

Worship Lifeline

Congregational News

Return to Sanctuary Plans

Continue to watch the trend lines – we need at least a 2-week downward trend to feel comfortable with re-gathering in the sanctuary. Hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed and we have a generous supply of cleaning items and backup masks. The hymnals have been stored and we will be marking socially distanced pew locations.

Lisette Branscomb On Behalf of the Church Council

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### \*\*\*FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING\*\*\*

Please plan for a Fifth Sunday offering collection on August 30! Rainbow House is in desperate need. Please make a note on your offering check memo line or in your online submission the amount designated for 5th Sunday.



## In Scripture Today

### Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Although Matthew's gospel repeatedly connects the Christian community with Jewish tradition, chapter 15, near to the center of the gospel, includes several of the passages that broaden the picture. According to the evangelist, Jesus altered the traditional emphasis about ritual purity to one about interior obedience to God, and in the narrative of the healing the Canaanite woman, Jesus praised the faith of a Gentile. It is likely that Matthew, writing in the 80s and not quoting Jesus verbatim, is correcting some in his community who understood the Messiah as saving only the Israelites: Matthew's church now includes both Jews and Gentiles.

### Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Into the new situation of post-exilic Israel, Third Isaiah spoke a surprising poem that welcomes non-Jews into the worship life of the temple. The prophet hopes to alter Israelite enmity with a focus on divine mercy. This openness to the outsider represents a totally opposite view of the return from exile from the one indicated in Ezra and Nehemiah.

### Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Paul's letter to the Romans continues his argument about the relationship between Jews and Gentiles in the Christian community. Apparently, Christian openness to Gentiles had led some to assume that now the Jews had been rejected from divine mercy. In this passage, Paul stressed that while being open to Gentiles, God will also continue to bless the Jews.

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Ministry This Week

Zoomday, Aug 16, Pentecost 11

10:00 AM—S ASLC Zoom
8:00 PM—F AA

Monday, Aug 17

7:30 PM OA cancelled
7:30 PM--Z ASLC Council

Tuesday, Aug 18

9:00 AM—F Sandwich MeetUp*
10:15 AM—Z Christian Conversations
7:45 PM—F NA cancelled

Wednesday, Aug 19

6:30 PM—LL Word of Faith
8:00 PM—F AA

Thursday, Aug 20

6:00 PM—F Cub Scouts cancelled
8:00 PM—F NA cancelled

Friday, Aug 21

9:00 AM Cleaning Services

Saturday, Aug 22

9:00 AM—Z OA cancelled

Zoomday, Aug 23, Pentecost 12

10:00 AM—S ASLC Zoom

Z=Zoom; F=Fellowship; OC=Out of Church; OO=Outer Office
GR=Gray Room; LL=Lower Level; CL1=Lower Level Open Room 1;
CL2=Lower Level Open Room 2; N=Narthex; S=Sanctuary; UR=Upper Room; A=Away from All Saints

* Calendar Note: The Sandwich MeetUp limits participation to 4 individuals at this time. Sandwiches are shared with Rock of Ages in their ongoing shepherding with homeless/street people.

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## Readings for Aug 23

### Isaiah 51:1-6

The enduring foundation of God's salvation

### Psalms 138

O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)

### Romans 12:1-8

One body in Christ, with gifts that differ

### Matthew 16:13-20

The profession of Peter's faith

## Russ' Reminders

All known ASLC birthdays and anniversaries are listed in your Church Directory. We can print you a copy or you can view the directory on your PC or Smartphone. It's all pretty easy once you move through the learning curve, which is more like a speed bump. **Contact Rica Kelly** with changes and updates to all directory information.

It's easy: go to [www.allsaintslilburn.org](http://www.allsaintslilburn.org), click on "Member Directory Link", and log in.

### Anniversaries

#### AUGUST

- 4 Joy Wells
- 7 John and Mary Yale
- 11 Tom and Sheila Wagner
- 17 Mac and Miriam McCann

### Birthdays

#### AUGUST

- 1 Andrew Zupan
- 2 Lennie Cauble
- 4 Roger Boyer
- 6 Phil Graham/Underwood
- 8 Madison Lee Crutchfield
- 18 Jerry Barnes
- 19 Pat Barnes
- 21 Marc Mitchell
- 23 James (Jim) Kraus  
Melissa Garcia

## Worship Assistants (Zoom version)

### Aug 16

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Lector:            | Amy Cauble         |
| Worship Assistant: | Julie Boyer        |
| Greeter:           | Martha Wooden      |
| Children's Sermon: | Lisa Mitchell      |
| Counters:          | Tom W & Lorraine H |

### Aug 23

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Lector:            | Barb Litke      |
| Worship Assistant: | Jack Branscomb  |
| Greeter:           | Rica Kelly      |
| Children's Sermon: | Kevin Swanson   |
| Counters:          | Tom W & Angie S |

### Aug 30

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|--------------------|--------------------|
| Lector:            | Cherie Mason       |
| Worship Assistant: | Lisette Branscomb  |
| Greeter:           | Bruce Kraus        |
| Children's Sermon: | Mary Kay Kates     |
| Counters:          | Tom W & Barb Litke |

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More Reflections from Today's Scripture

We Are Beggars, This Is True

"We are beggars; this is true," are reported to be Martin Luther's last written words. Christians are "beggars" for God's grace, undeserving but graced nonetheless. A beggar's faith focuses not on what is given or accomplished or believed, but on what is received: the healing and sustenance desperately longed for and needed.

In today's gospel, the Canaanite woman is such a "beggar" for Jesus' healing for her daughter. She is denied a place at the table at first, but she will accept even "crumbs" in the faith that Jesus' healing power and love are intended even for her. As a Gentile outsider, she inhabits the margins of Jesus' mission to the "lost sheep of the house of Israel." Jesus' eventual response to her beggar's faith reveals that the love of God even encompasses the margins.

Marginalized or not, we are all beggars before God, as Paul reminds the Romans—all "imprisoned in disobedience" and dependent on God. Thus, our sense of "insider" and "outsider" crumbles in the face of our common need and God's abundant mercy to all. Instead of dividing people between those who have a place at the table and those who get crumbs, we have an opportunity to share hospitality with our fellow beggars.

It can be challenging to see ourselves as beggars. Today the Canaanite woman becomes our model, as she persists with both humility and audacity. As disciples of Jesus and "beggars" for God's grace, we live the same paradox of humility and audacity, boldly coming to Jesus and humbly acknowledging our need. Even though crumbs from God's table would be enough for us, we are offered instead the abundance of Jesus' own self in bread and wine and invited to share this abundance with insider and outsider alike.
—From *Sundays and Seasons*



Who do I contact at All Saints?

- ❖ Lifeline and Bulletin Announcements – Kelly Kraus
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- ❖ Calendar Updates – Mary Kay Kates
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- ❖ Prayer Requests – Mary Kay Kates
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- ❖ Worship Assistants – Sheila Wagner
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- ❖ Church Directory – Rica Kelly
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- ❖ Outside Groups Liaison – Kim Faass
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- ❖ Report facility maintenance issues – Mac McCann
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- ❖ Pastoral Needs – Pastor Ruth Hamilton
404 556 2322
- ❖ For all other compliments!, suggestions, complaints 😊 – Lisette Branscomb
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