

AUGUST 27, 2023
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome to 9:30 am Worship

St. Luke Lutheran Church
35 Wilson Ave, PO Box 338; Gilbertsville, PA 19525

PRELUDE

The Church's One Foundation

setting, Benjamin M. Culli; ©2009 Concordia Publishing House

GATHERING HYMN:

ELW 654 The Church's One Foundation

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

ELW 597 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.; Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876.

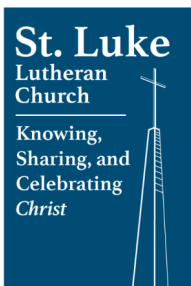
SENDING HYMN:

ELW 820 O Savior, Precious Savior

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879; Music: Arthur H. Mann, 1850-1929.

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St. Luke Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Lenapehoking people and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.



Lincoln Noecker,
Director of Music

Valerie Schlegel
Dir. Handbell & Youth Choir

Marsha Staub,
Office Administrator

Executive Officers:

Connie Hukari, President
Dave Janzow, Vice President
Pam Reifsnyder, Secretary
Scott Moyer, Treasurer

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Dave Janzow
Tim Kenna
Bonnie Kuser
Pam Reifsnyder
Tom Undercuffler
Joe Vendetti

stlukegilbertsville.org
610-367-9738

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

During the prelude, please use this time to quietly allow God to open your heart to his blessed presence.

WELCOME

Please rise in body or spirit.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *The Church's One Foundation*

ELW 654

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you

HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,
with all your faithful followers of every age,
we praise you, the rock of our life.
Be our strong foundation
and form us into the body of your Son,
that we may gladly minister to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING:

A reading from Isaiah 51:1-6

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;

for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**
³When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**
⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.
⁶**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**
⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your

right hand shall save me.

⁸You will make good your purpose for me;

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING:

A reading from Romans 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or spirit



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL:

The holy gospel according to Matthew 16:13-20

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Please rise in body or spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 597

CREED

Together, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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 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.**

The assembly is seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God of Sarah and Abraham, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that

unites us as one family of faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries, and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance where there is oppression. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize this congregation's rostered and lay leaders, musicians, teachers, greeters, and administrators so they may be transformed in sharing your grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all the saints, death is overcome in Christ's resurrection. We rejoice with the faithful departed. Sustain us in hope until we come at last to our heavenly home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God,

we give thanks for your gifts.

Reveal to us the Risen One.

Send us out in service to the world;

through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Canticle of Thanksgiving

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff is marked 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -'. The second staff continues with 'ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O'. The third staff continues with 'God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O'. The fourth staff continues with 'Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and'. The fifth staff is marked 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va - tion be - longs to our'. The sixth staff continues with 'God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.' The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and ties.

Refrain
Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -
ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O
God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O
Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and
Refrain
sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va - tion be - longs to our
God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please rise in body and spirit.

BLESSING

Church, receive this blessing.

The God of all,
who raised † Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

From Sundayandseasons.com



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Worship Leader : Kathy Billger

Message: David Gorton

Director of Music: Lincoln Noecker

Lector: Ron Ball

Audio Video: Ron Hukari

Ushers: Ron Hukari, David Janzow

Sacristan: Merrie Gephart

LECTIONARY FOR AUGUST 28—SEPTEMBER 2

Monday – Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32; 1 Samuel 7:3-13; Romans 2:1-11

Tuesday – Psalm 181:1-3, 20-32; Deuteronomy 32:18-20, 28-2;
Romans 11:33-36

Wednesday – Psalm 181:1-3, 20-32; Isaiah 28:14-22; Matthew 26:6-13

Thursday – Psalm 26:1-8; Jeremiah 14:13-18; Ephesians 5:1-6

Friday – Psalm 26:1-8; Jeremiah 15:1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12

Saturday - Psalm 26: 1-8; Jeremiah 15:10-14; Matthew 8:14-17

PRAYERS FOR Health and Healing:

- ◇ Karen L. Girton, medical testing & future treatments
- ◇ Thomas Fleagle, ALS (brother of Marsha Staub)
- ◇ Cheryl Homa, chemotherapy (Sister of Linda Fronheiser)

PRAYERS FOR those in grief:

- ◇ Family & friends of Hal Baughman (friend of Ruth Nice)

PRAYERS FOR those Needing Continued Prayers:

Bob Arobone
Jalen Gray
Bonnie Ritter

Tom Bucks
Larry Kuser

Kristopher Yoder
Sharon Smith

PRAYERS FOR those at home:

Charles & Gloria Christman
Marie Geiger
Ruth Nice
Clayton & Ann Rhoads

Jean & Bill Christy
Paul McFarland
Helen Penketh
Cookie Stasik

IN OUR PRAYERS: This morning in our prayers we remember the saints whose commemorations fall during this week:

August 28 Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, 430;

Moses the Black, monk, martyr, c. 400

September 2 Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, 1872

Sponsors:

The Bulletins are sponsored by Hilda Cooney in honor of her daughter- in law Kathy Moyer's birthday.

Men's Breakfast

The 49th annual St. Luke Men's Breakfast will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 7:30 am in the St. Luke pavilion. The speaker will be The Reverend Dr. Don Eisenhower. Cost to attend the breakfast is \$6.00 per person.

Thank you

Thank you for donating suitcases and other travel bags to Safe Berks. Over the years St. Luke delivered just over 200 items to the shelter for abused women. Many, many thanks for your generosity in this and other projects.

Community Clothing Rack

Please note, The CCR hours will change from summer hours to regular hours. Starting Wednesday, September 6, the CCR will be open from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

| Date | Week of Aug. 27-Sept. 2 | Location |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday, August 27 13th Sunday after Pentecost | 9:30 am Worship | Nave |
| Tuesday, August 29 | 7:00 pm Boy Scouts | Memorial Hall |
| Wednesday, August 30 | 9:00 to Noon CCR Shopping | CCR |
| Friday, September 1 | 8:30 pm AA Meeting | Class Room Downstairs |
| Worship Leaders | Sunday, September 3 | Sunday, September 10 |
| Lector | Dave Janzow | Mike Romasco |
| Ushers | Gary Fronheiser, Ron Hukari | Dave Girton, Ron Hukari |
| Audio Video | Ron Hukari | Ron Ball |
| Office Volunteer | Donna Biehl (Aug. 31) | Cindy Bealer (Sept. 7) |
| Sacristan | Val Schlegel | Val Schlegel |

Worship and Stewardship

Our July Commitment

Our Generosity

Overage/Shortfall

Budget \$16,330

\$10,004

-\$6,326

Mission Support \$680

\$553

-\$127





Give now for wildfire relief

Dear friend,

The significant loss of life and damage caused by the wildfires in Hawaii have turned our prayers and attention to mourning those lost, supporting the survivors and how Lutheran Disaster Response can assist with recovery.

Exacerbated by strong winds, wildfires on Maui have claimed dozens of lives and have destroyed homes, businesses and lines of communication. The Big Island of Hawaii has also been impacted by wildfires, and more islands remain vulnerable to additional fires this season.

Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to accompany our neighbors in Hawaii impacted by these wildfires. Will you consider a gift today?

Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. We will work with them to provide for immediate needs and long-term recovery amid the widespread destruction. Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to accompanying recovering communities in the years ahead.

*Make checks payable to
Lutheran Disaster Response.
Write "U.S. Wildfires" on your
check's memo line and send to:*

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

By standing with Maui's wildfire survivors, we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need.

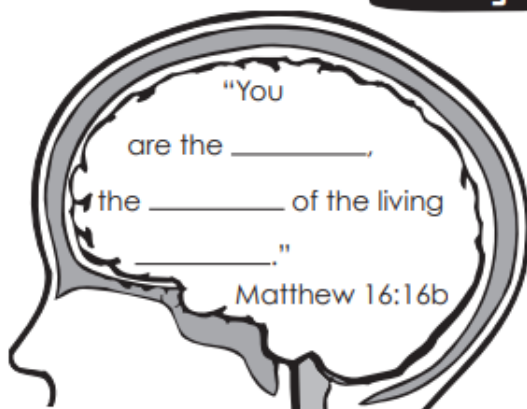
With gratitude,



The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fill in the blanks to complete this week's memory verse.

Memory Verse



Christ Crossword

In the Gospel today, Jesus asks "Who do you say that I am?" There are many names for Jesus. Look up the Bible verses to solve the crossword puzzle. Each one contains a name for Jesus!

ACROSS

3. John 1:29: here is the _____ who takes away the sin of the world!

4. Matthew 3:17: This is my Son the _____.

DOWN

1. Matthew 1:23: and they shall name him _____.

2. John 1:1: In the beginning was the _____.

3. John 8:12: I am the _____ of the world.

