

May 21, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome to 9:30 am Worship

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

PRELUDE

Christ is the King!

setting, Anne Krentz Organ; ©2009 Augsburg Fortress

GATHERING HYMN:

ELW 393 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, ©1978 Augsburg Fortress; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

ELW 662 Christ is the King!

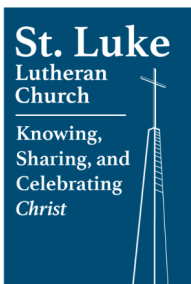
Text: George K. A. Bell, 1883–1958, alt., © Oxford University Press; Music: Charles R. Anders, 1929–2020, © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

SENDING HYMN:

ACS 991 Go to the World

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stlukegilbertsville.org
610-367-9738

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.

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.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
Holy God,
holy and merciful,
holy and mighty,
you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.
Empower our witness to your resurrection.
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.
Where despair prevails, grant hope.
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.
We ask this through Christ,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

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

GATHERING HYMN

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

ELW 393

PRAYER OF THE DAY

○ God of glory,

**your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us
and ascended to your right hand.**

Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy,

**that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING:

A reading from Acts 1:6-14

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They 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."

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

¹Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;
let those who hate God flee.

²**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the
presence of God.**

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the
clouds;**

I Am is that name, rejoice before God!

⁵In your holy habitation, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

⁶**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

⁷O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of
God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

⁹You sent a bountiful rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

¹⁰**Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

³²Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

³³**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

³⁴Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

³⁵**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

SECOND READING:

A reading from 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or spirit

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL:

The holy gospel according to John 17:1-11

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

MESSAGE

Please rise in body or spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ is the King!

ELW 662

CREED

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

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of harmony, as you drew your son to your side, you draw us to you and unite us with the planet and one another. Weave your church together in a web of mutual love for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

As your Spirit hovered over the waters of creation, so your Spirit hovers over all that you have made. Bless the water that sustains the planet and grant wisdom to use it wisely. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You empower your people with the fire of your Spirit. Challenge activists and organizers, teachers and politicians, and all in leadership to speak a message of peace and justice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You care for all your children. Show your steadfast love to those suffering isolation, especially exiles, refugees, or prisoners. Break the chains of all held fast by systemic oppression of any kind. Comfort all who are afraid or suffering from illness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give thanks that humankind serves as your body in the world, stewarding your abundant gifts. Guide this congregation's leaders as they seek your will. We pray for our staff and council. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You raise your saints to new life in Christ. We give you thanks for Helena and all your saints who have given us glimpses of your redeeming love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

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.

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

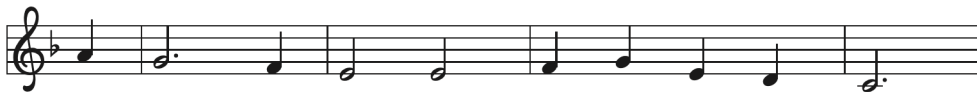
Church, receive this blessing.

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.



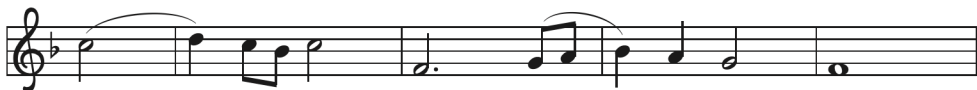
1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

From Sundayandseasons.com



Lectionary for May 22-27

Monday – Psalm 99; Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24; 1 Peter 4:1-6

Tuesday – Psalm 99; Numbers 16:41-50; 1 Peter 4:7-11

Wednesday – Psalm 99; 1 Kings 8:54-65; John 3:31-36

Thursday – Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:1-9a; Acts 2:1-11

Friday – Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:16-25; Romans 8:14-17

Saturday – Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 5:1-12

Today's Worship Leaders:

Worship Leaders: Kathy Billger

Message: Kathy Billger

Director of Music: Lincoln Noecker

Lector: Ron Ball

Audio Video: Ron Hukari

Ushers: Dave Girton, Ron Hukari

Sacristan: Sandi Quicksell

PRAYERS FOR Health and Healing:

- Valerie Schlegel, chest pains
- Bill Lowry, cancer (friends of Scott & Marsha Staub)
- Gary Berger, heart surgery (Donna Biehl's son's father-in-law)
- Terry Oxenreider, back surgery (friends of the Shaners)
- John Huber, hospice (father of Pete Huber)
- Lori Fitzgerald, rheumatoid arthritis
- Dennis Byrnes, medical testing (friends of the Ferraros)
- Cheryl Homa, breast cancer surgery (sister of Joanne Rissell & Linda Fronheiser)

PRAYERS FOR those in grief:

- Family & friends of Dolores Weiss (former member of St. Luke)

PRAYERS FOR those Needing Continued Prayers:

Bob Arobone

Tom Bucks

Kristopher Yoder

Jalen Gray

Larry Kuser

Sharon Smith

Bonnie Ritter

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:

May 21 Helena, mother of Constantine, c.330

May 24 Nicolaus Copernicus, 1543; Leonhard Euler, 1783; scientists

May 27 John Calvin, renewer of the church, 1564



**BLOOD
DONATIONS
SAVE LIVES**

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St. Luke Lutheran Church
35 Wilson Avenue, Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Wednesday, June 7th
10:00am – 4:00pm

To schedule an appointment visit
www.GIVEaPINT.org and use
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Veterans, ask your coordinator about our complimentary MKBC Military Coin Challenge Program



Date	Week of May 21-27	Location
Sunday, May 21 7th Sunday of Easter	9:30 am Worship	Nave
Tuesday, May 23	7:00 pm Boy Scouts	Memorial Hall
Wednesday, May 24	1:00-4:00 pm CCR Shopping	CCR
Friday, May 26	8:30 pm AA Meeting	Class Room Downstairs
Worship Leaders	Sunday, May 28	Sunday, June 4
Lector	Dave Janzow	Mike Romasco
Ushers	Larry Billger, Terry Conrad	Ron Hukari, Dave Janzow
Audio Video	Ron Ball	Mike Ferraro
Office Volunteer	Cindy Bealer (May 25)	Pat Hallman (June 1)
Sacristan	Sandi Quicksell	Kathy Billger

Worship and Stewardship		
<u>Our April Commitment</u>	<u>Our Generosity</u>	<u>Overage/Shortfall</u>
Budget \$16,330	\$16,392	+\$62
Mission Support \$680	\$ 503	-\$177

100th Anniversary Campaign
Pledges received year to date: \$96,430
Actual monies received to date: \$123,564



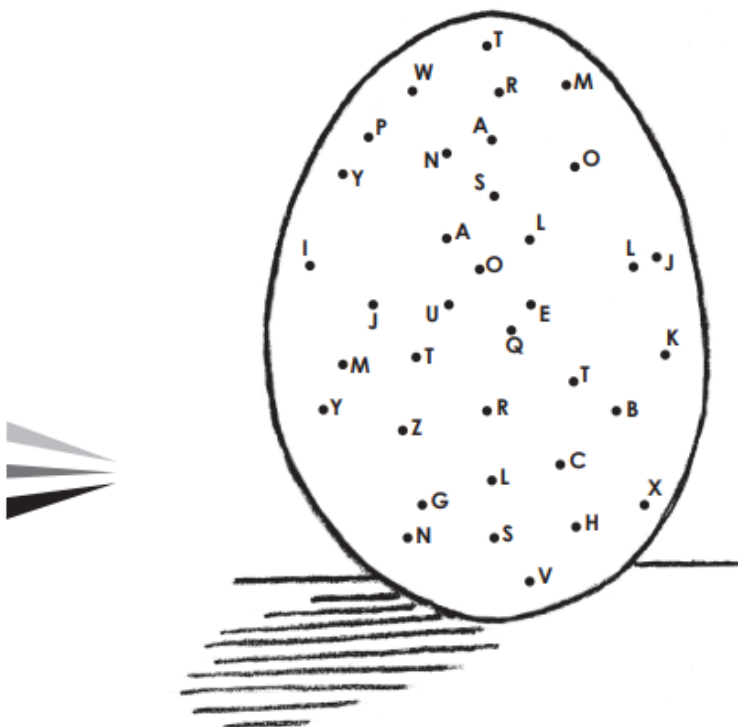
READER

Easter 7

- Today is the **seventh Sunday** in **Easter**.
- A very important word during Easter is **alleluia**.
- **Alleluia** is a word that expresses **joy**, **thanksgiving**, and **celebration**.

Connect and Celebrate

Connect the letters that spell A-L-L-E-L-U-I-A to make a symbol for Easter appear.



Find the letters in matching shapes to spell the words that fit into the blanks of this week's memory verse.

Memory Verse



But you will receive ○○○○○○

when the Holy △△△△△△△

has come upon you; and you will be my

□□□□□□□□ in Jerusalem, in all Judea and

Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8



Going Up

To ascend means to go up. When Jesus' time on earth was over, he ascended into heaven on a cloud! Elevators go up too! The elevator in this building goes up and down all day long. See if you can figure out where it ends up each time.

If the elevator starts on this floor...	... and goes...	It will end up on the...
1st	Up 7 floors	_____ floor
5th	Down 2 floors	_____ floor
15th	Down 8 floors	_____ floor
3rd	Up 2 floors and then down 4 floors	_____ floor
10th	Down 5 floors and up 7 floors	_____ floor
3rd	Up one floor and down one floor	_____ floor

