

St. Luke Lutheran Church

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July 2, 2023—Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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, 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

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** Let Justice Flow Like Streams WOV 763

***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: God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Read responsively

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;**

you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

³"I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

⁴**'I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.'**"

¹⁵Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

¹⁶**They rejoice daily in your name;
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

¹⁷For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favor our might is exalted.

¹⁸**Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD;
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the tenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel:** Matthew 10:40-42

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message



Hymn of the Day: This is My Song (A Song of Peace)

This Is My Song



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912–1993, sts. 1–2; Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, st. 3

Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957

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***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**

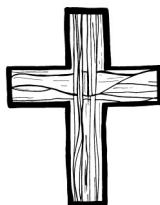
***Passing the Peace:**

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)



*Prayers of Intercession

P: Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence.

P: We pray for the church. For wisdom to heed the voices of prophets in our midst who cast a vision of God's promised future. For courage to welcome people whom society rejects. For resolve to serve all in need. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for creation. For all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams. For lands experiencing scorching heat, drought, or wildfires. For conservation organizations and environmental activists. For scientists working on clean energy solutions. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for this nation and all nations. For presidents, governors, and legislators. For judges, juries, district attorneys, and public defenders. For military personnel. For those who are incarcerated. Guide us in ways of freedom that promote the common good. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those in need. For exiles, immigrants, refugees, and those seeking asylum. For victims of harassment, torture, or abuse. For those who are ill. For any near death and for all who grieve. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for children. For their safety at home and in childcare settings. For their flourishing at summer programs and camps. For the many people who care for them including parents and grandparents; childcare workers and teachers; coaches, counselors, and mentors; pediatricians and psychologists. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We give thanks for all the saints and prophets who have received the free gift of God, which is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. May their lives of humble service inspire us in faith. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

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**

SENDING

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

***Blessing:**

P: The God who calls across the cosmos
and speaks in the smallest seed
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you
now and to the end of the age.

C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus LBW 487

***Sending:**

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Our worshipping community:

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

Ministers: The People of St. Luke Church

July Worship Assistant: Sue DeLong

Lay Reader: Paula Benson or Anna Mae Grubb

Next Sunday's Lay Reader: Council members

Live Streaming Technician: William Hoffman

Technical Assistant: Beverly Hoffman

Attendance from June 18 and June 25

Attendance: In-person: 30 Online: 28 Offering: \$2,640

Attendance (in person at combined St. Paul service): 21

This week at St. Luke

Sunday, July 2—Pentecost 5

8:30 AM Service of the Word

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

Thursday, July 6

10:00 AM Band Together (No Bands on July 4)

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

Friday, July 7

3:00-6:00 PM TEFAP

Next Sunday, July 9—Pentecost 6

9:00 AM Combined Service/meeting at St. Luke
Breakfast follows meeting

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

The church office will be closed on July 4 and July 6.

Phone messages and emails will still be monitored.

NEWS IN OUR PEWS

Book Club: Next meeting is on Thursday, July 20th at 7:00pm in the Chapel. We will be discussing *Lessons In Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. All are welcome, please contact Richelle Deysher for additional information.

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

Fountain Park Services— 7/16—Brothers in Grace and 7/23—Teen Challenge—7:00 PM—rain location St. Paul's UCC.

God's Work, Our Hands T Shirt—see form in back of sanctuary. Cost is covered. Due date for order is July 30th.

July - Monthly Ministry Emphasis: TEFAP Emergency Food Assistance

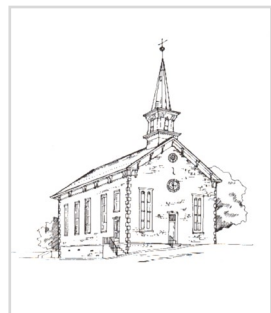
Musical Arts at St. Luke: Please contact Betsy Nolt if you have a musical gift that you would like to share at a worship service during the summer months.

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

Offering Envelopes: can be mailed to the church or any St. Luke envelopes placed in a plate at St. Paul's will be given to St. Luke.

"Stellar" Vacation Bible School: July 9-12—6-8PM Friedens Lutheran in Myerstown. rsvp: vbspro/p/flcstellar

Next Week:
July 9
9:00 AM
St. Luke and St. Paul
combined service, meeting,
and breakfast at St. Luke.



Prayers for:

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

John Adams, Marilyn Adams, Claudia Addison, Brenda 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, 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 Bishops: James S. Dunlop and Elizabeth Eaton and their 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.

