



The Spirit himself
bears witness with
our spirit that we are

*children
of God.*

ROMANS 8:16, ESV

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church

310 West Main Street • PO Box 187

Saxonburg, PA

www.stlks.com

Sunday, July 12, 2020

8:15 and 10:45 am

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE We Have Been Told "I am the vine, you are the branches." David Haas

(When the music of the prelude begins, please lower your voice; but, after worship raise your voice with joy!)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

L: 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.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

L: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage 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.

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Now Thank We All Our God

840



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
 2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,




who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,




who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;




with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day,
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.



Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
 Music: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
 67 67 66 66

GREETING

L: 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

L: Let us pray.

C: **Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us
the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help
us to receive it with joy, live according to it,
and grow in faith and hope and love, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55: 10-13

L: The first reading is from Isaiah, chapter 55.

¹⁰ As the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it
without watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the
eater,

¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

¹² You will go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and hills
will burst into song before you,
and all the trees of the field
will clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper,

and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.
This will be for the LORD's renown,
for an everlasting sign,
that will endure forever."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 65

L: Please let us read responsively Psalm 65.

¹ Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion;
to you our vows will be fulfilled.

² **You who answer prayer,
to you all people will come.**

³ When we were overwhelmed by sins,
you forgave our transgressions.

⁴ **Blessed are those you choose
and bring near to live in your courts!
We are filled with the good things of your house,
of your holy temple.**

⁵ You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds,
God our Savior,
the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas,

⁶ **who formed the mountains by your power,
having armed yourself with strength,**

⁷ who stilled the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
and the turmoil of the nations.

⁸ **The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;
where morning dawns, where evening fades,
you call forth songs of joy.**

⁹ You care for the land and water it;
you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water
to provide the people with grain,
for so you have ordained it.

**¹⁰ You drench its furrows and level its ridges;
you soften it with showers and bless its crops.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty,
and your carts overflow with abundance.

**¹² The grasslands of the wilderness overflow;
the hills are clothed with gladness.**

¹³ The meadows are covered with flocks
and the valleys are mantled with grain;
they shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8: 12-17

L: The second reading is from Romans, chapter 8.

¹² Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—
but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you
live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit
you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the
children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make
you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit
you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And
by him we cry, "*Abba*, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies
with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷ Now if we are
children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with
Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we
may also share in his glory.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC (10:45 AM ONLY)

Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho
- African American Spiritual
Rachel Steiner, singer

GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear."

¹⁸ "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means:

¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke

the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

516 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a treble and bass staff for the piano, and four staves for the voices. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are as follows:

1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,

now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe 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 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

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: 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.**

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

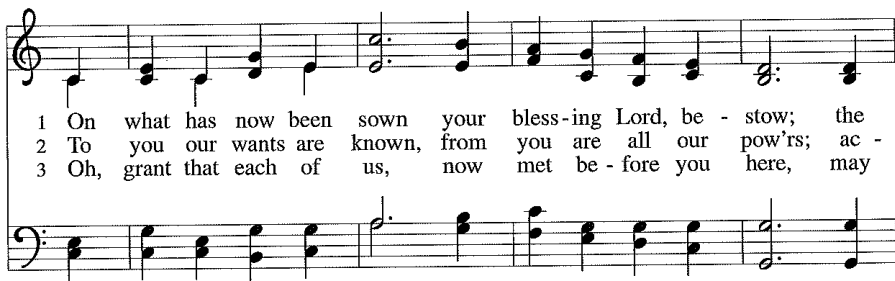
In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

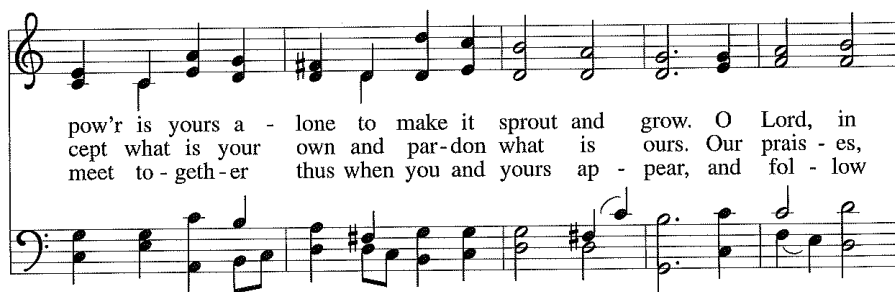
SENDING SONG

550

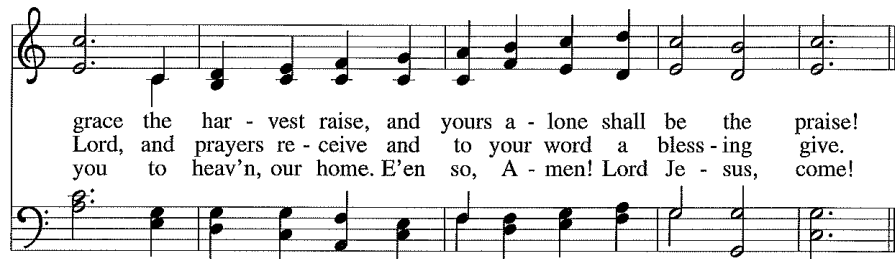
On What Has Now Been Sown



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Listen, God Is Calling - Tanzanian Hymn

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK

July 19, 2020, Seventh S. a. Pentecost,
Is. 44:6-8, Psalm 119:57-64, Rom. 8:18-27,
Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43

THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM INCLUDES:

	8:15 Service	10:45 Service
LECTOR	Carl Smith	Noah Steiner
GREETER	Amy Montag-Smith	Rachel Steiner
OFFERING COUNTERS	Jackie Bice and Bob Bicker	

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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Brian Shirey, Interim	Office Cell	724-352-2333 412-916-0122
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Judy Gundlach	Prayer Chain	724-352-3543



JULY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Edward Cypher	12-Jul	Clarence Wagner	17-Jul
Robert Bicker	14-Jul	Ron Riggs	17-Jul
Amaya Gayle	16-Jul	Evan Haas	18-Jul
Jacqueline Bice	17-Jul	Jacob Fox	18-Jul

Edward and Dixie Cypher	12-Jul
Jesse and Alicia Haas	15-Jul
Amanda and Christopher Jockel	16-Jul
George and Barbara Reuning	18-Jul



The church yard sale scheduled for July 24-26 has been postponed until further notice. Already donated items will be stored, if possible, until the next sale. If you have items to donate and can store them till the sale is rescheduled we would be very appreciative. Please contact the church office with any questions.



The doors (garage and man) and window frames on the garages and shed have been painted and look wonderful. Thank you, Bob and Donna Shipe, for your continued gifts which keep our building exteriors welcoming.



St. Luke's Church has supported the Freeport Meals on Wheels for almost 20 years. Over those 20 years, 30 different people have volunteered to serve. Some have been a part of this ministry from the beginning. We are so grateful for their dedication. There

is currently a need to enhance the volunteer rotation. So we are searching for people to keep this ministry thriving either as being part of the permanent schedule or as a substitute.

The commitment is for one (depending on the number of volunteers possibly less) Wednesday morning a month. The volunteer picks up meals at the Methodist Church (211 Fourth Street) in Freeport at 10:30 am and delivers them to Risch's Appliance Store in Knox Chapel. This is a 15-minute drive. If you would be willing to serve, please contact the church office (724-352-2333 or stlukechurch@consolidated.net)



Cabot Food Bank will be packing bags for distribution this Monday, July 13th at 6:00 pm. If you are interesting in volunteering the food bank is located at Cabot United Methodist Church, 707 Winfield Road.

If you would like to drop off donations at St. Luke's please do so during business hours (Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm). Donations can be placed in the cabinet to the right of the elevator in the entry way.

If you are in need of assistance please call the Cabot United Methodist Church regarding support from the Cabot Food Bank (724-352-2074).



Days for Girls is St. Luke's monthly mission for July.

Days for Girls is a non-profit organization working to shift thinking on how women and girls see themselves, and how they are seen by their communities. Offering new life choices, Days for Girls spurs narrative changes through sustainable hygiene solutions and health education.

On a weekly basis, members from the local Valencia chapter, cut and sew fabric for hygiene kits, and then assemble them to send with mission groups. Items are placed in a drawstring bag, with a hands-on explanation for the recipients. Local kits have been provided so far to women and girls in Zambia, the Philippines, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic.

To further the work, the chapter welcomes more members, prayer partners, and donations of Jo Ann Fabric, Costco or Sam's Club gift cards. It cost \$10 for every bag assembled. More information is available at daysforgirls.org or by contacting member Doris Herceg.

Wendy Kovach, co-founder of Days for Girls Valencia Chapter will visit St. Luke's on July 26th during the 10:45 am worship.



Congratulations to David Hay and Michelle Black on their marriage yesterday, July 11th. David is the son of David and Kerri Hay.

OUR JOYS, PRAYERS, CARES AND CONCERNS

Praise and Thanksgiving: for answered prayers, St. Luke's staff, leadership, and volunteers, for our nation's founding and the faith that has endured, for freedom to worship, for the marriage of David Hay (son of David and Kerri Hay) to Michelle Black.

Healing, Cares & Concerns:

Gail (*pancreatic cancer*),
Paul Brewer (*cancer*),
Jackie (*sight*),
Sherry Goodman (*cancer*),
Carole McRandal,
Prudy Juran (*vision*),
Harold Carey (*hospice at home*),
Wendy Burk Fancetta (*broken ankle*),
Georgetta Burk (*fall*),
Frank Burk (*caring for both*),
Frank Ekas (*cancer*),
Tancie Plutyk, (*broken neck vertebrae*),
Harry Kuni (*stroke*),
Alexis Gurnard (*stage 4 lung cancer*),
Nancy Critchlow (*multiple health issues*),
Erica Schuelke (*broken hip*),
Bob Shipe (*low platelets*),

Rosemarie Grossman (*hospitalized*),
Roger Laughner (*cancer*),
David Whitlinger (*cancer*),
Beryl Mottern (*hospital*),
Sadie Shearer (*tests*),
Jennifer (*surgery*),
John (*begin chemo*),
Renate Lehrke (*surgery/recovery*),
Duke Snyder,
Walter Gerlach (*pacemaker/meds*),
Bud Williams,
Robin (*mother of Leah*),
Leah (*mental health issues, friend of Triston*),
Triston (*tested for COVID-19*)
Cindy Bearrow (*hand surgery 7/13*)
Kyle Campbell (*deployment*)

Medical personnel, First responders, those isolated, addicted, abused, For lost jobs, struggling families, For our churches, our community and our country, For those who don't know the Lord

Bereaved: Family & Friends of Eric Smith, John Frailey, Wes Wetzell, Leo Curcio

Monthly Mission: Days for Girls, Valencia, PA