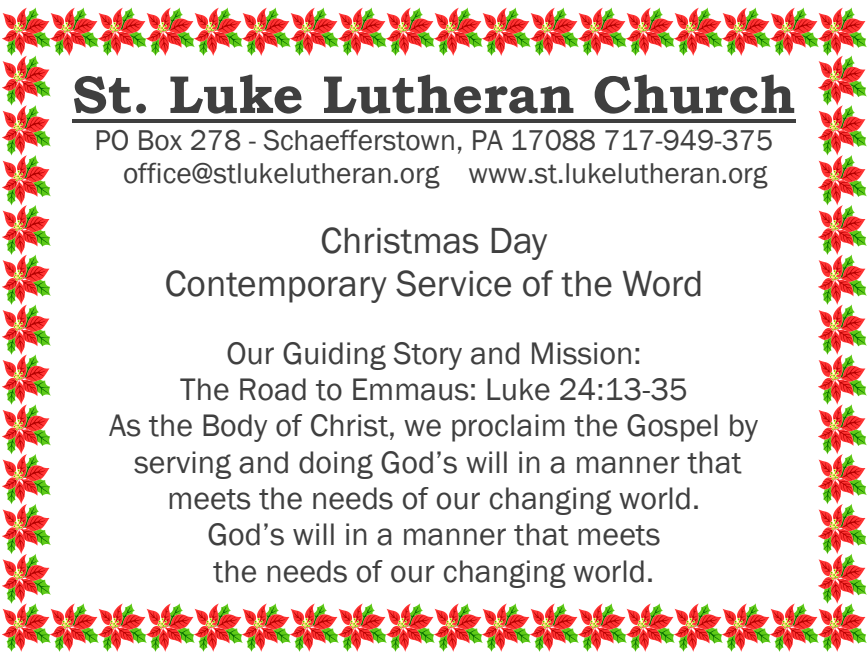




St. Luke Lutheran Church

PO Box 278 - Schaefferstown, PA 17088 717-949-375
office@stlukelutheran.org www.st.lukelutheran.org

Christmas Day Contemporary 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.
God's will in a manner that meets
the needs of our changing world.

Welcome!

We are glad you have joined us today.
Visitors please sign the visitor book upon entering the sanctuary.

Guide to abbreviations:

* stand as you are able

L: spoken by the Leader **C: Congregation responds**

WOV—With One voice— blue hymnal

LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship—green hymnal

For more information, please see “News in the Pews” in this bulletin or speak to an usher. On our website, you can find current events and links to our online worship services via Facebook or YouTube.

Direct access to Facebook is at www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran, or on YouTube: www.youtube.com/@stlukeschaefferstownpa

Bulletins are emailed weekly, but are also available at in-person services. 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.

GATHERING
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Welcome and announcements

***Call to Worship**

L. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was present to God, and the Word was God.

C: In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

L. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen the glory of the Word, the delight and attention given an only child, full of grace, full of truth.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

L. Love is infinite, enveloping all that is.

C: Love is God, eternal and perfect.

P. And yet love is also made flesh, right here and now.

C: Love has been born among us, and within us. Christ is born! Alleluia!

***Opening Carol:** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice LBW 55

***Apostolic Greeting**

L. 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**

L. Loving God, in the birth of Jesus you have given yourself to us. May your love be born in our hearts and your light shine in our eyes. By your image in us and your grace in us and your presence in us, may others experience your presence and trust your love.

C: Amen.



WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 98

Read responsively

(Please see Celebrate insert)

Second Reading: Hebrew 1:1-12 (Please see Celebrate insert)

L: The Holy Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*Gospel: John 1:1-14

(Please see Celebrate insert)

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Carol: What Child Is This

LBW 40



*** Apostles' Creed**

L. United by the Holy Spirit, let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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 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 and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again 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.

***Prayers of Intercession** (Please see Celebrate insert)

***Sharing of Peace**

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Ministry of Music: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (Love Song)

***Offertory Prayer**

L: Gracious God, you are with us in the flesh. In gratitude for your presence and your grace, we give of ourselves, to make your love real in the world. And so we give you our gifts as symbols of our lives. Receive them with love, bless them with grace and use them according to your will, for the sake of the healing of the world, in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**

L: Lord, 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.

SENDING

God sends us boldly into the world to share the good news.

*Blessing

L: God bless you and keep you, ✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Carol: Go Tell it On the Mountain LBW 70

*Dismissal

L: Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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The altar flowers are giving by Paula Benson
to wish everyone a blessed Christmas

Thank you to our worshiping community:

Pastor: Rev. Angela Hammer **Minister of Music:** Linda Holt

Cont. Worship Team: Linda Holt, Sarah Kneller, and Todd Snyder

Worship Assistant: Sue DeLong **Lay Reader:** Linda Holt

Live Streaming Asst: William Hoffman

Ministers: The people of St. Luke Church

Last Week – December 18

Worship Attendance: In-person: 32 **Online views:** n/a **Offering:** \$1,035

NEWS AND CALENDAR

Sunday, December 25

8:30 AM Contemporary Service of the Word

Thursday, December 29

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

Next Sunday, January 1, 2023—Lessons and Carols

10:30 AM—Combined Holy Communion with St. Paul Penryn

A time of fellowship will follow the service.

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

Band Together: meets on Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 AM. They will not be meeting this week on December 27 and 29.

Bible Study Thursday morning on Zoom - 10:00 AM online with Pastor Angie to look at the texts coming up for the Sunday lectionary. A ZOOM link will be emailed out the week of each study. Contact the church office to be added to the email invitation. Upcoming dates are: January 5 and January 19.

Beer & Bible - A monthly meeting at a local pub for dinner, drinks, and conversation at 6:30 PM. Next date is January 19 at Blue Bird Inn.

Book Club: Will meet on Thursday, January 26th at 7:00pm in the Chapel. We will be discussing Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker by: Jennifer Chiaverini. All are welcome to join in on the discussion.

Christian Education: Sunday School meets at 9:30 in the chapel. Children's class meets weekly and is led by Faith Thunberg, Richelle Deysher, and Sarah Kneller. Adult class is led by Scott Rights and meets on the first, third, and fifth Sundays. There is no Sunday School today and January 1.

Coffee Hour: held on the second and fourth Sundays following worship. Please see the signup sheet in the narthex.

December Monthly Ministry Emphasis: Habitat for Humanity

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

Musical Arts at St. Luke: If you are interested in becoming involved in the musical arts at St. Luke, please see Linda Holt.

Office hours for the remainder of the year:

Closed: Monday, December 26

Reopens: Tuesday (27) and Thursday (29) 9:30-4:00



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, Earl Hehnly, 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.

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, Scott Rights, and Todd Snyder.

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

