



St. Luke Lutheran Church in Schaefferstown

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Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – August 7, 2022

Service of Holy Communion

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.

P: Pastor C: Congregation

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Please stand as you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ One God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.
Amen.**

P: Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn: Blessed Assurance

WOV 699

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Refrain

Apostolic Greeting:

P: 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.

P: Let us pray...

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Second Reading: Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Please stand as you are able

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

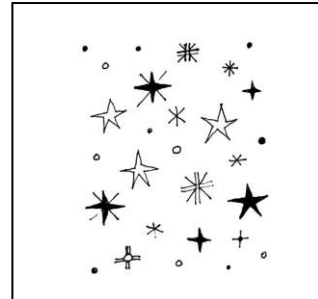
The Message

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day: **Now thank you all our God** **LBW 533**

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms,
has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.</p> <p>3 All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.</p> | <p>2 Oh, may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm
in this world and the next.</p> |
|---|--|



Apostles' Creed

P: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed

- C: 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 power of 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**

Passing the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share his peace with one another. *(Congregation may share the peace with a gesture)*

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

Offering Prayer:

P: God of abundance:

you have set before us a plentiful harvest.

As we feast on your goodness,
strengthen us to labor in your field,
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,
in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer:

P: You are indeed holy, almighty, and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**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**

Lamb of God:

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world grant us peace, grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion:

P: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

Please be seated

Distribution of Communion

All are welcome and encouraged to receive the forgiveness and community that are given in the bread and wine. Come forward as directed.

Please stand as you are able

Communion Blessing:

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion:

P: Life-giving God,
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds
and fed us with your mercy.
Now send us forth to live for others,
both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.
This we pray in the name of Jesus.
C: Amen.

Blessing:

P: The God of peace,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: How great thou art LBW 532

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989.

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- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;
Refrain

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!

- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; *Refrain*
- 3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing
he bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*
- 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *Refrain*

Sending

P: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Thank you for joining us!

We wish to extend a warm welcome to our Supply Pastor, Rev. Angela Hammer
and to all our visitors who have joined us in worship today.

We hope you will join us again!

Our worshipping community today (August 7):

Supply Pastor: Rev. Angela Hammer

Worship Assistant: Paula Benson

Minister of Music: Linda Holt

Lay Reader: Faith Thunberg

Assisting in our worshipping community next Sunday (August 14):

Lay Reader: Richelle Deysher

Worship Assistant: Sue DeLong

July 31, 2022

In-person attendance: 50 YouTube online views as of August 4: 28

Offering: \$1,050

This week at St. Luke

Sunday, August 7

8:30 AM	Holy Communion
9:30 AM	Congregational Meeting
10:00 AM	Coffee Hour
5:30 PM-7:00 PM	Community Free Meal
7:00 PM	Taizé

Tuesday, August 9

10:00 AM	Band Together
6:30 PM	Communications-Technology Committee

Thursday, July 11

10:00 AM	Band Together
11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Community Free Meal

Next Sunday, August 14

8:30AM	Service of the Word
9:30 AM	Coffee Hour
5:30 PM-7:00 PM	Community Free Meal

Request from the church office: Please be sure to communicate all activities and events to the church office, so the information published in the newsletter and in the weekly bulletin is accurate.

TODAY: SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A special congregational meeting will be held after our church service today. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss & vote on extending an offer to Pastor Angie Hammer to become our pastor with a shared 50-50 contract with St. Paul's, Penryn.

COVID GUIDELINES ARE STILL BEING FOLLOWED - 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 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 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 the legwork and support this requires. Please send your feedback or volunteer availability to the Church Office.

News in our pews

August - Monthly Ministry Emphasis: HOINA – Homes of the Indian Nation
Thank you again for your continued support.

Chicken BBQ: Friday, September 2 at Spang Crest (945 Duke Street, Lebanon) \$9.00 for ½ chick, naked potato, roll and applesauce. For tickets contact Machele Bucher (717-644-5960).

Coffee Hour: Volunteers are needed for coffee hour. Please see the signup sheet in the narthex.

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, Heidelberg Church of the Brethren, and Friedens Lutheran Church in Myerstown.

Help Wanted! Treasurer Wanted! If you are interested or know of someone who is interested in becoming the new church treasurer, please contact Jim Christman or Mike DeLong.

Musical Gifts: Have a musical gift to share? Please contact Betsy Nolt if you would be willing to share your musical gift at a worship service during the summer months.

St. Luke History Books: \$20.00. Contact Anna Mae Grubb 717-273-7035 or mrgubby@comcast.net.

Prayers for:

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), Landon Kreider, 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.

Those who are serving in the military, especially:

Timothy Beamesderfer, David Deysher, Tyler Fleagle, Shane Gettler, Steven Ginder, Matthew Plummer, Greg Rocker, and Matthew Sanders.

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.

The St. Luke Vision to Mission Team - Kit Ahnert, Richelle Deysher, Elaine Matternas, Judy Plummer, Scott Rights, and Todd Snyder.

If you need Pastoral care, please contact the church office or one of the Council Members.

