



St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024
8:00AM and 10:30AM

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*The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.*  
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GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *This Joyful Eastertide*, arr. Paul Bouman

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C Amen.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN WOV 679 *Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free*

GREETING

P 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 *(read in unison)*

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is
'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

PSALM: PSALM 23 (10:30 am sung responsively)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹The LORD[|] is my shepherd;
I shall not[|] be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down[|] in green pastures
and leads me be-[|]side still waters.**

³You restore my[|] soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways[|] for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I
shall[|] fear no evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they[|] comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence[|] of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is[|] running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days[|] of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the[|] LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE

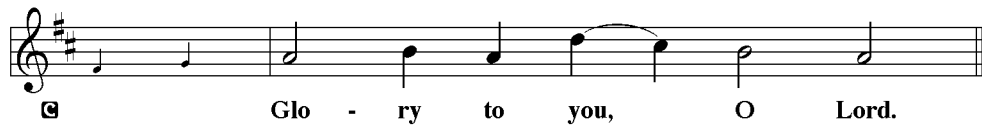
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

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

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

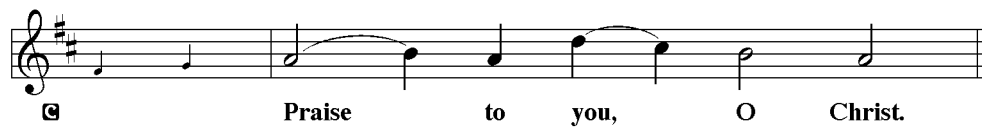
In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th chapter.



[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY WOV 711 *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

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

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.
A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

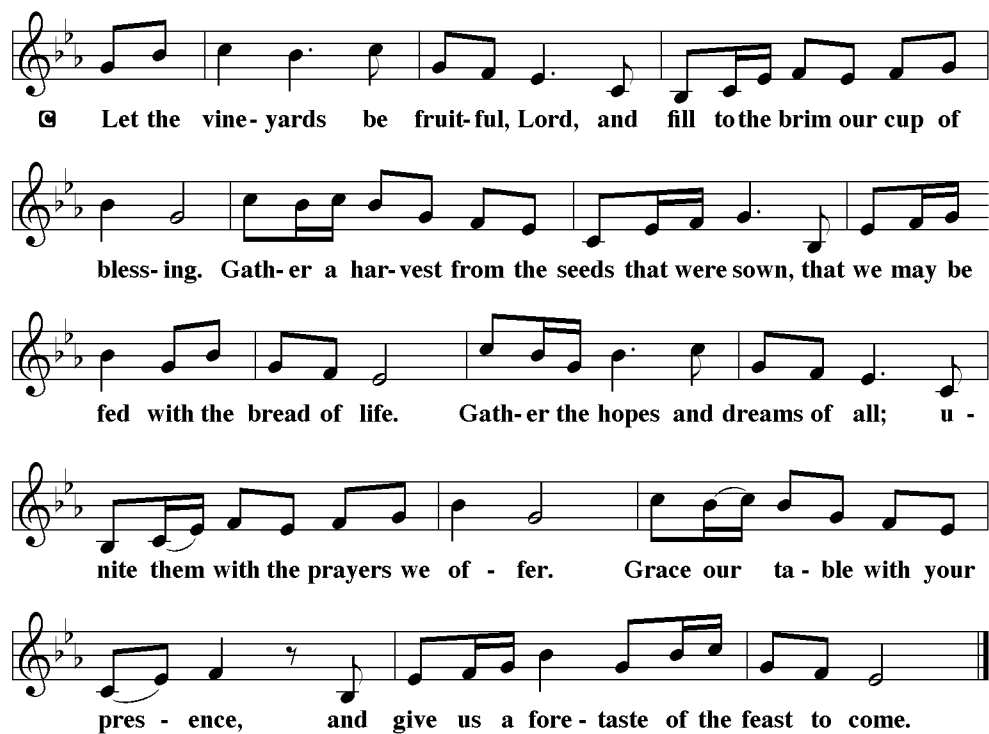
P Peace be with you R Peace be with you.

Sit

ANTHEM *Taste and See*, by Jeremy Young

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

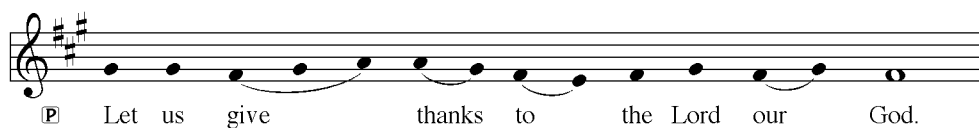
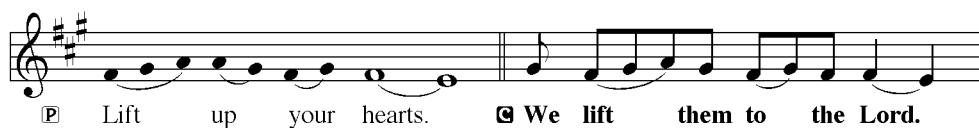
be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

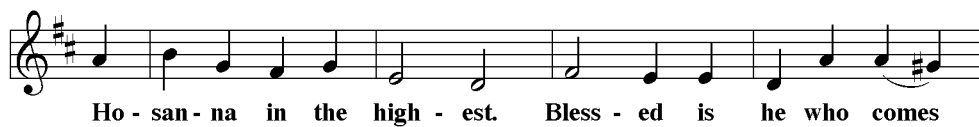
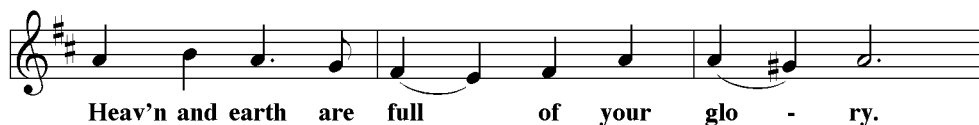
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P It is indeed right. . . (*The preface appropriate to the day or season is said, Concluding*). . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy, living, and loving God,
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.
We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the
flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.
We give you thanks for Jesus
who, living among us,

healed the sick,
fed the hungry,
and with a love stronger than death,
gave his life for others.

*In the night... (The pastor proclaims the Words of Institution,
concluding)...Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Remembering, therefore,
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.
Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones,
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

Sit

COMMUNION

*Share the bread and wine with one another with these words:
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may say: Amen.*

LAMB OF GOD



☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace.

All are invited forward. If you do not normally take communion, please cross your arms and you will be given a blessing. Children who do not take communion will receive a piece of bread with the words "Take and Eat." Visitors, if you commune in your home congregation, you are welcome to commune here. (If you prefer juice rather than wine, please take one of the pre-filled glasses.)

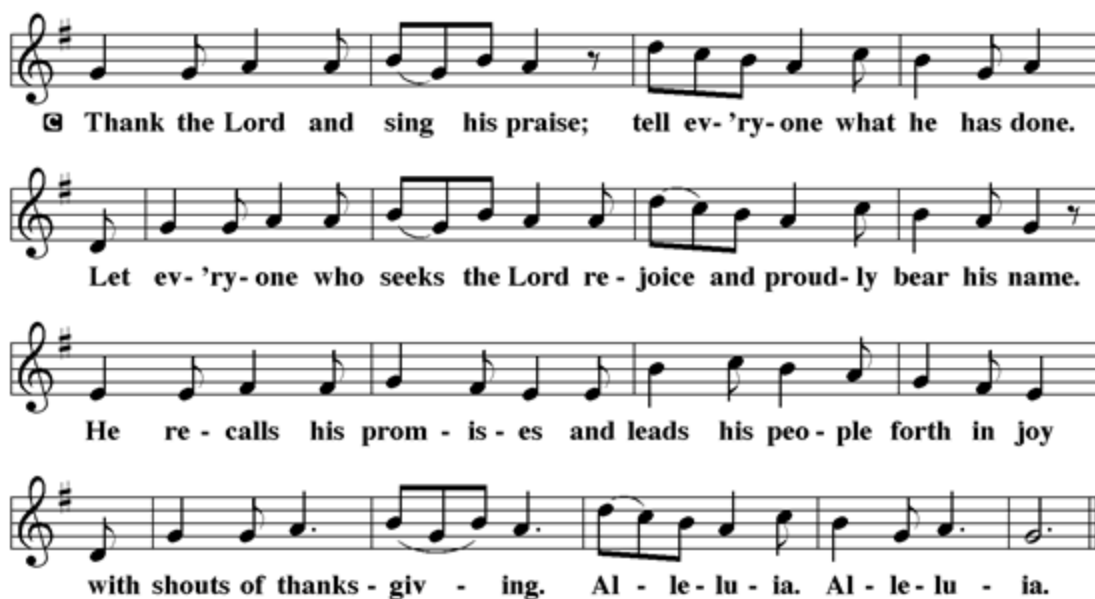
Stand

BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

CANTICLE



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.

He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy

with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Shepherd God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P The God of resurrection power,
The Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN LBW 501 *He Leadeth Me: Oh, Blessed Thought!*

DISMISSAL

- A Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*, arr. Charles Callahan

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Marilyn's birthday and all St. Luke members celebrating an April birthday by Marilyn and Jere Eshleman.

PRAYER LIST: From our St. Luke Family: Joann Wolfe; Jim Labenberg; Sandy Moyer; and our homebound members.

Family and friends: Family and friends mourning the loss of Gary Gardner (brother of Wanda Gardner), family and friends mourning the loss of Craig Harris (father of Andy Harris); **AND ALSO:** The Rev. Mark Brumbach; Coby (family friend of Daija Hightower/Deb Smith serving in the Armed Forces of Israel); Kathy Eshleman; Betsy Rider (friend of Nancy McCarty and Williamsport).

For servicemen and women serving in posts far from home, and our servicemen and women readjusting to their lives here in the States.

For persistence and strength for those going through all types of recovery.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: April 21st, The Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00AM In-person Service

9:00AM Coffee Hour

9:15AM Adult Sunday School; Bells Practice

10:30AM In-person Service, Children's Sunday School & Livestream

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: April 22nd – 27th

Monday 22nd - Personnel 5:30PM; set up nave for Wmspt. Music Club

Tuesday 23rd – Polling 6:00AM- 8:00PM BH; Pericope 9:30AM Lib.;

Wmspt. Music Club Concert 7:30PM (Nave only)

Wednesday 24th - Women's Book Study 9:30AM Lib.

Thursday 25th - Choir practice 7:00PM

Saturday 27th - Set up Bell Hall for the Dialysis Concert

NEXT SUNDAY: April 28th, The Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00AM In-person Service

9:15AM Adult Sunday School

10:30AM In-person Service, Children's Sunday School & Livestream

4:00PM Dialysis Concert in the Nave

Serving in April at the 10:30 am worship service

Altar care: Cindy Belles

Greeters: 21st Linda Updegraff; 28th Ruth Croyle

Ushers: 21st Rod Strother; 28th Richard Ogurcak

Serving in April at the 10:30 am worship service

April 21st *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

10:30 am Lector – Sandy Lentz

Assisting Minister – Marilyn Eshleman

Communion Assistant – Rod Strother

April 28th *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

10:30 am Lector – Wilma Reeder

Assisting Minister – Allan Husband

Communion Assistant – Nancy Wood

Live Stream Assistant

21st Bob McCullough

28th Charles Mahler

Offering Counters

21st Terry Belles & Ray Schreckengast

28th Sondra Fisher & Janice Ogurcak

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SHARE A SMILE TODAY and talk to someone you don't know. Spend a few minutes before or after the service. You'll soon see the difference it will make in our congregational life and to that first-time visitor. It's contagious!

THE RED WELCOME PADS in the pews is our record of your attendance and communion for members and visitors. Please take a moment to complete it. Thank you.

SERVING If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

USHERS Anyone interested in serving as an usher, please contact the office or email or call Nancy McCarty at: nmac7149@gmail.com; (570) 419-7827).

GREETERS Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office or Debra Smith at 570-762-3308 or email at: mdtmom4@gmail.com

PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE If you or someone you know needs prayer, please call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363 or Karen Bergren at 570-220-3201 to start the prayer chain. If you want the name to be on the bulletin prayer list call the church office.

ST. LUKE ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL is offered at 9:15AM in the Library and led by Charles Mahler. If you would like more information, please get in touch with the church office at 570-323-7309 or Charles Mahler at Mahler@lycoming.edu

SUNDAY SCHOOL is offered for elementary school-aged kids during the 10:30AM worship service. Each Sunday, Cheryl Newburg will lead the kids out of the service at the beginning of the readings and bring them back at the beginning of the choir anthem. **We are looking for leaders and volunteers to alternate weeks with Cheryl.** If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office. (*clearances are needed for this program*)

YOUTH GROUP meets on the “First Sunday” of each month from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm at Doug and Patty Durand's home. Grades 9 -12 are welcome! For more information or directions, please contact Doug at 570-220-3656 or Patty at 570-220-3658.

THE WILLIAMSPORT MUSIC CLUB presents a Gala Concert featuring the 2024 Bubb Memorial Scholarship Winner on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 7:30pm** at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Williamsport. For more information, please visit www.williamsportmusicclub.com . *Please enter through the West entrance or the courtyard. This is a free event.*

ST. LUKE CHURCH INVITES YOU to a special concert to support dialysis patients and their families of the Independent Dialysis Clinics. The concert will be held on **Sunday, April 28, 2024, at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary of St. Luke Lutheran Church.**

This year's program features a quintet of brass musicians to perform selections from jazz and classical repertoire. As our central highlight, we are excited to welcome professional organist, Karen Lakey Buckwalter, to perform works from Frescobaldi to Bach.



This Dialysis Benefit Concert will also celebrate the life of Richard "Dick" Lakey. Donations will be accepted as a free-will offering at the concert. If you would like to write a check, please make it out to "Memorial Dialysis Fund." **If you are unable to attend the concert but would like to make a donation in memory of Dick Lakey or to support the dialysis patients, please send your donation to:**

Memorial Dialysis Fund
C/O Amy Gallagher
1660 Sycamore Road
Montoursville PA 17754



SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY Please join us for the 2024 High School Seniors Recognition on **Sunday, May 19th** at our 10:30 am worship service.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST. LUKE

THE FOOD PANTRY Below is a list of items that the UCLC Food Pantry needs: **Peanut Butter & Jelly, Boxed Mac & Cheese, Canned Soups, Fruits, Chicken Breast etc. Large (shelf-stable) Drinks etc.** *These items are collected in our West entryway.* If you would like to join the volunteer team at the Pantry, please contact Tammey at 570-322-1110 for an orientation. Food Pantry Donation: drop-offs are Monday from 9:00-11:00AM

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS Items needed are of regular sizes: **Deodorant, Diapers, Wipes, Shampoo, Powder, Oil, Q-tips, Soap, Shaving Cream and Razor, Tissues, Shampoo and Conditioner, Toilet Paper, Women's Hygiene Products, Combs, Blankets, Sheets, Pillowcases, Nail Clippers, Towels, and Wash Cloths.** *These hygiene items are collected in the West entryway.*

STAFF AT ST. LUKE



Pastor Jeffrey LeCrone, Pastor
Email: pastor@stlukeluth.comcastbiz.org



Sarah M. Young, Church Office Manager
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



Rebecca Ciabattari, Music Director
Email: beckyciab@gmail.com



Chris Knaur, Sexton
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



Melissa Eshleman, Business Manager
Email: businessmanager.stlukeluth@gmail.com

REMINDERS: Office hours – M & T 9-12, 1-3; W, TH, F 9-1
Bulletin 9:00AM – WEDNESDAY 9:00AM
Spectrum deadline – **15th of each month**
Council Pack 9:00AM due – Friday 9:00AM before Mtg.
Office E-mail – info@stlukeweb.com
Office Phone - 570-323-7309

