

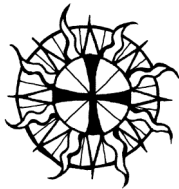
St. Luke Lutheran Church

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

September 10, 2023

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Service of the Word/God's Work, Our Hands



St. Luke 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

On our website (stlukelutheran.org), you can find current events and links to our
online worship services.

Direct access:

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

GATHERING

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

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be God,

the one who forms us,

✠ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

**C: Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.**

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

**For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.**

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ,

God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn: God When Human Bonds are Broken WOV 735**

***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

The scriptures are printed on the Celebrate insert

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm 119:33-40

Read responsively

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the eighteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message



Hymn of the Day: There is a Balm in Gilead

WOV 737

***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)

C: Amen.

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

SENDING

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

***Blessing:**

P: The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** Jesus, the Very Thought of You LBW 316

***Sending:**

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Our worshipping community:

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

Ministers: The People of St. Luke

Pianist: Dave Deysher

September Worship Assistant: Sue DeLong

Today's Lay Reader: Richelle Deysher **Lay Reader for September 17:** Donna Moyer

Live Streaming Technician: William Hoffman **Technical Assistant:** Beverly Hoffman

Attendance—September 3 In person: 28 Online: 49 Offering: \$1,965

Today we celebrate the tenth anniversary of "God's Work – Our Hands" Sunday, a day of service organized by the ELCA that reminds us of who we are as a church community, inspired to share God's love and serve our neighbors. Here at St. Luke, our GWOH efforts started with a clothing drive the first year or two and developed into **Warmth for Winter** which provides warm clothing for folks right here in our community. A few years into the program, our WELCA chapter added blankets and pillows to the effort, and a few years later, we added Diaper Sunday to kick off the drive. The Warmth program ties in closely with our community meal programs as we seek to identify needs in our community. So while we celebrate today as a special day, the bright gold T-shirts serve as a year-round reminder for all of us to use our hands and hearts and resources to do God's work every day.

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This week at St. Luke

Sunday, September 10—Pentecost 15

8:30 AM Service of the Word/God's Work, Our Hands
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children)
9:30 AM Coffee Hour
5:30 PM-7:00 PM Community Free Meal

Tuesday, September 12

10:00 AM Band Together

Wednesday, September 13

9:00-12:00 PM LWR Quilting
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 14

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

Sunday, September 17—Pentecost 16

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

NEWS IN OUR PEWS

Annual Lecture Series: Congregation Beth Israel Annual Lecture Series presents Shelby Van Pelt, author of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, the 2023 Lebanon County Reads selection. The lecture will be held on Tuesday, September 12 at 8:00PM. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at any Lebanon County Library. For information contact Richelle Deysher.

Thursday morning ZOOM Bible Study: September 14 & 28 at 10:00 AM.



Beer & Bible: Thursday, September 21 at 6:30 PM at the Franklin House.

Book Club: Next meeting is on Thursday, September 21st at 7:00pm in the Chapel. We will be discussing *Small Mercies* by Dennis Lehane. All are welcome to join us for a great book discussion.



Coffee Hour: Volunteers are always welcome! Please see sign up in narthex.

Ministry Emphasis for September: Domestic Violence Shelter



Thursday Meal Team Workers Needed: September and October are St. Luke's turn to staff the Thursday Free Noon Meals. Volunteers are needed, whether you can serve for one time or for all of them. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the chapel with dates and times noted. Thanks to all who are able to participate in this community outreach!

Yes, you can sing! That means you can join the choir and share your musical gifts. Choir rehearsals are on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM. Contact Linda Holt for more information.



Party with a purpose—Saturday, September 30 from 5:00-8:00 PM at Camp Kirchenwald. Enjoy dinner and live entertainment plus silent and live auctions as well as giveaways. The evening is free, all we ask is a donation at the end of the night in the amount of your choice. This year's focus is a fleet of new mountain bikes! Thanks to the Elizabethtown Mountain Bike Team, camp has great new trails on which to ride, but our aged and well used bikes are not up to the challenge. Help us get kids on bikes to enjoy the new trails! This is an adult event. Childcare is provided, please let us know if you would like to utilize this service. Questions? Call 717-677-821 or use QR codes are located on the table in the narthex.

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 and Barbara Hehny, 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, 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.