

St. Luke Lutheran Church

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

November 19, 2023

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Thank-Offering

Service of Holy Communion



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: Voluntary on Kremser (Old Netherlands Melody, 1625) - arr. G. Young

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.

Silence is kept for reflection

**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: Arise, Your Light Has Come—WOV 652**

***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: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12 Read responsively

Ministry of Music: Choir: Rejoice, the Lord is King

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the twenty-fifth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel:** Matthew 25:14-30

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



The Message

Hymn of the Day: O Day of Rest and Gladness—LBW 251

***Thank-offering Litany— St. Luke Women of the ELCA**

L: Today as we gather on Thank-offering Sunday, let us keep in mind our Savior's promise: that where two or three come together in Christ's name, he is here with us. For generations, Lutheran women have gathered to give thanks to God for all the blessings of our lives, and particularly the blessings that come to us through this community of women. Let us reflect on the blessings that come to us and the blessings we pass on through our Thank-offering.

R1: A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is the opportunity to grow in faith.

R2: A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is the opportunity to affirm our gifts.

R3: A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is our commitment to support one another in our callings.

R4: A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is our commitment to ministry and action.

R5: A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is our commitment to promoting healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

R6: The blessings passed on through our Thank-offerings include the work of our Women of the ELCA partnered with Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Response, the Women's Funding Network, and ministries of the larger ELCA such as ELCA World Hunger and Global Mission.

R7: Our Thank-offerings are our response in gratitude to all the blessings that come to us and flow through us. Our Thank-offerings make all this possible. Let us bless the Lord, and in gratitude bless the church, the society, and the world through our generosity. Let us pray: Generous God,

C: we thank you further that you entrust us with passing on your gifts to others. Grant u grace always to act with bold and fearless generosity, seeing the face of your Son in all of your beloved children throughout the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***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)

C: Amen.

*Be Welcome...
and Worship
with Us!*

***Offering Prayer:**

P: God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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:**

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.
Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,
uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Eucharistic Prayer:

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, 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: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

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: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.

Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied.

In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

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:** Now Thank We All Our God—LBW 534

***Sending:**

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Choral Song—Wesley/arr. Wells

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Our worshiping community:

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

Ministers: The People of St. Luke

November Worship Assistant: Sue DeLong

Today's Lay Reader: Steffi Gettler **Lay Reader for November 26:** Linda Holt

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

Attendance—November 12

In person: 33

Offering: \$1,327

This week at St. Luke

Sunday, November 19—Pentecost 25—Thank-Offering

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

Monday, November 20

6:30 PM Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 21

10:00 AM Band Together

Wednesday, November 22

7:00 PM No Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 23

10:00 AM No Band Together
11:30 AM-1:00 PM No Community Free Meal

Next Sunday, November 26—Christ the King

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

*The altar flowers are presented
by Paula Benson in loving memorial of Lyn.*

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, David Grubb, 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, Howard Moore, Brian Navarre, Barry 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 Deysner, Tyler Fleagle, Shane Gettler, Steven Ginder, Matthew Plummer, Greg Rucker.

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 Deysner, Elaine Matternas, Scott Rights, and Todd Snyder.

**Please notify the church office and Pastor Angie
when the prayer chain is activated and for pastoral care & emergencies.
For revisions to the above list, please contact the church office.**

