



St. Luke Lutheran Church in Schaefferstown
16th Sunday of Pentecost - September 12, 2021
"God's Work - Our Hands" - Worship Service

Telephone Number - Office: 717-949-3375 churchoffice@stlukelutheran.comcastbiz.net
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Our Guiding Story and Mission
The Road to Emmaus: Luke 24:13-35

As the Body of Christ we proclaim the Gospel by serving and doing God's will
in a manner that meets the needs of our changing world.

HEALTH QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS FOR ATTENDEES:

Please Do Not Stay If You Answer Yes to the Following Questions:

1. Do you have a cough, fever or flu-like symptoms? (some flu-like symptoms could be: fatigue, chills, fever, muscle pain, cough, headache, sore throat) – **if yes, please go home and call your Doctor**
2. Have you had a COVID-19 test in the past 10 days? – **if yes, please do not stay**
3. Have you come in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the past 10 days? – **if yes, please do not stay**

Being Mindful of Others: Masks, Distancing, and Other Mitigation Protocols

So that we may safely worship together, please follow these steps with due diligence to mitigate the possibility of spreading illness.

If person is fully vaccinated - mask is optional.

If person is unvaccinated or has received 1 dose of a 2 dose vaccine - mask is recommended.

Social distancing is still required if not a member of the same household.

Please use hand sanitizer upon arrival (dispenser is on the table by the stairway).

Please take bulletins home.

Please place Offerings in the receptacle on the table by the stairway – Thank you!!

Passing the peace will take place with gestures.

Returning to Altar Communion with a specific procedure.

Welcome/Announcements

The Prelude

Words of Confession and Reconciliation

Brothers and sisters, we are often so caught up in what is happening around us in our homes, institutions, and community that we fail to notice who walks beside us.

C: Jesus, forgive us. Do not conceal yourself from us; open our eyes to your merciful presence.

Jesus, you are right in indicating how foolish your Emmaus followers were and still can be when we become stuck in this world and lose sight of your good news, lose hope, and therefore not grasp what you have revealed to us.

C: Loose what binds us, Jesus, cause our hearts to burn with your teaching.

Here we stand today, urging Jesus to stay with us and break bread with us,

C: yearning to be filled with the ever present joy that overwhelmed the Emmaus disciples, that caused them to leave all behind, rejoin the community of believers, and discover their individual and communal mission. Stay with us Lord. Amen

Hear the good news. Jesus remains with us, opens our eyes to his presence, and our ears to hear the things about him in the scriptures. His forgiving self-giving life, teaching, death, and resurrection, reconciles us to his Father, our Father,

C: so that our faith is rekindled, our hope is restored, and our mission becomes clear: blessing God and becoming a compassionate blessing to one another in this faith community, and to our neighbors near and far. Amen.

Gathering Hymn LBW #377 “Lift High the Cross“

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *(Refrain)*

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conquering ranks combine. *(Refrain)*

All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *(Refrain)*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *(Refrain)*

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! *(Refrain)*

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

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The Call to Worship

You catch up to us as we sojourn, Risen Jesus;

C: on the road, unexpectedly, in a way we need most, changing everything.

You stand next to us, Rabbi Jesus;

C: where we are, revealing a call, an invitation, the truth.

You enter into our souls, enlivening Jesus;

C: awakening us to a new life, a new world, a new mission.

Therefore we pray. Partnering God, refresh our weary hearts with your Holy Spirit.

C: Inspire us to be your workers, that we may use the gifts you have ignited in us to build your kingdom here in this place, at this time. Burn within us so that we become agents of compassionate transformation in this congregation, this town, and beyond. In the name of the Jesus we pray. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Second Reading: James 3:1-12

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for

their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day LBW #406 “Take My Life, that I May Be”

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

The Message

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith.

C: I trust in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I trust in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I trust in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Let us share his peace with one another.

(Share the peace with a Gesture)

Offering: Thank you for faithfully mailing your offering envelope or placing them in the container today.

Prayers of Intercession

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word. Continue to nurture your church, that it is a place where your presence is experienced and shared.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Creating God, you brought life into being and called it good. Bring new creation to lands devastated by tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, and other disasters. Restore forests and curb overflowing waters.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Protecting God, you desire all people to live in peace and safety. Provide for all who are in danger. Strengthen first responders to help meet to the complex needs of others. Provide care and compassion as they face trauma themselves. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Transforming God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Amplify voices that go unheard and inspire us to advocate for those who are overlooked. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Redeeming God, you accompany your people through every stage of life. We give you thanks for the saints who now rest in your embrace. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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

God, the merciful and mighty, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love—
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—send us light and truth to keep us all our days.

**C: May his hand protect us, his holy angels accompany us,
and his blessing envelop us, now and forever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn WOV #771

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
 thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
 all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in
 their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness
 to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (*Refrain*)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to
 cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
 blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (*Refrain*)

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960

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Sending

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and our neighbors.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

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Supply Pastor: The Rev. Angela Hammer

Soloist: Sarah Kneller

Lay Reader: Richelle Deysher

Pianist: Dr. David Deysher
Worship Assistant: Mike DeLong

This Week at St. Luke

<u>This Evening</u>	7:00 PM Taizé Service
<u>Monday</u>	7:00 PM Women of the ELCA
<u>Tuesday</u>	10:00 AM Band Together Vision to Mission meeting W/Friedens
<u>Wednesday</u>	7:00 PM Sr. Choir Deadline Newsletter
<u>Thursday</u>	10:00 AM Band Together 7:00 PM Book Club
<u>Next Sunday</u>	8:30 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School

It is easy to stay connected to all things happening at St. Luke! Check out our website at <https://www.stlukelutheran.org>. In addition to updates on current events, you will find links on the website to access our online worship services via Facebook or YouTube.

Or, if you prefer, you can access online services directly via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran>, or on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWKROL7HVJEgtCMksioZwoA>.

The bulletin will continue to be emailed out weekly with printed copies available at Sunday worship. So whether you attend in person or tune in online, it is easy to stay connected!

We welcome your feedback--recommendations, suggestions, or improvements regarding the current online transmissions. We also need volunteers to assist with the technical aspects of livestreaming and all of the legwork and support this requires. Please send your feedback or volunteer availability to the Church Office.

A WARM WELCOME to our supply pastor The Rev. Angela Hammer and all our visitors as we come together to share this day here at St. Luke.

Please keep in your prayers those who are ill, recovering, or shut-in, especially:

John Adams, Claudia Addison, Kit Ahnert, Brenda Boyer, Leon Boyer, Mechelle Leshar Bray, Amanda Cupernall, Alexandria (Lexxi) Ditzler, Cathy Dunkelberger, Earl Garman, Deb Glassmoyer, Peg Griffe, Bill Gundrum, Kim Lenhart Hale, John Hassinger, Dean Hettinger, Lilly Higgins & Family, Bill Hoffman, Richard and Nancy Hollen, June Kohr, Landon Kreider, Ruth Kupp, Betty Leedy, Delores Leshar, Richard Leshar, Ken Light, Donald and Sue McClure, Steven McCracken, Casey McGarvey, Dana McKinney, Maureen Marinkov, Dale Matthews, Harold (Spike) Moore, Brian Navarre, Barry and Tom Nolt, George Pastore, Kathy O’Roark, Gerald and Ruth Parson, Ronald Ream, Lance Rhodes, Al Shade, Barry Shriver, Linda Simmers, Lloyd Smith, Richard Strohl, Caitlyn, Gretta and Mike Stuber, Robert Todisco, Landis Wenger, Josephine Wenrich, Janet Wharton, Josie Williams, Eddie Wolfe, Marian Yoder, Dottie and Maggie Zartman, and Ashton Zohn.

Pray for those who are serving in the military, especially:

Christopher Ahnert, Timothy Beamesderfer, David Deysher, Tyler Fleagle, Shane Gettler, Steven Ginder, George Leshar, Jr., Greg Rocker, and Matthew Sanders.

Pray for congregations and ministries with whom we share mutual ministry:

The congregations and pastors of the Heidelberg Ministerium and Lebanon Conference, Agape House, Lebanon Co. Christian Ministries, Lebanon Taizé Violence Intervention Women’s Shelter, Lancaster/Lebanon Habitat for Humanity, Lebanon Rescue Mission, Support Connections of Lebanon County, Our Synod Bishop James S. Dunlop and his staff, and our ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and staff.

Please be in Prayer for and with St. Luke Vision to Mission Team - Kit Ahnert, Richelle Deysher, Elaine Matternas, Judy Plummer, Scott Rights, and Todd Snyder.

The Monthly Ministry Emphasis for the month of September will be ***“Domestic Violence Shelter”***. Thank you again for your continued support.

September 5, 2021

Attendance - 24

Offering - \$2,850.00

St. Luke History Books are available for \$20.00. Call Anna Mae Grubb 717-273-7035 or email at mrgrubby@comcast.net.

Sr. Choir will begin rehearsals Wednesday evening, September 8 at 7:00 PM.

We could sing the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Please contact Linda Holt as soon as possible.

We welcome all new members for this coming year who love to sing!!

Today - God's Work – Our Hands collecting for Warmth for Winter with a Diaper Drive. The diapers will be distributed through Lebanon County Christian Ministries. Thank you for your support!

The Book Club will be meeting this Thursday, September 16th at 7:00pm in the Chapel. We will be discussing "**The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell**" by: Robert Dugoni.

All are welcome to join the group. If anyone has any questions please contact Richelle Deysher.

We are in need of **boxes for shipping the quilts in October**. Please contact Sue Delong with any questions.

Volunteers are needed Friday, October 8 and Saturday, October 9 to help gather and pick up quilts and kits at the different churches to be delivered to Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ephrata.

If you are in need of **Pastoral Care** for a Visit, Hospitalization, Baptisms, Funerals, etc. please call the church office at 717-949-3375.