

St. Luke Lutheran Church in Schaefferstown

Office Telephone: 717-949-3375 office@stlukelutheran.org Website: www.stlukelutheran.org

Seventh Sunday of Easter – May 29, 2022 Service of the Word

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.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Eternal Father, strong to save

Thomas Chesterton

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God: Who calls us beloved children, Who gathers us into one flock, Who guides us into all truth.

C: Amen.

Let us pause for self-examination and come into the revealing yet healing light of God. God of grace and glory, you have brought us through the night of sin and into the light of Jesus' resurrection, yet our lives are still shadowed by sin.

C: We confess that we are captive to doubt and fear and bound by the ways that lead to death. We acknowledge that we have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us, to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen, living savior and Lord.

In this is love, not that we have loved God, but that God loved us and sent his Son Jesus as a remedy for our sins. In the Name above all names, the One before whom all knees will bow and tongues confess, Jesus Christ, I proclaim that our sins are washed away in forgiveness. Let the perfect love of God cast out our fear, fill us with joy and peace, and inspire us to live for others.



Opening Hymn: LBW 158 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (vv. 1-4)

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood: "Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay; Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day. Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes, nor questions how. Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal,
 Lord omnipotent we own;
 Alleluia! born of Mary,
 earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.
 As within the veil you entered,
 robed in flesh, our great high priest,
 here on earth both priest and victim
 in the eucharistic feast.

The Apostolic Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading: Acts 16:16-34

Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Ministry in Music: "All ye people, praise the Lord Senior Choir

Second Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," with all who respond to this invitation.

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

The Holy Gospel according to John. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 17:20-26

Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

[Jesus prayed:] "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message

Hymn of the Day: ELW 888 "O beautiful for spacious skies"

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859-1929

- O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain: America! America! God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.
- O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life: America! America! May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness, and ev'ry gain divine.
- 3 O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears:

 America! America!

 God mend thine ev'ry flaw, confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.

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 it in the container.

Musical Offertory: "Navy Hymn"

NAVY (The first verse of the original hymn is the Navy Hymn)

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave'

Who bade the mighty ocean deep Its calm amidst the storm did sleep

O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

ARMY (CDR Merle E. Strickland, CHC, USN, RET)

Lord God, who speaks with voice so clear, Speak that we know that Thou art near;

Protect your faithful Army friends, for they have helped, our peace to win;

And bless us as we join our hands, with those in peril on the land.

U.S MARINE CORPS (LCDR W.G. Perdue CHC, USNR)

Eternal Father, grant, we pray, to all Marines, both night and day,

The courage, honor, strength, and skill, their land to serve, Thy law fulfill;

Be Thou the shield forevermore from ev'ry peril to the Corps.

AIRFORCE Ray Schultz

Lord, guard and guide all who those who fly through the great spaces of the sky.

Be with them on their lonely flights through darkening day and endless nights.

O hear us as we lift our prayers for those in peril in the air.

COAST GUARD unknown

Eternal Father, Lord of hosts, Watch o'er the men who guard our coasts

Protect them from the raging seas and give them light and life and peace.

Grant them from Thy great throne above the shield and shelter of thy love.

Prayers of Intercession

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians (especially). May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry (especially). Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith.

God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymnwriters (*like Jiřī Tranovský*, *whom we commemorate today*). Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence.

God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

Let us prayer together in the words our Savior taught us:

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

Closing Hymn: LBW #145 "Crown Him with many crowns" (vv. 1-5)

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903

- 1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own. Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love-behold his hands and side, rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
 No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.
- 5 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose pow'r a scepter sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise. His reign shall know no end, and round his piercèd feet fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
- Dismissal

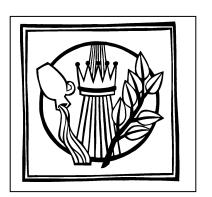
Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: Thanks be to God.

- 2 Crown him the virgin's Son, the God incarnate born, whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn; fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem, the root whence mercy ever flows, the babe of Bethlehem.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save. His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high, who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.



Postlude Fugue in a minor J.S. Bach

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Thank you for joining us!

Thank you to Linda Holt and Michael DeLong for leading our service today.

We hope that Rev. Angela Hammer enjoys her time off.

Welcome to all our visitors as we come together in worship. We hope you will join us again!

Our worshiping community today:

Worship Leaders: Linda Holt and Michael DeLong
Lay Reader: Richelle Deysher

Worship Assistant: Paula Benson
Minister of Music: Linda Holt

Next week (June 5) in our worshiping community:

Lay Reader: Faith Thunberg Worship Assistant: Donna Rhoades

This week at St. Luke

Sunday, May 29	8:30 AM	Service of the Word
	9:30 AM	Sunday School for children and adults
	5:30 PM-7:00 PM	Community Free Meal

Tuesday, May 31	10:00 AM	Band Together
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Wednesday, June 1 7:00 PM Senior Choir

Thursday, June 2 10:00 AM Band Together

11:30 AM-1:00 PM Community Free Meal

Next Sunday, June 5 8:30 AM Holy Communion/Pentecost

9:30 AM Coffee Hour

5:30 PM-7:00 PM Community Free Meal

7:00 PM Taizé Service

May 22, 2022

Attendance - 27 Offering - \$619

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented by Diane Kurtz in memory of her husband Bill.

<u>COVID GUIDELINES ARE STILL BEING FOLLOWED</u> - Please use common sense when you are not feeling well.

Be mindful of others so that we may continue to safely worship together. Masks are recommended for those who are unvaccinated & optional if you are vaccinated. Thank you for caring for your church family.

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.

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 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, Earl Hehney, Dean Hettinger, Lilly Higgins & Family, Richard and Nancy Hollen, Christopher Johnson (D Hettinger), June Kohr, Landon Kreider, Betty Leedy, Delores Lesher, Richard Lesher, 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 Lesher, 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: 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.

Help Needed: Calling both Kids and Adults for June 22 at 7:00pm. Our church will be providing an art project for approximately 20 residences at Spang Crest. They will be painting rocks for their garden and possibly the walkway. Maybe we can also provide each of them with goodie bags. All art supplies will be provided. Please contact Machelle Bucher at 717-644-5960.

Congratulations and best wishes to Jonah Davis! Jonah received a call to become a pastor at Union in York. Jonah's ordination will be next 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.

June newsletter was mailed – if you do not receive your newsletter by the beginning of June please contact the church office, so we can be sure the address on file is correct and make sure you receive a newsletter.

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.

Today is the final day for Sunday School – thank you to all the teachers and leaders who have provided Christian Education.

Coffee Hour – next Sunday after the service. Volunteers are needed for Coffee Hour. Please sign up in the narthex.

Summer Camp at Kirchenwald or Nawakwa – brochures are available on the lower level of the Miller Chapel. Also visit www.lutheran camping.org or call 717-677-8211.

