

# **St. Luke Lutheran Church**

PO Box 278 Schaefferstown, PA 17088 717-949-3375

April 23, 2023—Third Sunday of Easter  
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.

## *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](http://www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran), or on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/  
@stlukeschaefferstownpa](http://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

**Gathering Song:** Here I am to Worship

CCLI Song # 3266032—Tim Hughes

© 2000 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

#### Verse 1

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made  
This heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

#### Chorus

So here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
And You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me

#### Verse 2

King of all days  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came  
To the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor (Chorus)

#### Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross

## Call to Worship and Prayer:

P: As a shepherd seeks a lost sheep,

**C: So God seeks and saves the lost.**

P: Like a woman who searches for a lost coin until it is found,

**C: So God rejoices over one soul restored to wholeness.**

P: As a father receives a returning wayward son,

**C: So God welcomes us, and lets the past be the past.**

P: Therefore let us praise God in thanksgiving that we are received.

**C: Let us receive, welcome, and rejoice over one another in the name of God's love incarnate,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## \*Opening Song: In Christ Alone

CCLI Song # 3350395—Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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### Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

*Song continues on next page*

### Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

### Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

### Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

### **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 the *Celebrate* insert

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

For all readings, please see the *Celebrate* insert

**First Reading: Acts 2:14a-36-41**

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

Read responsively

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*Gospel: Luke 24:13-25**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### The Message

**\*Hymn: Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone**

CCLI Song # 4768151—Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio

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Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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#### Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now I'm found

Was blind but now I see

#### Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear

And grace my fears relieved

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed

*Song continues on next page*

### Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free  
My God my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains  
Unending love amazing grace

### Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures (Chorus)

### Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine  
Will be forever mine  
You are forever mine

### **\*Apostles' Creed**

P: Let us confess our faith in 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 Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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

**\*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.

**\*Hymn of the Day:** Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

**Offertory Prayer:**

P: As followers of Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life, let us pray like St. Francis prayed:

**C: Lord make us instruments of your peace.**

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

**where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union;**

**where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;**

**where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.**

**Grant that we may not so much**

**seek to be consoled as to console;**

**to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive;**

**it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

P: This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

**C: Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**SENDING**

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

**Blessing:**

P: The God of all,  
who raised † Jesus from the dead,  
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit  
to live in the new creation.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Closing Song: Because He Lives**

CCLI Song # 16880—Gloria Gaither | William J. Gaither

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Verse 1

God sent His Son they called Him Jesus  
He came to love heal and forgive  
He bled and died to buy my pardon  
An empty grave is there to prove  
My Savior lives

Chorus

Because He lives I can face tomorrow  
Because He lives all fear is gone  
Because I know He holds the future  
And life is worth the living  
Just because He lives

*Song continues on next page*



## Verse 2

How sweet to hold our newborn baby  
And feel the pride and joy he gives  
But greater still the calm assurance  
This child can face uncertain days  
Because Christ lives (chorus)

## Verse 3

And then one day I'll cross that river  
I'll fight life's final war with pain  
And then as death gives way to vict'ry  
I'll see the lights of glory  
And I'll know He reigns (chorus)

## \*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

*The altar flowers are given by George and Delores  
Lescher in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary.*

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Welcome and thank you to Rev. Cliff Eschbach  
for supplying as our Pastor this morning.

**Our Worshiping Community:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Angela Hammer     **Minister of Music:** Linda Holt  
**Cont. Worship Team:** Linda Holt and Todd Snyder  
**Ministers:** The People of St. Luke Church

**April Worship Assistant:** Mike DeLong  
**Lay Reader:** Linda Holt     **Next Sunday's LR:** Melissa Gettler  
**Live Streaming Technician:** William Hoffman  
**Live Streaming Assistant:** Beverly Hoffman

**Last Week – April 16**

**Worship Attendance:** In-person: 34    Online views: 38    **Offering:** \$1,901

**This week at St. Luke**

**Sunday, April 23—Easter 3**

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

**Tuesday, April 25**

10:00 AM          Band Together

**Wednesday, April 26**

7:00 PM            Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, April 27**

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

**Next Sunday, April 30—Easter 4**

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

## NEWS IN OUR PEWS

**Book Club:** Next meeting is on Thursday, June 1st at 7:00PM in the Chapel. We will be discussing *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. All are welcome, please contact Richelle Deysher for additional information.

**Chicken BBQ at Spang Crest:** 945 Duke Street in Lebanon Friday, May 5 frp, 2:30-6:00—Cost: \$10.00 includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, roll and applesauce. Desserts available at bake sale. If anyone would like to donate items for bake sale, donations appreciated. Please call Linda Hollinger for tickets at 717-808-7338

**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.

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteers are needed for coffee hour, held on the second and fourth Sundays following worship. Please see the signup sheet in the narthex.

**History Books:** St. Luke History—\$20.00. Contact Anna Mae Grubb 717-273-7035 or [mrgrubby@comcast.net](mailto:mrgrubby@comcast.net).

**Monthly Ministry Emphasis for April:** Lutheran Camping Corp

**Mother and Child Breakfast Buffet:** Saturday, May 6 at 9:30 at Country Fare Restaurant in Myerstown. Adults \$12.50/Age 4-12 \$8.00. Menu: Fruit, eggs, muffins, home fries, pancakes, pastries, bacon, sausage and drinks. Order tickets by April 21 by contacting Faith Thunberg

**Musical Arts at St. Luke:** If you are interested in becoming involved in the musical arts at St. Luke, please see Linda Holt. Reminder that choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM.

**Pentecost Geraniums:** Pentecost is May 28. Envelopes for orders are in the narthex. Cost of a 6" potted plant is \$7.00. Orders are due Thursday, May 4.

## *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 Griffie, Bill Gundrum, Kim Lenhart Hale, John Hassinger, Earl Hehnlly, Dean Hettinger, Lilly Higgins & Family, Richard and Nancy Hollen, Christopher Johnson (D Hettinger), Landon Kreider, 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, 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, Women's Shelter, Lancaster/Lebanon Habitat for Humanity, Lebanon Rescue Mission, Support Connections of Lebanon County, St. Paul's Penryn, 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.

