

St. Luke Lutheran Church

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May 5, 2024

Service of
Holy Communion
Sixth Sunday of Easter



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 to our online services:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran,

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: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: The Church of Christ in Every Age

LBW 433

***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: Acts 10:44-48

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm 98:1-9 Read responsively

Ministry of Music: Choir: Lift Up Your Voice, Alleluia

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel: John 15:9-17**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message

Hymn of the Day: Praise to the Lord, The Almighty LBW 543

***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: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

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.

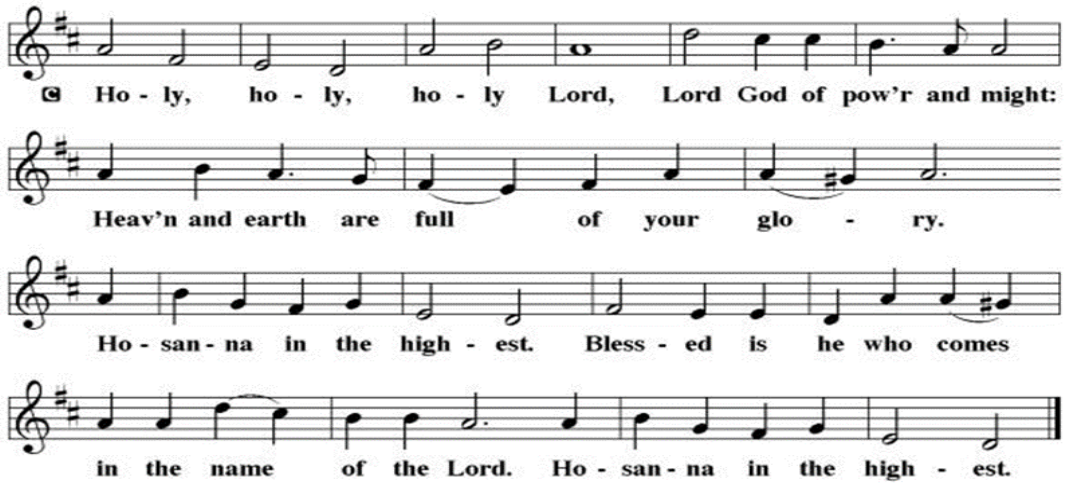
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. 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: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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**

***Invitation to Communion:**

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

***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.

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: Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.

Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.



SENDING

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

Godspeed & Farewell

Pastor Emmanuel, as you leave our congregation, we wish to bid you farewell.

A reading from Exodus: The LORD said, “I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared.”
(Exodus 23:20)

A reading from Isaiah: Thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. (*Isaiah 43:1-3*)

In holy baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you a member of his church. When you came to this congregation we rejoiced to welcome you into the mission we share as the people of God. In this community you have come to know and to share in God’s loving purpose for you and for all creation. God has blessed you in this community, and God has blessed us through you.

We encourage you to continue to receive and share God’s gifts in the Konde Diocese, united with us in the body of Christ and the mission we share.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we thank you for Pastor Emmanuel and for the time we have shared with him.

As he has been a blessing to us, so now send him forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.



***Blessing:**

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** Go, My Children With My Blessing WOV 721

***Sending:**

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

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

Worship Assistant: Karen Stump

Worship Assistant next week: Mike DeLong

Today's Lay Reader: Dolly Fasnacht **Lay Reader next week:** Richelle Deysner

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

Attendance 4/28: In person: 29 Online: 42 Offering: \$4,433



This week at St. Luke

Sunday, May 5—Easter 6

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

Monday, May 6

7:00 PM WELCA

Tuesday, May 7

10:00 AM Band Together

Wednesday, May 8

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 9—Ascension Day

10:00 AM Band Together
11:30 AM-1:00 PM Community Free Meal
7:00 PM Book Club

Saturday, May 11

9:00 AM Mother and Daughter Breakfast
at Country Fair Restaurant

Next Sunday, May 12—Easter 7

8:30 AM Service of the Word
9:30 AM Coffee Hour
5:30 PM-7:00 PM Community Free Meal

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

NEWS IN OUR PEWS

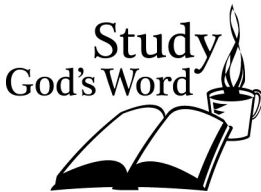
The Backyard at St. Paul in Penryn (1258 Newport Road): Upcoming Events



The Backyard ministry is a way in which we can gather safely as a community. Our events are all family friendly, dog friendly, and welcoming to all. Donations of food and all money that is collected at events is fully donated to support our food ministry program.

May 18 – Cornhole Tournament (see below) **June 22** – Open Mic Night

Cornhole Tournament (benefits the Penryn Food Pantry and the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA) Saturday, May 18 at 4:00 PM. \$30 registration fee per team—call 717-665-6093 or email stpaulpen@gmail.com to register. Food truck and beer—dogs welcome.



**Study
God's Word**

Beer & Bible: A Thursday evening monthly meeting at the Franklin House for dinner, drinks, and conversation. Upcoming dates: 5/23, 6/13, 7/11, 8/15.

Bible Study—Thursday morning ZOOM:

Join Pastor Angie online to look at the texts coming up 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. Upcoming dates: 5/9, 5/24, 6/6, 6/27, 7/11, 8/22.

Book Club: The next meeting is on Thursday, June 13th at 7:00 PM in the Chapel. We will be discussing *The Echo of Old Books: A Novel*, by Barbara Davis. All are welcome to come and join the discussion.



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

Continuing Education: Pastor Angie will be in Pittsburgh for a continuing education conference, May 13-May 17. Pastoral emergencies can be directed to Rev. Scott Paradise at 540-335-1693.

Constitution Review: It's time for a review of our congregational constitution. Pastor Angie plans to begin the review process this summer. We are looking for 3-4 people who are detail oriented to assist with the review process. This work is tedious, not particularly fun, but it is necessary and important. Pastor Angie will do her best to make this work as fun as possible! Please see Pastor Angie or a council member if you feel called to serve in this capacity.

**Church
Constitution
& Bylaws**



Geraniums for Pentecost (May 19): Envelopes are available on the counter or in the narthex. Orders are due TODAY. Plants are \$7 each.



History Books: These are available for \$20.00.
Please contact Anna Mae Grubb: 717-273-7035.

Ministry Emphasis for May: Lebanon Rescue Mission



Mother and Child Breakfast Buffet: Saturday, May 11 at 9:30 AM at the Country Fare Restaurant. Please join us for fun, fellowship, games, and door prizes. This is an all-you-can-eat buffet sponsored by St. Luke Women of the ELCA. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Adults \$12.50 (Gratuity is included), Children (4-12) \$8.00, Children 3 and under are free. Menu is Fresh Fruit Cup, Scrambled Eggs, English Muffins, Home Fried Potatoes, Pancakes, Assorted Breakfast Pastries, Bacon, Sausage, Coffee, Hot Tea, Water, and O.J. Deadline to purchase tickets is TODAY. Contact Faith Thunberg at 717-949-2869 or 717-202-9860 to purchase tickets or put your name on the sign-up in the chapel.





Share your musical gifts!

Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday at 7:00 PM.

Contact Linda Holt for more information.

Summer Music at St. Luke: While the choir is on summer break; if you have a musical talent that you would like to share at the services held at St. Luke, please contact Betsy Nolt. Let everything that hath breath—praise the Lord!



Summer worship: 95% of the Penryn congregation responded to sharing Sunday morning worship with St. Luke, while St. Luke responded with 99% in favor. Our summer worship schedule will begin on Sunday, June 2 with a 9:00 AM at St. Luke.

Volunteers Needed for Food Ministries: With the growing relationship between St. Luke and St. Paul in Penryn, we are able to combine our food ministries to help support people in more ways. The Penryn food pantry is often left with extra produce at the food pantry. We would like to establish a volunteer schedule to transport the extra produce from the Penryn food pantry to St. Luke to share with the people who come to the community meals on Sunday evenings and Thursday afternoons. We will be planning on alternating the produce transportation between Penryn and St. Luke on a monthly basis. Volunteers would simply pick the produce up at St. Paul on Sunday and deliver it to St. Luke. There will be people at St. Paul who are able to help volunteers load produce into their cars, if needed, as well as unload at St. Luke.

The other volunteer opportunity that we have is a volunteer coordinator who will schedule the volunteers for St. Luke's on the St. Luke months. We ask that you prayerfully consider if one of these important volunteer opportunities might be a good fit for you to become involved in these food ministries that are truly God's work.



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, 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, 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 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 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.**

