



St. Luke Lutheran Church in Schaefferstown
Fourth Sunday of Easter - May 8, 2022
Service of the Word with blessing of Mothers and fields

Telephone Number - Office: 717-949-3375

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Web-Site: www.stlukelutheran.org

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.

Masks are strongly recommended for persons both vaccinated and unvaccinated for all indoor gatherings in the Church and Chapel.

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 and Announcements

Prelude

Blessing of Mothers and Women Who Nurture Children

On this Mother's Day, let us recognize that examples of women mothering children vary. There are those who give birth to children in the usual way, those who adopt, those who assume guardianship, those who foster, and those who nurture children as neighbors, as child care professionals, as well as teachers in our schools and Sunday Schools. May the women please rise that we may thank God for you and ask his continued blessings on you.

Let us pray. Gracious God, in love you have given us the gift of women who mother us. Grant to each of them your power and grace. Strengthen them in their mothering with tenderness and understanding, with compassion and joy. Endow them with wisdom and knowledge so that they might teach their and other children how to live and how to love; how to seek and pursue that which is right and true; how to turn away from all that is hurtful and wrong. Deepen their own faith that they might instill in their children a love for you that will sustain and keep them their whole life long. We ask this in Jesus name,

C: Amen

Opening Hymn: LBW #131 "Christ is risen! Alleluia!"

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

1 Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him
as his light once more appears;
bowing down in joy before him,
rising up from griefs and tears.

2 Christ is risen! All the sadness
of our Lenten fast is o'er;
through the open gates of gladness
he returns to life once more;
death and hell before him bending
see him rise, the victor now,
angels on his steps attending,
glory round his wounded brow. Refrain

Refrain:

Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!

3 Christ is risen! All the sorrow
that last evening round him lay
now has found a glorious morrow
in the rising of today.
See the grave its first-fruits giving,
springing up from holy ground;
he was dead, but now is living;
he was lost, but he is found. Refrain

4 Christ is risen! Hence-forth never
death or hell shall us enthrall;
be we Christ's, in him forever
we have triumphed over all.
All the doubting and dejection
of our trembling hearts have ceased;
hail the day of resurrection!
Let us rise and keep the feast. Refrain

Prayer of the Day

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message

Hymn of the Day: LBW #501

"He leadeth me: Oh, blessed thought"

Text: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918

1 He leadeth me: oh, blessed thought!
Oh, words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.
Refrain

2 Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.
Refrain

Refrain:

He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me.
His faithful foll'wer I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.
Refrain

4 And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the vict'ry's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.
Refrain

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.

Blessing of Seed, Soil, and Rain

Praise be to God!

C: O give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Bless the seasons of planting and harvesting, O God.

C: We call out to you to hear us.

Scatter your blessing upon the face of the earth and its inhabitants,

C: And rain your nurturing goodness upon all creation.

Provide favorable weather that our labors may not be hindered nor the fruits of the earth fail.

C: We call out to you to hear us.

Bless our hearts, that in thankfulness we may give you praise, and joyfully share with others the blessings of your bounty;

C: that we may walk before you in faith and love all the days of our life.

This soil is symbolic of the earth of this community into which the seed is planted. This soil, created by God, contains all that is necessary to nourish the seed, that it may bring forth sturdy plants producing food. This soil will be watered by the rains of God. It will be warmed by the sunshine of God. It will be a home for the seed, that it may develop and burst forth an abundant harvest. This soil is holy earth and shall be cultivated and cared for as a holy gift of God.

This seed is symbolic of the various types of seed that have been or shall be sown and planted in this community. When sown it shall bring forth fruit and food so that all people may be nurtured and nourished, so that the wheels of industry may turn, so that life may be maintained. This seed is holy, for it contains God's holy gift of life.

This water is symbolic of water sent from God in the form of flood and rain. It will help to sustain the soil and grow the seed. This water is holy, for it helps to sustain all that our holy God has gifted with life.

O Lord our God, author and giver of all good things, you have ordained the earth to bring forth food for all your creatures and human children. Bless the seed, the soil, the rain, and all the resources of the earth given for the good of all people and the furtherance of your creative Kingdom. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

Look with compassion upon us O Lord and bless the labors of the hands of your servants in all occupations; that the fruits of their labors may be the furtherance of the welfare of all humanity, and the furtherance of Christ's way of life in all the world. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

Grant unto us seasonable weather. Cause your sun to shine, and let your rain and dew refresh the ground, that the fruits of the earth may be matured, our gardens and fields may be filled with all good fruits, and that there may be an abundance of food. Grant that we may share the fruits of the earth none of your creatures and children will know hunger. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

We thank you for the seed of faith that you have planted in us, and we ask that, through your church's faithful witness to you in word and sacrament, the seed of faith may be planted in all people. Send your Holy Spirit to water the seed of faith in your people, that it may grow and bear the fruit of the Spirit, which is joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, and love of you and our neighbors. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

Send your gentle healing rain and warming sun on those who grieve or are ill or dying, that they may be restored to us or drawn into your care as fruits like the first fruit, Jesus raised from the dead, to be eternally with you and your people, especially those we now name in voice or heart... (pause for speaking of names). Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught 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**

Sending to Sow the Gospel

Benediction

Let us go into the world in Faith.

C: Trusting God to lead us, trusting people to receive us.

Let us go into the world in Hope.

C: With God's presence before us and our dreams to carry us.

Let us go into the world in Love.

C: Serving with and loving God and neighbor; loving those in whom Christ lives, and laboring on behalf of and loving those for whom the risen Jesus brings the promise of new life.

Let us go into the world.

Closing Hymn: LBW #145

"Thine is the glory"

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939

1 Thine is the glory,
 risen, conqu'ring Son;
 endless is the vict'ry
 thou o'er death hast won!
 Angels in bright raiment
 rolled the stone away,
 kept the folded grave-clothes
 where thy body lay.

Refrain

3 No more we doubt thee,
 glorious Prince of life;
 life is naught without thee;
 aid us in our strife;
 make us more than conqu'rors,
 through thy deathless love;
 bring us safe through Jordan
 to thy home above.

Refrain

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,
 risen from the tomb!
 Lovingly he greets thee,
 scatters fear and gloom;
 let his church with gladness
 hymns of triumph sing,
 for the Lord now liveth;
 death hath lost its sting!

Refrain

Refrain:

Thine is the glory,
 risen, conqu'ring Son;
 endless is the vict'ry
 thou o'er death hast won!

Sending

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: Thanks be to God.**Postlude**

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Supply Pastor: The Rev. Angela Hammer**Worship Assistant:** Paula Benson**Lay Reader:** Mike DeLong**Pianist:** Dr. David Deysher**Soloist:** Sarah Kneller

Thank you for joining us!

We wish to extend a warm welcome our Supply Pastor: The Rev. Angela Hammer
 and to all our visitors as we come together in worship. We hope you will join us again!

This Week at St. Luke

<u>Sunday</u>	8:30 AM Service of the Word with Blessing of Mothers, Graduates and fields 9:30 AM Sunday School 5:30 PM-7:00 PM Community Free Meal
<u>Tuesday</u>	10:00 AM Band Together
<u>Wednesday</u>	9:00 AM - Noon LWR Quilting 7:00 PM Sr. Choir
<u>Thursday</u>	10:00 AM Band Together 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM - Community Free Meal
<u>Saturday</u>	11:30 AM - Mother and Child Luncheon at Country Fair, Myerstown
<u>Next Sunday</u>	8:30AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School

May 1, 2022**Attendance** - 40**Offering** - \$2,329.00**Sunday School Attendance** - 4**Offering** - \$2.00**Taize Attendance** - 9**Offering - Domestic Violence** - \$30.00

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented by Dale Zartman and Family in memory of Dottie Zartman

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.

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

John Adams, Claudia Addison, Brenda Boyer, Leon Boyer, Amanda Cupernall, Alexandria (Lexxi) Ditzler, Cathy Dunkelberger, Henry Fasnacht, Deb Glassmoyer, Peg Griffe, Bill Gundrum, Kim Lenhart Hale, John Hassinger, Dean Hettinger, Lilly Higgins & Family, Richard and Nancy Hollen, Christopher Johnson (D Hettinger), June Kohr, Landon Kreider, Betty Leedy, Delores Leshner, Richard Leshner, Ken Light, Donald and Sue McClure, Steven McCracken, Casey McGarvey, Dana McKinney, Maureen Marinkov, Harold (Spike) Moore, Brian Navarre, Barry and Tom Nolt, Kathy O'Roark, Gerald and Ruth Parson, George Pastore, 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, Maggie Zartman, and Ashton Zohn.

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

Timothy Beamesderfer, David Deysher, Tyler Fleagle, Shane Gettler, Steven Ginder, George Leshner, Jr., Matthew Plummer, 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.

If you are in need of Pastoral care please leave a message on the answering machine or contact one of the Council Members.

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

The Monthly Ministry Emphasis for the month of May will go towards "The Lebanon Rescue Mission." Thank you again for your continued support.

Community Free Meals:

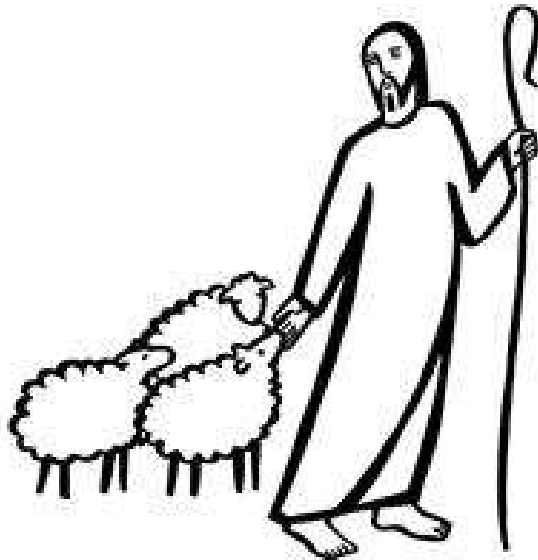
Meals will be served: Thursday: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm and Sunday: 5:30 to 7:00 pm

Partners with St. Luke in the Thursday meals are members of the Heidelberg Community Church group - Zion Methodist, St. Paul's UCC, Trinity Methodist-Kleinfeltersville, Krall's Mennonite, and Heidelberg Church of the Brethren. And we are welcoming volunteers from Friedens Lutheran Church in Myerstown to our Sunday meal teams. Further details will follow.

Adult Sunday School Topic: A podcast with American Christian author, Philip Yancey and Dr. Wojciech Szezerba, President of the Evangelical School of Theology in Wroclaw, Poland. The title of the podcast is Christianity in an Age of Anxiety. All are welcome to join us for this good discussion.

Call Committee Surveys: Call Surveys are still being accepted. Please submit them as soon as possible so your valuable input is counted.

Congratulations and best wishes to Jonah Davis! Jonah received a call to become a pastor at Union in York. Jonah's ordination will be on Sunday, June 5 at 5:00 pm at St. Peter's, 121 North Spring Street, Middletown, PA 17057. Everyone from St. Luke is invited and requested to wear rainbow and/or blue/pink/white. A reception will follow the ordination service.



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)