror, They look at themselves,*

 *walk away, and immediately forget what they were like. But there are those who study the perfect law,*

 *the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don’t listen and then forget,*

 *but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do.*

 **Opening Hymn** *“We Thy People Praise Thee”* # 67

 We, Thy people, praise Thee, praise Thee, God of every nation!

 We, Thy people, praise Thee, praise Thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

 Days of wonder, days of beauty, days of rapture filled with light tell Thy goodness, tell Thy mercies,

 tell Thy glorious might. We Thy people, praise Thee, praise Thee, praise Thee evermore!

 We, Thy people, praise Thee, praise Thee, God of every nation!

 We, Thy people, praise Thee, praise Thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

 For Thy blessings, for Thy bounty, joyful songs to Thee we sing, songs of glory, songs of triumph

 to our God and King. We, Thy people, praise Thee, praise Thee, praise Thee evermore!

 **Opening Prayer**

 **Glorious God, source of joy and righteousness, enable us as redeemed and forgiven children**

 **to rejoice in singing Your praises. Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe**

 **in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives;**

 **so that being doers of the Word and not hearers only, we may receive everlasting life;**

 **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Children’s Message**

**Joys & Concerns………………….……..*Gathered Prayer…………………………The Lord’s Prayer***

*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 and debts as we forgive our debtors and 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. Amen.*

Gifts and Offerings The Doxology

 *“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” # 95*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**The Offertory Prayer**

 **Hymn** *“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”* [VS. 1-3]# 402

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

**Gospel Lesson** *St. Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

 The Pharisees and some legal experts from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. **2**They saw

 some of his disciples eating food with unclean hands. (They were eating without first ritually purifying

 their hands through washing. **3**The Pharisees and all the Jews don’t eat without first washing

 their hands carefully. This is a way of observing the rules handed down by the elders. **4**Upon returning

 from the marketplace, they don’t eat without first immersing themselves. They observe many other rules

 that have been handed down, such as the washing of cups, jugs, pans, and sleeping mats.)

 **5**So the Pharisees and legal experts asked Jesus, “Why are your disciples not living

 according to the rules handed down by the elders but instead eat food with ritually unclean hands?”

 **6**He replied, “Isaiah really knew what he was talking about when he prophesied about you hypocrites.

 He wrote,

*This people honors me with their lips,*
     *but their hearts are far away from me.*
 **7***Their worship of me is empty* *since they teach instructions that are human words.*

 **8**You ignore God’s commandment while holding on to rules created by humans and handed down

 to you.” …………**14**Then Jesus called the crowd again and said, “Listen to me, all of you,

 and understand. **15**Nothing outside of a person can enter and contaminate a person in God’s sight;

 rather, the things that come out of a person contaminate the person.”…………**21**“It’s from the inside,

 from the human heart, that evil thoughts come: sexual sins, thefts, murders, **22**adultery, greed,

 evil actions, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, insults, arrogance, and foolishness.

 **23**All these evil things come from the inside and contaminate a person in God’s sight.”

 **Sermon** *“…In My Heart”*

 **Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles’ Creed*

 I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

 And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived

 by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,

 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

 the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven,

 and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

 from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;

 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Hymn**  *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”* # 664

 Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave.

 The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe.

 The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.

 God’s grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God’s kingdom and answer the call.

 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face.

 Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God’s children of each tribe and race.

 With Your grace You feed us, with Your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share.

 Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and that Name that we bear.

**Benediction**

***Quiet Meditation, Reflection, and Prayer***

**Choral Benediction**   *“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”* [VS. 4]# 402

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart

In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR & SAVE THE DATE!**

**September 11th** – Outdoor Flea Market 9 AM to 1 PM. Please donate your treasures to our church soon so that they can be prepared for sale. No vendor tables will be available.

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**Lectionary Readings**

The Word of God is like an anchor. Each time you read it, you are putting your anchor in the ground and holding on. It keeps you from drifting. But without daily grabbing on to this anchor, you may be miles away before you realize what happened.

**Sunday, Sep 05TH - 15th Sunday after Pentecost**

Mark 7:24-37 - Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Psalm 125 or Psalm 124 - James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17

