

# **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**



The "Unfairness" of God



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Office Secretary: Jen Olson, Office hours Tuesday - Friday
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling*.

# "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" Psalm 122:1



Today's 8:00 service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament. Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.

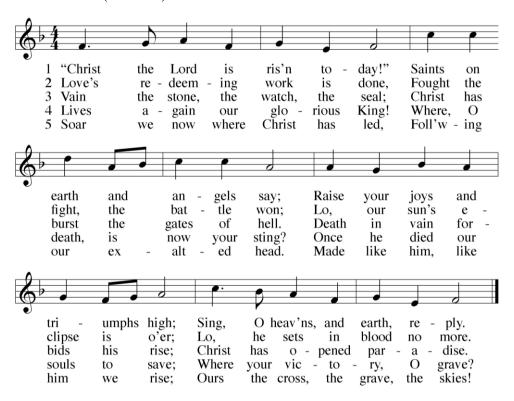
# **Lord of Love Lutheran Church**

# **September 24, 2023**

# THE COMMON SERVICE

#### **OPENING HYMN** (CW 149)

#### **Christ the Lord is Risen Today**



6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to you by both be giv'n! God has now fulfilled his Word; Praise the resurrected Lord!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, abr., alt.

Tune: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS (77 77) Pierre de Corbeille, d. 1221, adapt.

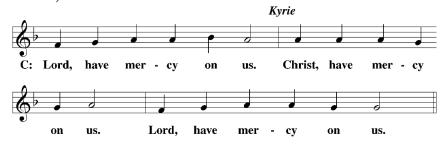
M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



#### CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

# LORD, HAVE MERCY



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



#### PRAYER AND PRAISE

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** The Lord be with you.



**M:** Let us pray.

Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and promise to reward us according to your grace. Help us to rid our minds of worldly expectations and rejoice that you freely pour out the blessings of salvation to all people; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Jonah 3:10-4:11

<sup>10</sup> When God saw their actions, that they had turned from their evil way, God relented from the disaster which he said he would bring on them, and he did not carry it out... But to Jonah all this seemed very bad, and he became very angry. <sup>2</sup> He prayed to the LORD, "LORD, wasn't this exactly what I said when I was still in my own country? That is why I previously fled to Tarshish, because I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abounding in mercy, and you relent from sending disaster. <sup>3</sup> So now, LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."

<sup>4</sup> But the LORD replied, "Is it right for you to be angry?" <sup>5</sup> Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city. He made a shelter for himself there and sat in the shade under it, waiting to see what would happen in the city.

<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD God provided a plant and made it grow up over Jonah to provide shade over his head, to relieve him from his discomfort. So Jonah was very happy about the plant. <sup>7</sup> But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, and it attacked the plant so that it withered. <sup>8</sup> When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, so he said, "It is better for me to die than to live." <sup>9</sup> But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" Jonah said, "I do have a right to be angry—angry enough to die!"

<sup>10</sup> So the LORD said, "You have been concerned about this plant. You did not work for it or make it grow. It grew up in one night and perished after one night. <sup>11</sup> So should I not be concerned for Nineveh, the great city, in which there are more than one hundred twenty thousand people who do not know the difference between their right hand and their left—and also many animals?"

SECOND LESSON Romans 9:6-16

<sup>6</sup> This does not mean that God's word has failed, because not all who are descended from Israel are really Israel, <sup>7</sup> and not all who are descended from Abraham are really his children. On the contrary, "Your line of descent will be traced through Isaac." <sup>18</sup> This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are counted as his descendants. <sup>9</sup> For this is what the promise said: "I will arrive at this set time, and Sarah will have a son."

<sup>10</sup> Not only that, but Rebekah also had children by one man, our forefather, Isaac. <sup>11</sup> Even before the twins were born or did anything good or bad, in order that God's purpose in election might continue— <sup>12</sup> not by works but because of him who calls us—it was said to her, "The older will serve the younger." <sup>13</sup> Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated." <sup>14</sup> What will we say then? Does this mean that God is unjust? Absolutely not! <sup>15</sup> For God says to Moses: "I will show mercy to whom I show mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." <sup>16</sup> So then, it does not depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy.

#### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,

and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

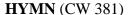
We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

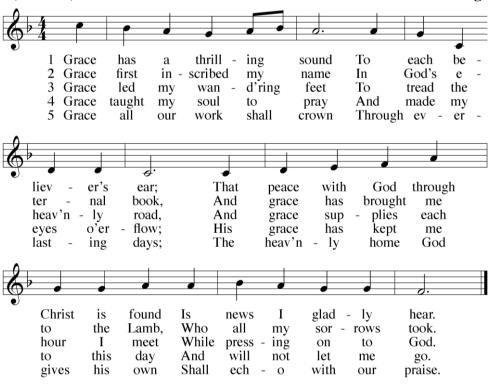
BE SEATED

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are invited to come forward for a brief children's message.



# **Grace Has a Thrilling Sound**



SERMON Matthew 20:1-16

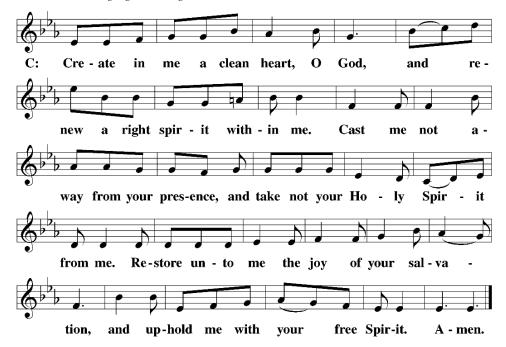
"Indeed the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing to pay the workers a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> He also went out about the third hour and saw others standing unemployed in the marketplace. <sup>4</sup> To these he said, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is right.' So they went. <sup>5</sup> Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup> When he went out about the eleventh hour, he found others standing unemployed. He said to them, 'Why have you stood here all day unemployed?' They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He told them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' <sup>8</sup> When it was evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last group and ending with the first.' <sup>9</sup> When those who were hired around the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> When those who were hired first came, they

thought they would receive more. But they each received a denarius too. <sup>11</sup> After they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner: <sup>12</sup> 'Those who were last worked one hour, and you made them equal to us who have endured the burden of the day and the scorching heat!' <sup>13</sup> But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not make an agreement with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup> Take what is yours and go. I want to give to the last one hired the same as I also gave to you. <sup>15</sup> Can't I do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' <sup>16</sup> In the same way, the last will be first, and the first, last."

#### The Gracious Vintner

#### STAND

After the sermon, the congregation sings:



#### OFFERING IS GATHERED AND BROUGHT FORWARD

While the offering is being collected, please sign and pass the Friendship Register. Thank you.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, grant that we would rejoice in the light of Christ and his salvation, and that sinners would find refuge in his mercy and comfort in his forgiveness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Heavenly Father, embolden our congregation and all sister churches throughout the world to confess the truth steadfastly and to witness boldly to our only Savior, Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Merciful Lord, we give you humble thanks for the estate of holy marriage and for the blessing of family. Grant that these gifts would be cherished and honored in our society and especially within the household of faith. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Almighty Lord, bless this nation and all people in their vocations. Grant that we may serve our neighbors in love, and that all authorities would exercise their callings with humility and wisdom on behalf of the defenseless. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Remember, O Lord, those who will receive your true body and blood from this altar. Prepare us to receive them worthily in repentance and faith for the forgiveness of our sins and the healing of our bodies. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

# THE SACRAMENT

#### **PREFACE**

**M:** The Lord be with you.



**M:** Lift up your hearts.



**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



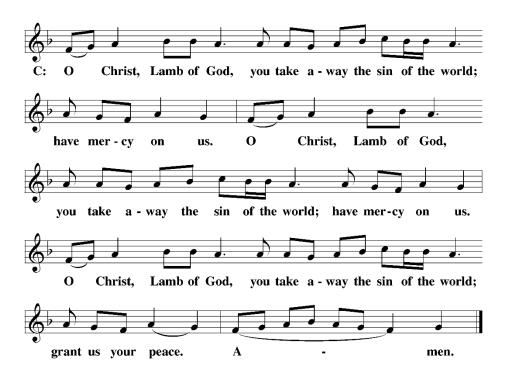
#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

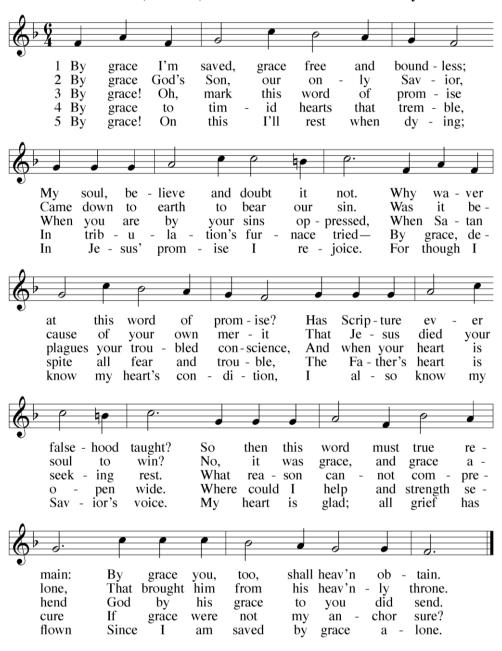




**BE SEATED** 

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to our pastor. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with our pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.



Text: Christian L. Scheidt, 1709-61, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE (DRETZEL) (98 98 88) Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775, alt.

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN** (CW 390)

#### Salvation unto Us Has Come

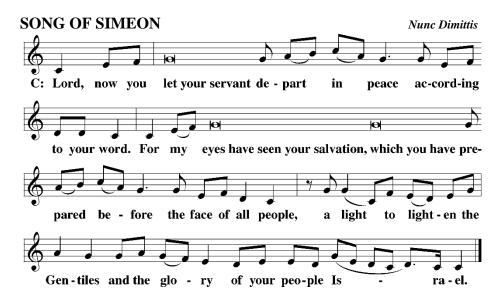


6 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
 To Father, Son, and Spirit,
 The God who saved us by his grace—
 All glory to his merit!
 O Triune God in heav'n above,
 You have revealed your saving love;
 Your blessed name be hallowed!

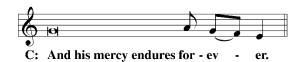
Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551, abr.; tr. composite.
Tune: Es IST DAS HEIL (87 87 887) Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

#### **THANKSGIVING**

STAND



**M:** O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



# **M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



BE SEATED



# Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Tune: NEW ULM (87 87 87) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863-1924.

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# **Personal Prayers for Worship**

#### **Before Communion:**

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

#### **After Communion:**

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

**Gluten Free communion wafers:** Gluten free communion wafers are available each Sunday during the Lord's Supper. They are placed on the baptismal font at the start of communion. If you would prefer this wafer, please pick it up as you approach the altar.

#### **Bible Studies this week**

Sunday 8:00 am: Philippians, sanctuary

Tuesday 9:00 am: Gospel of John, downstairs

Wednesday 6:30 pm: Ruth, downstairs

Friday 6:00 am: Matthew

Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45. DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)

# **Ladies Bunco Evening**

All ladies are invited to a fun evening playing bunco. It is an easy dice game that can be quickly learned. The ladies are getting together on **Monday September 25 at 6:30 pm**. Add your name on the signup sheet at church or let the church office know you are coming. All ladies in the congregation are invited.

Sunday September 24: Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion

**9:15 am:** Adult Bible study and Sunday school. Teens join adult study today.

Children's Message

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Councilman/Elder: 8:00 Brian Ehlenbach, 10:30 Mitch Myhre
- Ushers 8:00: Ryan Jaeger and Aaron Oughton
- Ushers 10:30: The Heath Family
- Counters: Bob Degnan and Gene Freund
- Altar Guild: Lia Miller, Mandi Miller and Vie Miller
- A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson
- Refreshments: The LaGrange Family

Sunday October 1: Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion

9:15 am: Adult Bible study, teen class and Sunday school

WELS Connection

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Pianist: Kristin Huebner
- Councilman/Elder: 8:00 Dave Olson, 10:30 Steve Kalscheuer

- Ushers 8:00: Bob Degnan, Gene Freund, Kayden Zech and Kourtney Zech
- Ushers 10:30: Joshua Hodkiewicz and Greg Zeman
- Counters: Roger LaGrange and Greg Zeman
- Altar Guild: Sue Jenswold
- Refreshments: RaeLyn Parker
- A/V & Recording: *TBA*

**Happy Birthday:** We wish God's blessings to Ray Natysin (9/24), Maddie Ebel (9/26), Steve Kalscheuer (9/26), Chris Cotter (9/27), Nicole Bartosch (9/29), Tyler Ebel (9/29), Mitch Myhre (9/29), Karen Laufenberg (9/30), Daniel Isaiah Stachowiak (9/30) and Alex Zick (9/30) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

**Anniversary:** We wish God's blessings to Colleen & Lynn Biwer (9/25) and Jim & Mandi Miller (9/26) who celebrate their wedding anniversaries this week.

**In Our Prayers:** Fred Bakken, Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Peg Schroeder and Steve Tobison who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett, Sara Goss and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

## Looking ahead:

- September 25 (Monday): Ladies Bunco evening, 6:30 pm
- September 28: Elders and Deaconess Meeting, 6:30 pm upstairs
- October 1: Food Drive begins for the DeForest/Windsor Food Pantry
- October 1: Teen campfire/Bible study at Peace Lutheran. 6:30 8:00 pm.
- October 7: Outdoor workday. Help clear brush on church property. 8:00 12:00 noon.
- October 14: LWMS Fall Rally, Zion Lutheran Leeds. 8:30 am
- October 21 22: Teen Retreat with Abiding Shepherd. Retreat in Westby, WI
- October 22: Teen campfire/Bible study at Peace Lutheran. 6:30 8:00 pm.
- October 22: Open forum meeting, 9:15 am sanctuary
- November 4: Turn clocks back 1 hour before bed. (Daylight savings time ends 11/5)
- November 10 12: WELS/ELS Singles Retreat for 2023, Camp Phillip
- December 20: Children's Christmas Service, 6:30 pm

## Offerings September 1 - 9:

General Fund: \$10,750Mortgage Reduction: \$50

• AV Projectors (Wish List): \$70

# Offerings September 10 - 16:

General Fund: \$12,548Mortgage Reduction: \$1,160

Weekly amount to meet budgeted General Fund expenses: \$8,200



Electronic Giving: You can give contributions to church through the Vanco Mobile app. Download the free app today in the Google Play store or the Apple App store. Find the church by searching for Lord of Love Lutheran Church in DeForest, or by its invite code, D4K54K.

(September 1 - 16: In the totals listed above, \$5,726 was given to the general fund, \$70 to the AV Projectors, and \$1,000 to the mortgage reduction fund through Vanco electronic giving.)

# Would you enjoy a guided tour of our nature trails? Are you physically challenged?

If you answered "yes" to both of these questions, then there is good news for you!

The ACCESS ABILITY WISCONSIN – OUTDOORS ACCESS 4 ALL organization makes an all-terrain, outdoor wheelchair available to individuals with mobility challenges at no charge. And our own trail guide, JOE HORNBECK, has offered to take all who are interested on a tour of our trails. Initial plans are to hold this event in mid-October, at various times throughout the day. If you are interested, contact Rob Jordan at 715-326-3452 / rwjinwwi@icloud.com or the church office. Transportation to and from church that day will be available. There is no charge – so come and explore our beautiful grounds!

# Teen Campfire Bible Study—Smores Included

Peace Lutheran, 1007 Stonehaven Drive, Sun Prairie All teens invited! Bring a camp chair and/or blanket and a Bible. Need a ride? Contact Dave & Jen Olson.



Sunday October 1: 6:30—8:00 pm & Sunday October 22: 6:30—8:00 pm

Fall Outdoor Workday: We are planning an outdoor workday to clear and chip brush on Saturday October 7 from 8:00 – 12:00 noon. The more volunteers, the more that can get done. There is work



for all ages. The only skills needed are picking up and carrying branches and brush. Bring work gloves and loppers if you have them. If you are handy with a chainsaw – please bring it along. Church has rented a woodchipper from Friday afternoon Oct. 6 until Monday morning Oct. 9. While most of the work will be done Saturday morning, clearing brush, and collecting branches can be done anytime during the weekend. Joe Hornbeck will be running the woodchipper as long as there are brush and branches to dispose of. For questions or to help another time besides Saturday morning, contact Joe at 608-669-4652 or email at <a href="https://hornbooks410@gmail.com">hornbooks410@gmail.com</a>

**Firewood:** Church has some cut and split firewood that is being offered to anyone in our congregation. There is also dead wood that can be removed from the property to be used for firewood. Our property has box elder trees that could be cut and used for wood projects. If you are interested or want more information, contact Joe Hornbeck 608-669-4652 <a href="https://hornbo8410@gmail.com">hornbo8410@gmail.com</a>



**New bench for church grounds:** Church has a new bench that will be placed out along our walking path. It is our hope to have a few more benches to place along this path. The design is a simple Leopold bench. If you are interested in making and donating a bench to be placed along the church grounds, we have the plans and explanation of what is needed to make the bench. You can contact the church office for the plans or speak with Joe Hornbeck if you have questions. We are

also exploring how to add the church's name or logo on the bench.