

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Larry Hazlett, (Aug. 26); Mary Ann Pendleton, (Aug. 26); Cathy Hemsher, (Aug. 27); Eric Loseke, (Aug. 28); Tavia Zenor, (Aug. 30) and Rylie Heggie, (Sept. 1). Happy Birthday!

TODAY'S HYMNS were chosen by the Hazletts.

A CANNED FOOD SHOWER is taking place for the Nelsons through the month of August. There is a box in the Gruver Room. We hope you'll help out providing this gift.

OUR ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC will be held *today* at LaPrele Park. There will be an outdoor worship service at 11:15 a.m. followed by the picnic at noon. Please bring a dish or two to share, and your own table service. Beverages will be provided.

THE WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP will resume meeting this Wednesday morning (Aug. 29th) at 10:00 a.m.

WORSHIP TIME CHANGE: Beginning next Sunday, Sept. 2nd we will be going back to 2 services on Sunday. The Sunday schedule will be: 8 & 10:30 a.m. worship, and a time of Coffee Fellowship at 9:15 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY is **Sept. 9th** at 9:15 a.m. Come, meet the teachers and find your classroom.

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE is hosting a breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 9th at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The proceeds will be going to our Benevolence giving. We will have a buffet of breakfast casseroles, sweet rolls, juice & coffee. Our suggested donation is \$5 per plate. We will be serving breakfast until the food runs out. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please contact Cheryl Wilson @ 760-8731.

OUR ADULT CHANCEL CHOIR will have its first fall rehearsal on Wednesday September 5th at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining this choir please contact Larry Hazlett at 742 4117 or email him: Hazlett@uwyo.edu.

UPCOMING COLLEGE EVENTS

1. Tuesday, August 28th Singularity BBQ for Campus Christian groups from 5-7 p.m. on Prexy's Pasture. Each group will have an informational table. Food & pop are free.
2. Wednesday, August 29th we will have our first Wednesday Get-Away for the year from 6-8 p.m. in the Gruver Room. Food will be provided, as well as a chance to get acquainted. So we hope you'll stop by, and bring a friend.

UPCOMING SHY/JHY EVENTS

- Sunday, September 16, 12-4 p.m. climbing at Vedauwoo for JHY & SHY. Watch for details.
- Sunday, September 23, 5-7 p.m. BBQ for SHY and their parents at the Kidwell home. Watch for details.

SEEKERS BIBLE STUDY will resume on Thursday, September 6th from 7-8 p.m. in the Gruver Room. We will begin studying the letter to the Romans.

A CONFIRMATION MEETING for 7th & 8th graders and their parents will be held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall on September 5th at 7:00 p.m. Please make every effort to be in attendance.

INTERFAITH / GOOD SAMARITAN always sees a spike in needs during the summer months. Please bring your paper goods and non-perishable goods into the Gruver Room to help out.

THE LARAMIE SOUP KITCHEN is in need of gift cards to Safeway to purchase fresh ingredients so that they can provide a salad with each meal. They can also use "to go" containers to provide meals to those in need on the weekends. The Soup Kitchen is open Monday thru Friday, 8 to 2 p.m. and is located at 104 S. 4th Street. For more information, contact them at (307) 721-4723.

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 14th Sunday After Pentecost:
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23.

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Serving the Church

	<u>TODAY (8/26)</u>	<u>NEXT SUNDAY (9/2)</u>
<i>Lector:</i>	9:00 a.m. Bob Middleton	8:00 a.m. Debbe Conyers
<i>Acolyte:</i>	9:00 a.m. Tavia Zenor	10:30 a.m. Dan Gibson-Reinemer
<i>Ushers:</i>	9:00 a.m. Ed & Lois Hiller	8:00 a.m. Hailey Anderson
<i>Greeters:</i>	9:00 a.m. Mark Rehwaldt Jennie Lawrence	10:30 a.m. Chris Henry
<i>Nursery:</i>	9:00 a.m. Hailey Anderson	8:00 a.m. Maia Anderson Judi Weatherwax
		10:30 a.m. Jason & Trey Sherwood
		8:00 a.m. Bob Middleton Doris Eyestone
		10:30 a.m. Joan & Pete Dana
		8:00 a.m. Lexi Dockter
		10:30 a.m. Roz Kidwell
<i>Stewards:</i>	S. Boss / J. Weatherwax	<i>Altar Guild:</i> Cheryl Wilson

Coffee Fellowship:

This Week at Trinity

Sunday, August 26	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
	11:15 a.m.	Outdoor Worship – <i>LaPrele Park</i>
	12:00 a.m.	Church Picnic– <i>LaPrele Park</i>
Tuesday, August 28	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	5-7 p.m.	UW Singularity Event
Weds., August 29	10:00 a.m.	Women's Study
	6-8 p.m.	Wednesday Get-Away
Sat. Sept. 1	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast – <i>McDonald's</i>
Sun. Sept. 2	8:00 a.m.	Worship (HC)
	9:15 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
	10:30 a.m.	Worship (HC)



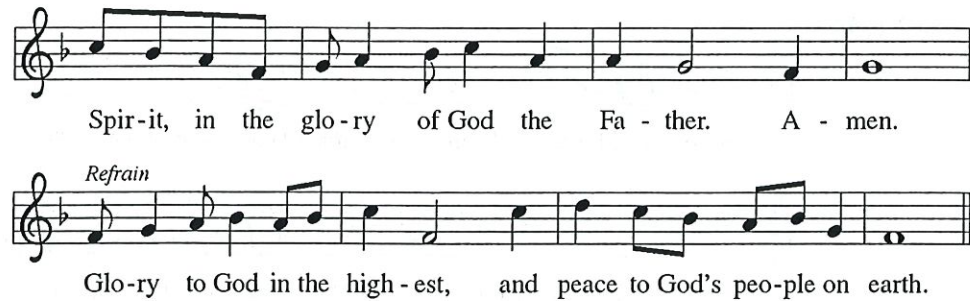
WHAT IF YOU WERE TO SEE THE SON OF MAN ASCENDING...?
JN.6:62

WE ARE HAPPY to have you with us today. We hope that our worship service has meaning for you and that you will come back and worship with us again soon. For those who wish, a nursery is provided during the worship service, just off the South Lobby, for children ages five and younger. Please join us for coffee in the south lobby area after the service today.

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS are found in the back of the pew in front of you. If you wish, please fill them out and hand them to the usher during the hymn after the sermon. PEW PADS are found at the inside end of each pew. Please fill them out, pass them down to the end, and then return them to the center.

PLEASE RECYCLE THE BULLETINS: You are encouraged to take home any part of the bulletin that you would like. **Please** recycle the pieces that you do not choose to keep by putting them at either end of the pews at the back of the church. Help us save some trees! Thanks.

Announcements continue on the inside



***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Let us pray.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BIG CHILDREN'S TIME: "What Do We carry With Us?" Pastor Rohr

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means agreement or alliance. It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, ⁴Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

PSALM: Psalm 34:15-22

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are up-¹ on the righteous, and God's ears are open¹ to their cry.

¹⁶**The face of the LORD is against those¹ who do evil, to erase the remembrance of them¹ from the earth.**

¹⁷The righteous cry, and¹ the LORD hears them and delivers them from¹ all their troubles.

¹⁸**The LORD is near to the¹ brokenhearted and saves those whose spir-¹ its are crushed.**

¹⁹Many are the troubles¹ of the righteous, but the LORD delivers them from¹ every one.

²⁰**God will keep safe¹ all their bones; not one of them¹ shall be broken.**

²¹Evil will bring death¹ to the wicked and those who hate the righteous¹ will be punished.

²²**O LORD, you redeem the life¹ of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will¹ not be punished.**

Glory be to the Father and¹ to the Son: and to the¹ Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now and e-¹ ver shall be: world without end.¹ Amen.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***GOSPEL: John 6:56-69**

Glory to you, O Lord.

The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"

⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you?" ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

***HYMN OF PRAISE:**

Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.
Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are
seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

***KYRIE:**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN: "Beautiful Savior" #838

SERMON: "Something To Chew On" John 6:56-59 Pastor Rohr

HYMN: "For the Beauty of the Earth" #879

***APOSTLE'S CREED:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living 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.**

***OFFERING PRAYER:**

Let us pray.
All gifts are thine, O God, and of thine own we prepare to give thee. By the leading of thy Spirit may we render to thee that which thou most desirest, even our whole heart and mind and will, in loving and grateful service.
Amen.

OFFERING:

OFFERTORY:

***CONGREGATIONAL OFFERTORY: "Praise God from whom . . ."**

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

With reverence for the earth, those in need, and the whole human family, let us offer our prayers to God.

**A brief silence.*

That you nourish the church with words of eternal life and the food and drink of the Lord's supper. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

That public leaders and officials serve with faithfulness and humility. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

That forests and streams, hills and meadows, trees and flowers will reveal to us the beauty of your creation. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

That all who are hungry or downtrodden, anxious or alone, depressed or ill may be strong in the Lord. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

That this community turn from false gods to serve the Lord, praying with boldness and proclaiming the gospel of peace. Lord, in your mercy,

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
(Silence for reflection.)

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.
Amen.

***GREETING:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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God's Work . . .
. . . Our Hands

Pastor Ralph Rohr
Congregation President Roland Kidwell
Intern Seth Nelson
Office Secretary Colleen Miner
Organists Dan Grothouse
Judy Rohr
Choir Director Larry Hazlett

Sunday, August 26, 2012 — 13th Sunday after Pentecost

*Standing

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

PRELUDE:

WELCOME:

*HYMN: "If You But Trust in God to Guide You" #769

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

hear our prayer.

**Here other intercessions may be offered.*

That you unite us with all your holy ones who served you with reverence and faith in your promises. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive our hopes and prayers, O God of mercy, for great is your faithfulness in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

*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,
as we forgive 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 and ever. Amen.**

*BLESSING:

PARISH SHARING TIME:

*HYMN: "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises" #535

*EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES . . . HYMN CHIME:

*POSTLUDE:

To Whom Can We Go?

For many of us, our Christian journey doesn't proceed in a straight line from faith to ever greater faith. Unwavering commitment makes for a noble story, but far more common is a faith journey that waxes and wanes. Sometimes we struggle with

certain passages in scripture, wondering how we can assent to something that offends us. Sometimes a life-event deals our faith a blow. Or we may grapple with the words of a particular pastor, the decisions of our congregation, or the direction we think our denomination is heading. We might even step away from active fellowship for a while, ceasing to pray and trying to ignore God.

After Jesus' teaching about eating his flesh and drinking his blood, many of his followers were offended. "Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?'" Perhaps some of them did, wondering how they could come to terms with his confusing parables and troubling claims. Yet Simon Peter answers for all of us when he says, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

We might wrestle with difficult scripture. We might struggle to understand suffering in the world. We might be at odds with parts of the Christian body. Still, "to whom can we go?" Despite our struggles, we hunger for God. We yearn for communion with the Holy Spirit and hope for a faith family that understands this yearning. We feel compelled by Jesus. We take to heart his claim that "no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." And so we trust that God will keep hold of us, even as we wander.

COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, August 28, 2012 - Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

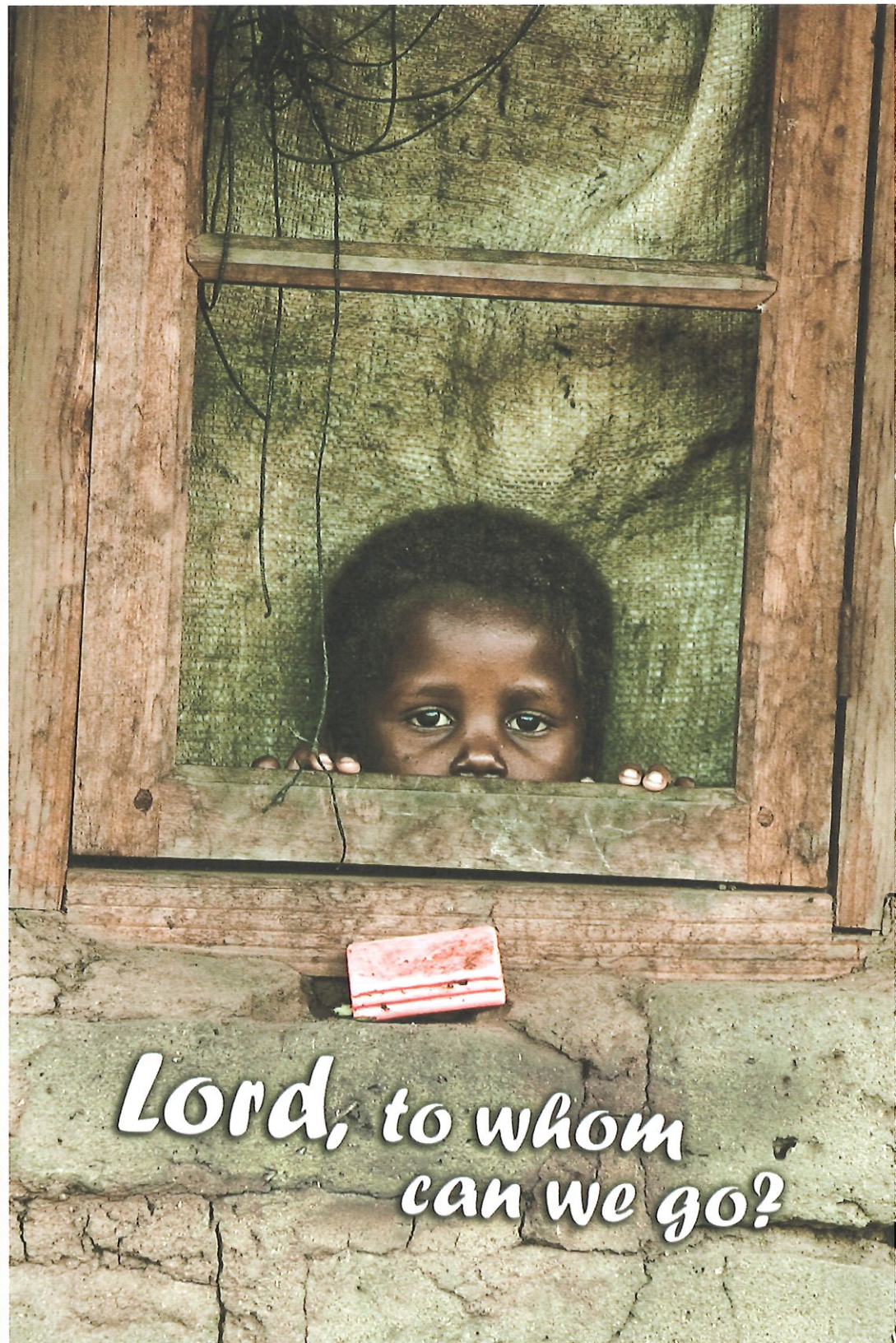
Tuesday, August 28 - Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. His conversion had a great impact in his native country. Wearing a white habit, he said, "God knows I am black within." He was murdered during an attack by Berbers.

Sunday, September 2

Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872

Grundtvig was, with Søren Kierkegaard, one of the two great Danish theologians of the nineteenth century. As a pastor, he battled the prevalent idea that Christianity was more a philosophy than divine revelation. He wrote over a thousand hymns.



Lord, to whom
can we go?