



St. Luke Lutheran Church in Schaefferstown
Seventh Sunday of Easter - May 16, 2021
Holy Communion 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 14 days? – **if yes, please do not stay**
3. Have you come in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 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 Practices

So that we may be more safely worshiping together, we follow these additional steps with due diligence to mitigate the possibility of spreading illness.

All wear masks that cover both your nose and mouth.

All place folding chair at least six feet from anyone who does not live in your home

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

All take their bulletin home

Offerings are placed 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 – we will neither mingle or touch or shout

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

Welcome/Announcements

The Prelude: *“Lord of the Dance”* (Flute & Piano)

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Holy Trinity, One God: our creator and liberator, our living water and bread of life, our comforter and teacher.

C: Amen.

Let us pause for self-examination and come into the revealing, yet healing light of God. God of grace and glory, you have brought us through the night of sin and into the light of Jesus' resurrection.

C: yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God. Make us alive in Christ. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin. Pour over us your refreshing love and restore us to servant living, through Jesus Christ, our risen, living Lord. Amen.

Rejoice with all creation around God's throne. The sacrificial, unmerited love of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. We have forgiveness and freedom from sin in his righteousness. He graces us with eternal life for servant living. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

C: Amen. Thank's be to Jesus.

Opening Hymn WOV #748 "Bind Us Together"

Refrain

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.

Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together, Lord, bind us together in love.

There is only one God. There is only one King.

There is only one Body; that is why we can sing: (Refrain)

You are the family of God. You are the promise divine.

You are God's chosen desire; you are the glorious new wine. (Refrain)

Bob Gillman b. 1946

The Apostolic Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world, and that the disciples will be accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.

Luke writes in the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven,

suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus said to the eleven and those with them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day WOV #710

“One Bread, One Body”

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *(Refrain)*

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *(Refrain)*

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. *(Refrain)*

forward as usual for Your promised presence in bread and wine, given for us to share around the table of your family, we remember:

At the Last Supper, Jesus knew his disciples would be devastated by his leaving them, so he wanted to give them the assurance that he would be present with them always in a very special way; the way Yahweh made himself present to Moses in the burning bush, [to his exodus people in the pillar of cloud by day and fire by night,] to the Israelites in the show bread preserved in the temple, to Elijah at Mt. Sinai in a still small voice, [and as a dove and the voice from heaven in the Baptism of Jesus].

Jesus' love is very tender, and in that tenderness He wants us to know that we are never alone, but that he is always with us. And so, at the end of the Passover meal on the night 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."

Therefore, we take and eat this bread from our homes knowing Jesus is here – in, with, under, and through this form of bread, and ourselves. The Presence of Jesus.

Thanks be to God. (Please eat your bread or cracker)

In doing this, Jesus gave his disciples a precious heritage, a way of assuring them of His constant presence and never failing love. Jesus told them, "Whoever eats this bread abides in me and I in them." This presence, shared by his closest friends, smuggled into Roman prisons, and passed on through generations of followers to us, was and continues to be a great comfort to all who know Jesus' presence. Therefore we pray:

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.

Prayer after Communion

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 #364

“Son of God, Eternal Savior”

Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race,
you our head, who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead:
fill us with your love and pity, heal our wrong, and help our need.

As you, Lord, have lived for others, so may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been granted; freely may your servants give.

Thanks to all of you who are worshipping here at St. Luke in person or who have joined with us online. We continue to make improvements in our online outreach with better connections and upgraded hardware, software, and visuals to meet your needs. We need your feedback as well, both in how you receive and view the service, and your response to the message. We encourage you to comment on the message of the day. We also need volunteers to assist with the technical aspects of weekly livestreaming and all of the legwork and support this requires. If you are willing and able to serve in this way, please contact the church office at 717-949-3375 or churchoffice@stlukelutheran.comcastbiz.net.

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 Griffie, 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, Diane Reedy, 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, Matthew Sanders and Jamielee Ahnert Symes.

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.

May 9, 2021

Attendance - 34

Offering - \$2,419.00

Sunday School Offering - \$22.00

Parents of **graduating students**, please let the church office know (717) 949-3375 if your children are graduating from high school, college or a trade school. Also, what their future plans might be or future job placement.

The Monthly Ministry Emphasis for the month of May will go towards **“The Lebanon Rescue Mission.”** 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.

Adult Sunday School Class: If you are interested in small group discussions, please consider joining us Sunday mornings at 10:15 am in the chapel basement. We are currently doing a series titled **“A Thinking Person’s Guide to Faith”** narrated by Adam Hamilton. Topics include 1) Science, Religion and the Rationality of God, 2) When Christians Get it Wrong, 3) Making Sense of the Bible and 4) The Love of God and the Logic of Hell. All are welcome. Masks and social distancing are required.

The **Book Club** will be meeting via ZOOM this Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 7:00pm. We will be discussing the book **A Burning**, by Meghanns Majumdar. If anyone has any questions or would like to join in on the discussion please contact Richelle Deysher.