

St. Luke Lutheran Church

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March 19, 2023—Fourth Sunday in Lent

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.

Welcome!

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

Guide to abbreviations:

P: spoken by the Pastor **C: Congregation responds**

WOV—With One voice— blue hymnal

LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship—green hymnal

* stand as you are able

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

Prelude: Sweet Hour of Prayer— Franklin Ritter/Wm. Bradbury

***Confession and Forgiveness:**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt

though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen

***Opening Hymn:** Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound LBW 448

***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:** Please see Celebrate insert

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

For all readings, please see *Celebrate* insert

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm 23

Read responsively

Ministry of Music: Sr. Choir: It is Well with My Soul

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the ninth chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel: John 9:1-41**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message

***Hymn of the Day:** In the Cross of Christ I Glory—LBW 104

***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

***Prayers of Intercession:** Please see Celebrate insert

***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 Prayer:

P: God of good gifts,

receive these and all our offerings

as we present them in faithful service

for the sake of your gospel.

Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal

as you pour out your very presence

through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

***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 for Lent:

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)











*Eucharistic Prayer:

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed
one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover
from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and
all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you,
O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
C. Amen.

P: 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**

*Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

***Invitation to Communion:**

P: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

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.

***Communion Blessing:**

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

C: Amen.

***Prayer after Communion:**

P: Embodied God,

at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.

With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,

empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors

and touch the world with your love.

C: Amen.

SENDING

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

***Blessing:**

P: God, the giver of love,

✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,

and the Holy Spirit of rebirth

bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** You are the Way—LBW 464

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: O Jesus Thou Art Standing—Virginia C. Thomas

Today's worshipping community:

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

Ministers: The People of St. Luke Church

March Worship Assistant: Sue DeLong

Lay Reader: Nicholas Kneller **Next Sunday's LR:** Linda Holt

Live Streaming Technician: William Hoffman

Live Streaming Assistant: Beverly Hoffman

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Last Week—March 12

Attendance: 34 Online views: 29 Offering: \$2,304

Office Hours for this week are altered:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30-4:00.

Office closed on Thursday and Friday.

Upcoming Services:

Heidelberg Comm. Wednesday Evening Soup/Bread Suppers
(6PM)/Worship (7PM)

3/22 St. Luke Lutheran Church—Pastor: Rev. David Martin;

3/29 Trinity UMC Kleinfeltersville—Pastor: Rev. Walter Heisey

4/6 — Maundy Thursday Service at St. Paul, Penryn—7:00 PM

4/9—Easter Day:

Sunrise in the Cemetery—7:00 AM

Light breakfast in Chapel between services

Holy Communion in Sanctuary—8:30 AM

This week at St. Luke

Sunday, March 19—Lent 4

8:30 AM Holy Communion
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children/Adults)
5:30 PM-7:00 PM Community Free Meal

Monday, March 20

6:30 PM Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 21

10:00 AM Band Together
11:00 AM Newsletter Collating

Wednesday, March 22

6:00—8:00 PM Meal/Service at St. Luke
8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 23

10:00 AM Band Together
11:30 AM-1:00 PM Community Free Meal
6:30 PM Beer and Bible

Next Sunday, March 26—Lent 5

8:30AM Contemporary Service of the Word
9:30 AM Coffee Hour
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children)
5:30 PM-7:00 PM Community Free Meal

Synod Assembly

St. Luke needs two members (1M 1FM) to participate in the 2023 Assembly of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA under the theme “Created for Community”. The Assembly will be held on Friday June 2 by Zoom and Saturday, June 3rd in person at Trinity Lutheran in Camp Hill. The Day of Edification will be held on Saturday, May 20th by Zoom. Early Bird registration opens online on March 1. and closes on March 31. Final registration closes on May 15. All costs to attend including mileage to Camp Hill on June 3rd will be covered by St. Luke. Thank you for your consideration to attend this very important event. More information will follow to those attending. Please contact a member of church council if you are interested.

NEWS IN OUR PEWS

Beer & Bible - A monthly meeting at a local pub for dinner, drinks, and conversation. Next date is Thursday, March 23.

Bible Studies: Thursday morning on Zoom - 10:00 AM online with Pastor Angie to look at the texts 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. Next date is Thursday, March 30.

Book Club: Next meeting is on Thursday, March 30th at 7:00 PM in the Chapel. We will be discussing *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson. All are welcome to come and join in the discussion. If anyone has any questions please call Richelle Deysher.

Christian Education and Coffee Hour: 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. The second and fourth Sundays is Coffee Hour. Volunteers may sign up in the narthex.

Ministry Emphasis (March) World Missions—Lutheran Mission Support

Newsletter (April): please have all submissions to the office by 9:00 AM—tomorrow—March 20.

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

Musical Arts at St. Luke: Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday evening at 7:00. Please see Linda Holt for more information.

Palm Sunday Breakfast and Parade: Breakfast is at 8:30 and Parade begins at 9:00. All takes place and starts at the United Church of Christ and ends at St. Luke.

Prayers for:

Those who are ill, recovering, or shut-in, especially:

John Adams, Marilyn 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 Hehnlly, 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, Landon Rhodes, Al Shade, Barry Shriver, 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.

Contact the church office if you are in need of pastoral care.

