



ST. LUKE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**1400 Market St.,
Williamsport, PA 17701**

***The Second Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, June 22, 2025
8:00AM & 9:30AM***

~~~~~  
*This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin.  
The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that  
tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he  
comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done  
for you."*  
~~~~~

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Love Unknown*, tune by John Ireland, arr. by Charles Callahan

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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

C Amen.

P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,

C you free us to love others,

but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

P You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✙ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN WOV 750 *Oh, Praise the Gracious Power*

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

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In
your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us
from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord.
Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: Isaiah 65:1-9

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

¹ I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"
to a nation that did not call on my name.

² I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;

³ a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;

⁴ who sit inside tombs
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat the flesh of pigs,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

⁵ who say, "Keep to yourself;
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.

⁶ See, it is written before me:
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their laps

⁷ their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;

because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,

I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.

⁸ Thus says the LORD:

As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, "Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,"
so I will do for my servants' sake
and not destroy them all.
⁹ I will bring forth descendants from Jacob
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;
my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.

PSALM: Psalm 22:19-28 (read responsively)

In the midst of the assembly I will praise you. (Ps. 22:22)

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, be not [|] far away;
O my help, hasten [|] to my aid.
²⁰ **Deliver me [|] from the sword,**
my life from the power [|] of the dog.
²¹ Save me from the [|] lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls you have [|] rescued me.
²² **I will declare your name [|] to my people;**
in the midst of the assembly [|] I will praise you.
²³ You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of
Jacob's [|] line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- [|] spring of Israel.
²⁴ **For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in**
their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- [|] den from
them;
but when they cry out, [|] the LORD hears them.
²⁵ From you comes my praise in the [|] great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who [|] fear
the LORD.
²⁶ **The poor shall eat [|] and be satisfied,**
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your
hearts [|] live forever!
²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn [|] to
the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow [|] before God.
²⁸ **For dominion belongs [|] to the LORD,**
who rules o- [|] ver the nations.

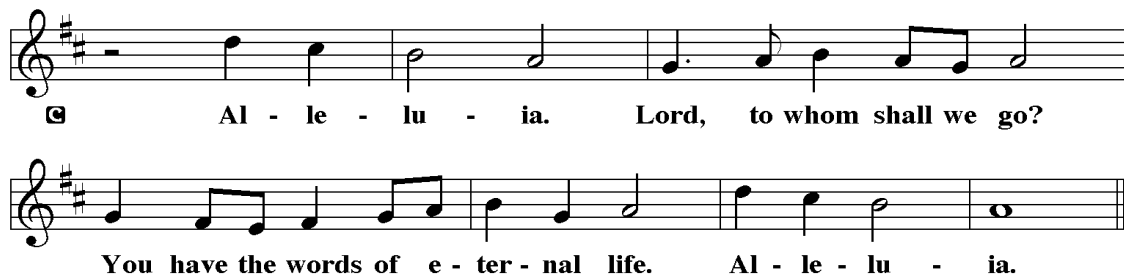
SECOND READING Galatians 3:23-29

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 8th chapter.



GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39

Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

²⁶ Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on shore, a man from the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had not worn any clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, shouting, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me," ²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding, and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd stampeded down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they became frightened. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then the whole throng of people of the surrounding region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone out begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY LBW 272 *Abide With Me*

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 Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for
the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A. . . God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer**

The prayers conclude:

P Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ,
our Savior.

C Amen.

SHARING THE 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.

Peace be with you R Peace be with you


MEAL

Sit

MUSICAL OFFERING: *You Are with Me*, by J.S. Bach

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.

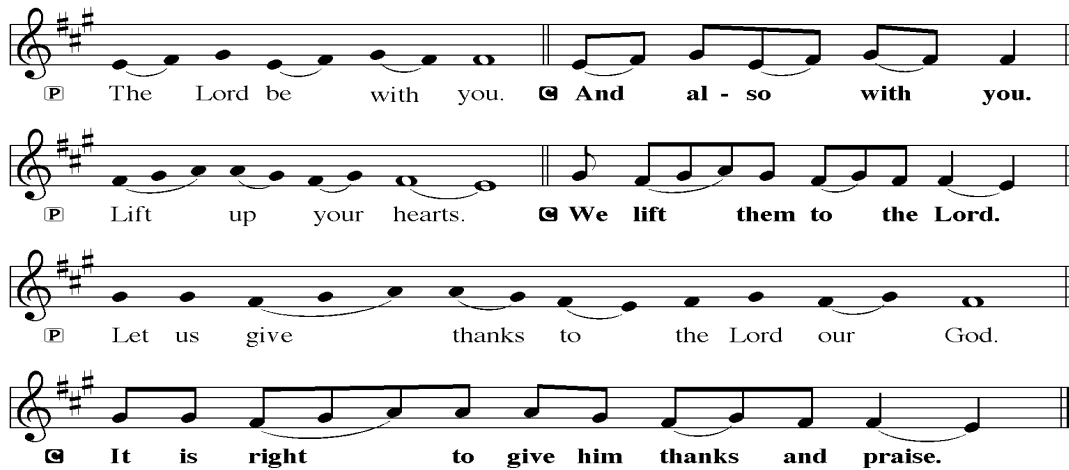
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



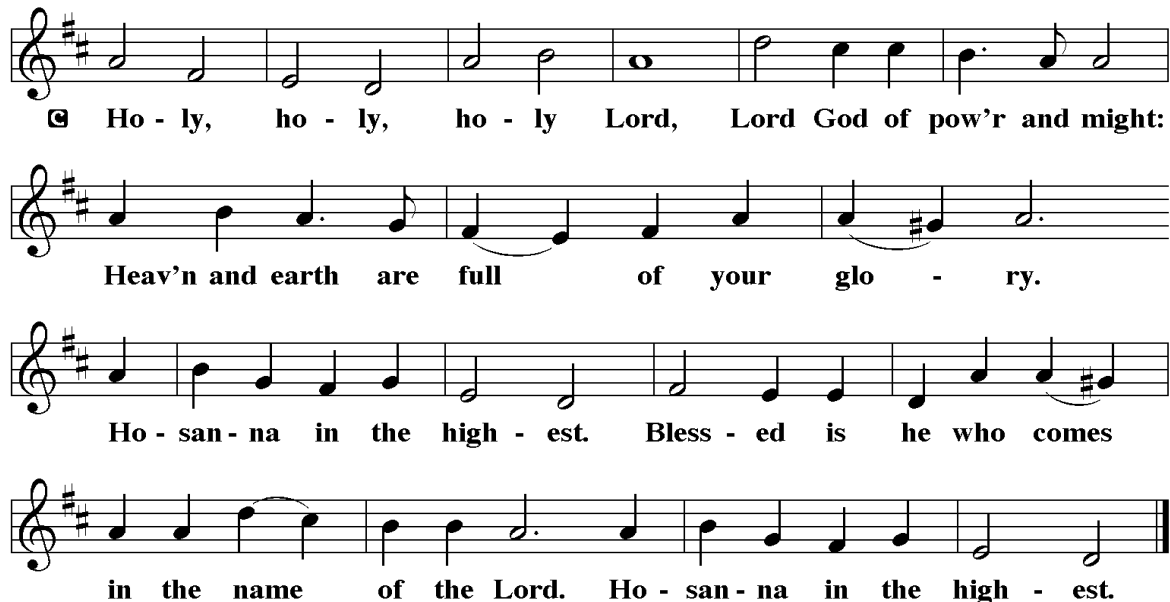
P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy God,
our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,

in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.
When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.
Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.
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 (*Congregation Communes*)

As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen

LAMB OF GOD (*Administrants commune*)



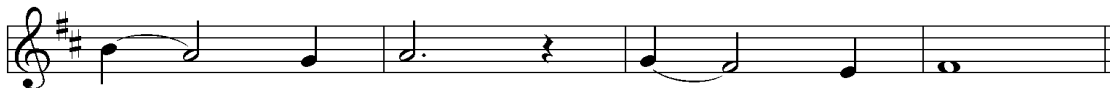
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

SENDING

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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
C Amen.

BLESSING

P The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.
C Amen.

SENDING HYMN LBW 497 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live by the Spirit
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Christe Sanctorum*, from Antiphoner, arr. by Charles Callahan

ALTAR FLOWERS *are given to the glory of God and in honor of our grandchildren's birthdays, Kaden and Kinley, by Sue and Charles Duchman*

Portions of this bulletin were reprinted from: *Sundays and Seasons.com*. Copyright 2007 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #27875; *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S. of A. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

PRAYER LIST: From our St. Luke Family:

Linda Updegraff; Linda Liptak; David DeLong, Avery Lentz; Melanie Taormina; Rose Husband; Deb Smith; Rod Strother; Hank and Joan Knaus; Jim Labenberg; Dwight Rhodes; Amy Andrews (daughter of Linda DeLong) and our homebound members.

Family and friends: Birgit Schraudner (sister-in-law of Hanne & George Schuman, Gary & Debbie Swingle (brother and sister-in-law of the Morrisons) Doug Lane, Doug Carlson (friend of the Belles family and previous member of St. Luke) Larry Chilson (friend of Jim and Becky Donnell); Bud Thomas (father of Diane Thomas), Terri McIvor (family of Becky Donnell & Judy Collins); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (sister of Dwight Rhodes); Gloria Hardwick (mother of Laura McNassor); Pam Shuler (friend of Jim & Becky Donnell); Kathy Eshelman; The Rev. Mark Brumbach; Betsy Rider (friend of Nancy McCarty and Williamsport).

Those mourning the death of Rebecca Seyler (mother of Scott Seyler)

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: June 22nd , The Second Sunday after Pentecost

8:00AM In-person Service

9:30AM In-person Service & Livestream

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: June 23rd – 28th

No Meetings scheduled.

NEXT SUNDAY: June 29th Third Sunday after Pentecost

8:00AM In-person Service

9:30AM In-person Service & Livestream

Serving at the 9:30AM worship service

Altar Care: Nancy McCarty – June

Assisting Minister: 29th – Allan Husband

Lector: 29th – Deb Smith

Communion Assistant: 29th – Keith Wood

Greeters: 22nd – Peggy & Chuck Yohn;

29th – Nancy & Keith Wood.

Ushers: 22nd – Hanne Schuman; 29th – Bill Merkel.

Live Stream Assistant: 22nd – Dan Taormina;

29th – Charles Mahler.

June 22nd - The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Lector – David Bailey

Assisting Minister – Charles Mahler

Communion Assistant – Becky Lewis

OFFERING COUNTERS

22nd – Sue Beidler & Ray Schreckengast; 29th – Sondra Fisher & Pat Kelley.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER HOURS Church services will be held at 8:00AM and 9:30AM. Please remember to mark your calendars.

NO MORE RED BOOKS! In the spirit of Isaiah 43:19, we are “doing a new thing” with worship attendance! Please use the QR code on the back cover of this bulletin or the attendance slip in the back of the pews! If you choose the latter option, the slips may be placed in the collection plate in the back of the nave before or after the service.

COMMUNITY VBS St. Luke Church will be participating with the United Churches of Lycoming County Vacation Bible School “ROAD TRIP: On the Go with God”. Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 13th- Thursday, July 17th. Camp is designed for ages 4-12 and special abilities adults. If you or your ministry would like to volunteer, please contact Saint John’s –Newberry UMC at seretary@stjnnumc.com

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE is now underway. Please notify the church office if you have any change in contact information. We would like to keep the directory updated and as accurate as possible. Thank you for your assistance.

SERVING 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 Debra Smith - mdtmom4@gmail.com or 570-762-3308 or the church office.

USHERS Anyone interested in serving as an usher, please contact Nancy McCarty - nmac7149@gmail.com or 570- 419-7827 or the church office

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 bulleting prayer list 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 Ruth Croyle at 570-433-3873 or Jeanne Yaggi at 570-329-6980 if you would like us to help you set up for Coffee Hour or if you have any questions.

THE PRE-SCHOOL AT ST. LUKE has an opening left for a 4 or 5-year-old. If you know of anyone that might be interested in sending their child to our Pre-School please contact Cindi Stroble at 570-323-2705 or the church office.

BLUEBERRY PICKING Jere Eshleman is holding his annual “Berry Picking” **beginning on July 15th.** For more information, please contact Jere at 570-322-5202.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST. LUKE

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS The Service Ministry is filling LWR school kits for this Fall. As in previous years the school supply items needed are the same. At least 50 bags will be filled **While summer sale shopping, please help us fulfill this goal by looking for these items needed to fill the school kits:**

- Spiral notebooks -70-80 sheet – wide or college ruled paper, 8”x 10 ½” (4 notebooks per bag)
- Ruler (centimeters on one side and inches on the other)
- Pencil sharpeners
- Eraser 2 ½”
- Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades)
- Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Crayon Box of 16 or 24-count

Items may be dropped off at the church office. Many thanks for your continued support!

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS Items most needed at this time are baby shampoo and wash, Size 3 diapers, XXL adult pull-ups (no tabs), paper towels, deodorant, and toothpaste.

These hygiene items are collected in the West entryway.

THE FOOD PANTRY Your help is desperately needed! Food supplies are very low. Below is a list of items that the UCLC Food Pantry needs:

Wide Egg Noodles
Flour
Sugar (white or brown)
Spam
Salt and Pepper
Ramen Noodles
Pork and Beans
Vegetable Soup

Canned Pineapple
Canned Mandarin Oranges
Alfredo Sauce
Ketchup
Relish
BBQ Sauce
Mayonnaise
Mushroom Soup

These items are collected in our West entryway. After office hours' drop-offs: Bell Hall foyer entrance.

Daniel's Closet needs your help! Summer clothing and accessories are needed for all ages, from infant through adult. **Seasonal clothing** (*no winter clothing at this time and please 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 or items can be taken directly to Redeemer Lutheran Church at 1101 Washington Blvd., Williamsport.



STAFF AT ST. LUKE



Pastor Jeffrey LeCrone, Pastor

Email: pastor@stlukeluth.comcastbiz.org



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 - 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



tinyurl.com/StLWi