

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

The Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, November 17, 2024 8:00AM & 10:30AM

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Pilgrim's Song, by Peter I. Tchaikovsky, arr. by Franklin Ritter

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.
- C Amen.
- P Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,
- C we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power.

 We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.

 Unbind us and set us free.

Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

P These words are trustworthy and true:
Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever.
For his sake, you are + forgiven and God remembers your sin no more.
Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN green LBW 341 Jesus, Still Lead On

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

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: Daniel 12:1-3

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

¹ "At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

PSALM: PSALM 16 (Sung responsively)

My heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my body shall rest in hope. (Ps. 16:9)

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for I take ref- | uge in you;
 - I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good a- bove all other."
- ² All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land, upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.
- ³ But those who run after | other gods shall have their troubles | multiplied.
- ⁴ I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods, never take their names up- | on my lips. R
- ⁵O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup; it is you who up- | hold my lot.
- ⁶My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land; indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.
- ⁷ I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night | after night.
- ⁸ I have set the LORD al- ways before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
- ⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- it rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.
- ¹⁰ For you will not abandon me | to the grave, nor let your holy one | see the pit.
- ¹¹ You will show me the | path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

¹¹ Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," ¹³ and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶ "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,"

¹⁷ he also adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Stand

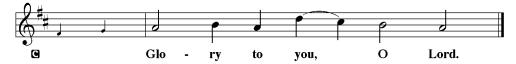
ALLELUIA VERSE



GOSPEL: Mark 13:1-8

In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

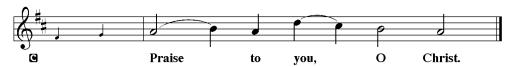
The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 13th chapter.



¹ As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY blue WOV 741 Thy Holy Wings

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 Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

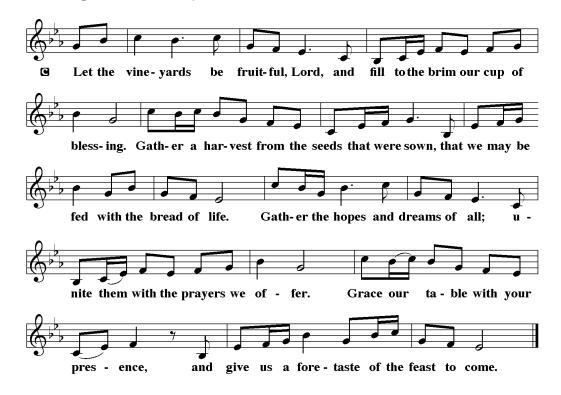
The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

P Peace be with you R Peace be with you.

Sit

BELLS ANTHEM For the Beauty of the Earth, by Conrad Kocher, arr. by Ronald Kauffmann

OFFERTORY HYMN

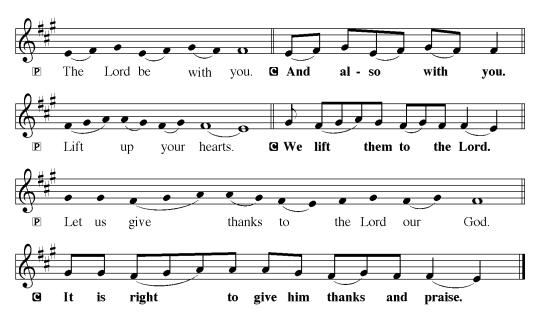


OFFERTORY PRAYER

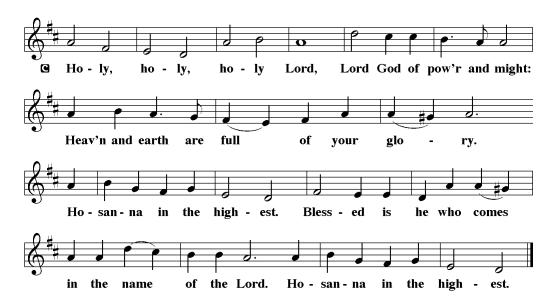
A Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

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 God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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

Remembering, therefore,

the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in 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



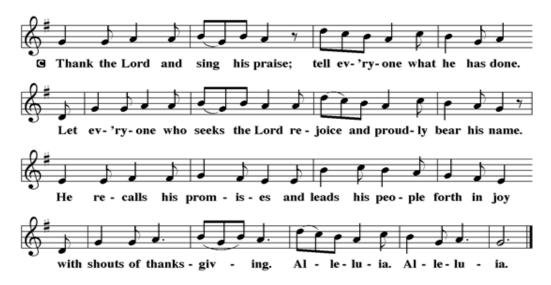
All are invited forward. If you do not normally take communion, please cross your arms and you will be given a blessing. Children who do not take communion will receive a piece of bread with the words "Take and Eat." Visitors, if you commune in your home congregation, you are welcome to commune here.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

BLESSING

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Faithful God,

you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you,

in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN green LBW 320 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Postlude on "Azmon"* by Don Phillips

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of "our beloved mother, Lois A. Keller" by Kathleen and Kenneth Kelley.

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PRAYER LIST: From our St. Luke Family: Gerda LeCrone, Leah Lewis; Kim Fremberg; Dwight Rhodes and our homebound members.

Family and friends: Marion Avery (Aunt of Sandy Strother); Diane (friend of Richard & Janice Ogurcak); John Lockoff (Carole Steiger); Kristian Keefer (friend of Deb Smith); Pamela Lyons (friend of the Lentz-Strother family); Larry Chilson, (friend of Becky and Jim Donnell); Pam Shuler (friend of Jim & Becky Donnell); Kathy Williams (sister of Lynn Shade); Kathy Eshelman; Andrea Hunt (sister of Hanne Schuman); The Rev. Mark Brumbach; Coby (family friend of Daija Hightower/Deb Smith serving in the Armed Forces of Israel); 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: Nov. 17th The Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00AM In-person Worship Service

9:00AM Coffee Hour

9:15AM Hand Bells; Adult Sunday School

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

5:00PM Scouts meeting BH

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: 18th – 24th

Monday 18th - Staff meeting; Pre-school 7:00PM

Tuesday 19th - Pericope 9:30AM Lib.; Shawl Ministry 9:30AM- noon **Thursday 21st -** Choir 7:00PM; Annual Assembly 5:45pm BH (dinner

6:30pm)

Friday 22nd - Rental: Williamsport Civic Chorus 6:30pm Nave

Saturday 23rd - Nave/ BH Rental: Williamsport Civic Chorus 8:30AM;

BH Lunch 1:30pm

Sunday 24th - Williamsport Civic Chorus Concert 3:00PM Nave/BH;

6:00PM Cub Scouts BH

NEXT SUNDAY: Nov. 24th, Christ the King

8:00AM In-person Worship Service

9:15AM Hand Bells; Adult Sunday School

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

3:00PM - Williamsport Civic Chorus Concert Nave/BH

6:00PM Cub Scouts Thanksgiving Dinner BH

Serving in November at the 10:30 am worship service

Altar Care: Cincy Belles

Acolyte: 17th Wyatt Judge; 24th Luke Edmonds

Greeters: 17th Deb Smith; 24th Sue Beidler

Ushers: 17th Keith Wood; 24th David Briggs;

Live Stream Assistant: 17th Charles Mahler; 24th Bob McCullough

Nov. 17th Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am Lector – Dan Lamade

Assisting Minister – Marilyn Eshleman

<u>Communion Assistant – Nancy Wood</u>

Nov. 24th Christ the King

10:30 am Lector – Deb Smith

Assisting Minister – Allan Husband

Communion Assistant – Hanne Schuman

Offering Counters in November

17th Ray Schreckengast & Marilyn Eshleman

24th Terry Belles & Janice Ogurcak

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!

THE ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS at St. Luke meets in the church library at 9:15 AM on Sunday mornings. I hope to see you there! If you would like to receive weekly lesson emails, please let me know and I will add you to the list. Please contact the church office or Charles Mahler at Mahler@lycoming.edu

SERVING (*Lectors*, *Assistant Minister*, *or Communion Helper*) If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 9:30AM worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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

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).

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 <u>bulletin prayer list</u> call the church office.

FROM THE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY Please consider volunteering for Coffee Hour! All coffee, tea, paper products, etc. are in the kitchen. Volunteers are asked to provide snacks, such as muffins, donuts, cookies, etc. Please contact a member of the Fellowship Ministry if you would like us to help you set up for Coffee Hour or if you have any questions. Ruth Croyle at 570-433-3873 or Jeanne Yaggi at 570-329-6980.

The Williamsport Civic Chorus/Choir A Holiday concert will be held on November 24th at 3:00 pm at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Williamsport, PA in conjunction with Victorian Christmas in Williamsport. With Seasonal Music of *Ola Gjeilo and Others, "Music for the people – by the people"* has been the motto of the Williamsport Civic Chorus/Choir since 1944; the objectives are still the same: to study and perform choral works that will promote our individual and collective growth as well as that of our audience. For more information, please visit https://williamsportcivicchorus.org/

college care packages for college students and friends of St. Luke. A donation box will be located in West Hall for your contributions. Please drop off your donations at the church by Sunday, December 1st. Items Needed: Small bags of chips and pretzels; Breakfast bars; Cookies (homemade or store-bought); Snacks; Candy



If you have a college student or know someone who would like to receive a care package, please contact the church office. Thank you for your support!

ST. LUKE ANNUAL MEETING Congregation, Part One will be held **Sunday, December 8th, following the 10:30am worship service.** A copy of the Agenda and 2025 Budget will be available in the back of the nave for pick up on Sunday, Dec. 1st and 8th. If you would a mailed copy, please contact Sarah Young at the church office. Thank you.

OFFERING ENVELOPES The 2025 Envelopes will be available for pick up in the West Entrance starting December 1, 2024.

SEW FINE QUILTERS Please join us on Monday, December 2nd from 9:00AM to 3:00PM in Bell Hall. Come and go as your time permits. If possible join us for lunch at noon, lunch will be provided.



If you would like to join in with our Cookie Swap, bring 2 ½ dozen of your favorite Christmas cookie, cookie bar, or candy. Everyone will take home a box of cookie samples to enjoy. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Belles.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS ARE NEEDED for filling Christmas bags for our St. Luke shut-ins and friends. A box will be located in the West Hall for your donations. Suggested items: Juice boxes, tissues, small notepads, puzzle books, hand lotion, chapstick, hard candies, individual packs of crackers or snack items, homemade cookies and treats.



Anyone interested in helping to pack and helping to deliver the bags is invited to meet in **Bell Hall at 1:00pm on Tuesday, Dec. 10th.** Any questions, please contact Cindy Belles.

GOOD GIFT GIVING TREE It is the time of year when we are looking for Christmas presents or wondering what to get that particular person who has everything. Every year at this time, St. Luke supports the ELCA Good Gifts program. Over the last several years, we have provided wells, farms, and schools in developing countries. Last year we provided a computer and internet service for one year to a community in need. This year the Outreach Ministry has decided to support God's Global Barnyard. The Gift total is \$2500. This gift will be used where it is needed most to support farmers and families with the resources they need to thrive. For that hard to buy person on your gift list, please consider donating to our Good Gifts program. Order sheets will be available by the Christmas tree located in West Hall starting the first Sunday in Advent, December 1st. Please make checks payable to St. Luke, please put Good Gifts in the memo line. May we all have a blessed Christmas Season. Thank you.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST. LUKE

DANIEL'S CLOSET needs of <u>fall/winter</u> seasonal clothing (*NO hangers*) for infants, children, and adults, as well as accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.). All clothing must be bagged, no loose clothing, please. A collection box is located in our West Hall.

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, etc. *These hygiene items are collected in the West entryway*.

THE FOOD PANTRY Below is a list of items the UCLC Food Pantry is in need of. *Updated 10/29 - These items are collected in our West entryway*. After office hours' drop-offs: Office foyer entrance.

Canned carrots, yams, & pumpkin
Stocks, Gravy, Stuffing
Juice, coffee, tea
Potato Flakes
Salt & Pepper

Pie fillings Canned Sauerkraut Canned cranberry sauce Kids juice boxes



Bulletin Announcement Deadline - Wednesday at 9:00 am All article information and materials for the bulletin or newsletter must be submitted using WORD or PDF format. Please email to info@stlukeweb.com.

Newsletter Deadline - The 15th of each month at 9:00 am

Ministry Meeting Minutes for Church Council - Thursday at 9:00 am before Mtg. Council meetings are held on the second Monday of each month.

*If you would like to receive the newsletter (in color!) via email, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309 or by email at info@stlukeweb.com. Thank you.

STAFF AT ST. LUKE



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



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



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



Chris Knaur, Sexton Email: <u>info@stlukeweb.com</u>



Melissa Eshleman, Business Manager Email: <u>businessmanager.stlukeluth@gmail.com</u>

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