

About Pentecost 12 (August 14-20 – Proper 15)

Theme: The Outcome of Faith

- *highlighting the Scriptures for the week* -

**G**od fills heaven and earth; He is both nearby and far away. (Jeremiah) Though up on high, He comes down near by means of His Word proclaimed in His Holy Name. Encumbered by our sins, we are hindered in the race marked out for us by Christ our Lord. (Hebrews) Therefore ridding ourselves of them by repentance, we run in the full strength bestowed by Christ, who ran in our place and stead, triumphed over the cross and death, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Wherever the Gospel is preached, there will be division. (Luke) The Prince of Peace Himself was rejected by a sinful world, and so will we. Therefore division is often a clearer sign of faithfulness than is peace. Peace achieved by silence is no peace at all.

WEEKLY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

Use the schedule below in your personal devotion. The first three readings are the lessons read today; the last three will be read next Sunday. The Wednesday reading is the psalmody for the week. Each day you may want to pray that Psalm or the prayer printed in our service folder today, followed by the suggested reading and your personal requests and Thanksgivings to our Heavenly Father.

<b>Sunday</b>	Jeremiah 23:16-29 Where is God located? Why is it impossible to hide from the LORD? What is the problem with false prophets? What is the only sure and certain means of revelation from God? Where do we find this now? What does this mean?
<b>Monday</b>	Hebrews 11:17-12:3 What is it that hinders the race marked out for us in the Christian life? How therefore should we daily start our race? Who is the author and perfecter of our faith? What did He do to win our salvation? What did His struggle cost Him? What loving purpose lies behind the struggles we face in Christian living? What is the positive outcome of pain for those who abide faithful? What final harvest awaits them? What does this mean?
<b>Tuesday</b>	Luke 12:49-56 What is the cleansing function of fire? For what purpose did Jesus come? What “baptism” did He undergo to accomplish our salvation? What creates division among people regarding Christ? Is peace therefore always the highest goal? What does this mean?
<b>Wednesday</b>	Psalms 119:81-88 What remains the only solid source of hope in times of distress? What is the attitude of all the LORD’s faithful people when accused without cause? How does the LORD’s love motivate our prayer? How is this done?
<b>Thursday</b>	Isaiah 66:18-23 Why does the LORD gather the nations of the earth together? Where and when did all the earth see His glory? To which place did He want them to come? Why? Why therefore do we proclaim the gospel of Christ still today? What does this mean?
<b>Friday</b>	Hebrews 12:4-29 To which mountain did Israel come to meet with the LORD? What did they see and hear there? To which heavenly city are all Christians gathered when they meet together around Christ’s Word and Sacrament? With whom are they in unseen contact? What did Abel’s blood testify to? To what does Jesus’ blood testify? How do we uniquely receive that blood in our worship? What happens, therefore, in our worship? What does this mean?
<b>Saturday</b>	Luke 13:22-30 What keeps humans out of heaven? Why is the door to salvation therefore narrow? Who is the only door to salvation? From where will people be gathered into God’s kingdom? How is this done? How does gather the “last” to be first in His kingdom? What does this mean?