



St. Luke Lutheran Church in Schaefferstown
Third Sunday of Pentecost - June 13, 2021
Worship Service

Telephone Number - Office: 717-949-3375 churchoffice@stlukelutheran.comcastbiz.net
Web-Site: www.stlukelutheran.org

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.

HEALTH QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS FOR ATTENDEES:

Please Do Not Stay If You Answer Yes to the Following Questions:

1. Do you have a cough, fever or flu-like symptoms? (some flu-like symptoms could be: fatigue, chills, fever, muscle pain, cough, headache, sore throat) – **if yes, please go home and call your Doctor**
2. Have you had a COVID-19 test in the past 10 days? – **if yes, please do not stay**
3. Have you come in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the past 10 days? – **if yes, please do not stay**

Stay at Your Own Risk If You Answer Yes to the Following Question:

Are you over age 65 and or someone with any underlying health issues (diabetes, lung disease, hypertension, kidney disease or a decreased immune system)? – if yes, stay at your own risk

Being Mindful of Others: Masks, Distancing, and Other Mitigation Protocols

So that we may safely worship together, please follow these steps with due diligence to mitigate the possibility of spreading illness.

If person is fully vaccinated - no mask needed unless person wishes to continue to wear a mask.

If person is unvaccinated or has received 1 dose of a 2 dose vaccine - mask is still required.

Social distancing is still required if not a member of the same household.

Please use hand sanitizer upon arrival (dispenser is on the table by the stairway).

Please take bulletins home.

Please place Offerings in the receptacle on the table by the stairway – Thank you!!

Only the leading musicians will sing.

Passing the peace will take place with gestures.

Please bring a cracker or piece of bread from home on Communion Sundays (1st and 3rd Sundays).

Welcome/Announcements

The Prelude

Words of Confession and Reconciliation

Brothers and sisters, we are often so caught up in what is happening around us in our homes, institutions, and community that we fail to notice who walks beside us.

C: Jesus, Forgive us. Do not conceal yourself from us; open our eyes to your merciful presence.
Jesus, you are right in indicating how foolish your Emmaus followers were and still can be when we become stuck in this world and lose sight of your good news, lose hope, and therefore not grasp what you have revealed to us.

C: Loose what binds us, Jesus, cause our hearts to burn with your teaching.

Here we stand today, urging Jesus to stay with us and break bread with us,

C: yearning to be filled with the ever present joy that overwhelmed the Emmaus disciples, that caused them to leave all behind, rejoin the community of believers, and discover their individual and communal mission. Stay with us Lord. Amen

Hear the good news. Jesus remains with us, opens our eyes to his presence, and our ears to hear the things about him in the scriptures. His forgiving self-giving life, teaching, death, and resurrection, reconciles us to his Father, our Father,

C: so that our faith is rekindled, our hope is restored, and our mission becomes clear: blessing God and becoming a compassionate blessing to one another in this faith community, and to our neighbors near and far. Amen.

Gathering Hymn WOV #675 "We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight"

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:

That, when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
we may behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

The Call to Worship

You catch up to us as we sojourn, Risen Jesus;

C: on the road, unexpectedly, in a way we need most, changing everything.

You stand next to us, Rabbi Jesus;

C: where we are, revealing a call, an invitation, the truth.

You enter into our souls, enlivening Jesus;

C: awakening us to a new life, a new world, a new mission.

Therefore we pray. Partnering God, refresh our weary hearts with your Holy Spirit.

C: Inspire us to be your workers, that we may use the gifts you have ignited in us to build your kingdom here in this place, at this time. Burn within us so that we become agents of compassionate transformation in this congregation, this town, and beyond. In the name of the Jesus we pray. Amen.

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know

that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day WOV #705

"As the Grains of Wheat"

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.

As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. (*Refrain*)

Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. (*Refrain*)

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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The Message

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith.

C: I trust in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I trust in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of 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 trust in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering: Thank you for faithfully mailing your offering envelope or placing them in the container today.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musician(s) (especially). We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you (especially). We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus 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.

Blessing

God, the merciful and mighty, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love—
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – send us light and truth to keep us all our days.

**C: May his hand protect us, his holy angels accompany us,
and his blessing envelop us, now and forever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn LBW #203

“Now We Join in Celebration”

Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation, dressed no more in spirit somber,
clothed instead in joy and wonder; for the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.

Lord, as round this feast we gather, fill our hearts with holy rapture! For this bread and cup of blessing
are for us the sure possessing of your loving deed on Calv'ry, of your living self, our vict'ry,
pledge of your unfailing presence, foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.

Lord, we share in this communion as one fam'ly of God's children, reconciled through you, our brother,
one in you with God our Father. Give us grace to live for others, serving all, both friends and strangers,
seeking justice, love, and mercy till you come in final glory.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen

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Sending

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and our neighbors.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

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Supply Pastor: The Rev. Angela Hammer

Soloist: Sarah Kneller

Lay Reader: Richelle Deysher

Pianist: Dr. Dave Deysher

Worship Assistant: Donna Rhodes

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This Week at St. Luke

Monday **Deadline Newsletter**
Tuesday 10:00 AM Band Together
Thursday 10:00AM Band Together

Next Sunday Father's Day
8:30 AM Holy Communion Service

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An update on our online worship: The service is livestreamed weekly on our Facebook page: at <https://www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran>, or on YouTube using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWKROL7HVJEgtCMksioZwoA>. If you do not have internet access, you are welcome to attend in person following current Covid protocols. You will continue to receive the weekly bulletin via email.

Adjustments and improvements are being made every week. For example:

- **The streaming process has been improved with a direct tie to the sound system. This requires presenters to use the microphone so all (both in-person and viewing online) can hear.**
- **Periods of quiet during the service, usually during congregational response, are being addressed so those viewing/listening online can feel fully included in the service.**

We need your feedback-- any recommendations, suggestions, or improvements regarding the current online offerings, or suggestions for other social media outlets. We also need volunteers to assist with the technical aspects of livestreaming and all of the legwork and support this requires. Please send your feedback or volunteer availability to the Church Office. Thank you!

A WARM WELCOME to our supply pastor The Rev. Angela Hammer and all our visitors as we come together to share this day here at St. Luke.

Please keep in your prayers those who are ill, recovering, or shut-in, especially:

John Adams, Claudia Addison, Kit Ahnert, Brenda Boyer, Leon Boyer, Mechelle Leshner Bray, Amanda Cupernall, Alexandria (Lexxi) Ditzler, Cathy Dunkelberger, Earl Garman, Deb Glassmoyer, Peg Griffe, Bill Gundrum, Kim Lenhart Hale, John Hassinger, Dean and Sue Hettinger, Lilly Higgins & Family, Bill Hoffman, Richard and Nancy Hollen, June Kohr, Landon Kreider, Ruth Kupp, Betty Leedy, Delores Leshner, Richard Leshner, Ken Light, Donald and Sue McClure, Steven McCracken, Casey McGarvey, Dana McKinney, Maureen Marinkov, Dale Matthews, Harold (Spike) Moore, Brian Navarre, Barry and Tom Nolt, George Pastore, Kathy O'Roark, Gerald and Ruth Parson, Ronald Ream, Lance Rhodes, Al Shade, Barry Shriver, Linda Simmers, Lloyd Smith, Richard Strohl, Caitlyn, Gretta and Mike Stuber, Robert Todisco, Landis Wenger, Josephine Wenrich, Janet Wharton, Josie Williams, Eddie Wolfe, Marian Yoder, Dottie and Maggie Zartman, and Ashton Zohn.

Pray for those who are serving in the military, especially:

Christopher Ahnert, Timothy Beamesderfer, Tyler Fleagle, Shane Gettler, Steven Ginder, George Leshner, Jr., Greg Rocker, and Matthew Sanders.

Pray for 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, Lebanon Taizé Violence Intervention Women's Shelter, Lancaster/Lebanon Habitat for Humanity, Lebanon Rescue Mission, Support Connections of Lebanon County, Our Synod Bishop James S. Dunlop and his staff, and our ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and staff.

Please be in Prayer for and with St. Luke Vision to Mission Team - Kit Ahnert, Richelle Deysher, Elaine Matternas, Judy Plummer, Scott Rights, and Todd Snyder.

If you are in need of **Pastoral Care** for a Visit, Hospitalization, Baptisms, Funerals, etc. please call the church office at 717-949-3375.

The 2021 Flower and Bulletin charts can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you have any questions concerning these charts please call the church office at 717-949-3375.

June 6, 2021**Attendance** - 29**Offering** - \$2090.00**Taize Attendance** - 13**Offering** - \$51.00 **(Domestic Violence)**

The Monthly Ministry Emphasis for the month of June will go towards "**Spang Crest.**" For the month of July the emphasis will go towards "**TEFAP**" Thank you again for your continued support.

St. Luke History Books are available for \$20.00. Call Anna Mae Grubb 717-273-7035 or email at mrgrubby@comcast.net.

Starting Tuesday, June 1st, 10 AM Schaefferstown Bands will restart outside on the upper parking lot of St. Luke Lutheran Church. If weather causes us to move inside the chapel, we need to mask and maintain social distancing per the recommendation of the Lutheran Synod and current church policy.
Hope to see you there!

Book Club will be reading "**The Midnight Library**" by: Matt Haig. The meeting will be in the Chapel on Thursday, June 24th at 7:00pm. Masks will be required and we will sit with some social distancing. If anyone has any questions please contact Richelle Deysher.

Summer Camping - All children from Kindergarten to grade 12, as well as families, are encouraged to look at the 2021 Lutheran Camping brochures in the downstairs Miller Chapel for various camps available this summer. Any questions you can go to their website: www.lutherancamping.org or by calling the Camping office at 717-677-8211.

Available in the Narthex are the new **St. Luke Church Directories**. If you see an error in your name or address please call the church office at 717-949-3375.