



**ST. LUKE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
1400 Market St.,
Williamsport, PA 17701

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 3, 2025
8:00AM & 9:30AM

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*Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above."*

*To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.*  
~~~~~

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *A Morning Idyll*, by George Blake

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 LBW 157 *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*
(sing verses 1 – 4, 6)

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

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our
lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive
to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord..

Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: ECCLESIASTES 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

*The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere
accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of*

vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

PSALM: PSALM 49:1-12

My mouth shall speak of wisdom. (Ps. 49:3)

¹ Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

² **you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³ My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

- ⁷ One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;
⁸ **for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**
⁹ in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.
¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they
perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**
¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from
generation to generation,
though they had named lands after themselves.
¹² **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

Stand

ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 12th chapter.
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for an Alleluia. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff contains 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.'. Below the second staff is the text 'The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 12th chapter.'. The third staff contains 'Glo - ry to you, O Lord.'.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The image shows a musical score for 'The Gospel of the Lord'. It consists of a single staff of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are 'Praise to you, O Christ.'.

Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY LBW 410 We Give Thee But Thine Own

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 In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A . . . God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer**

The prayers conclude:

P Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

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

Peace be with you

R Peace be with you

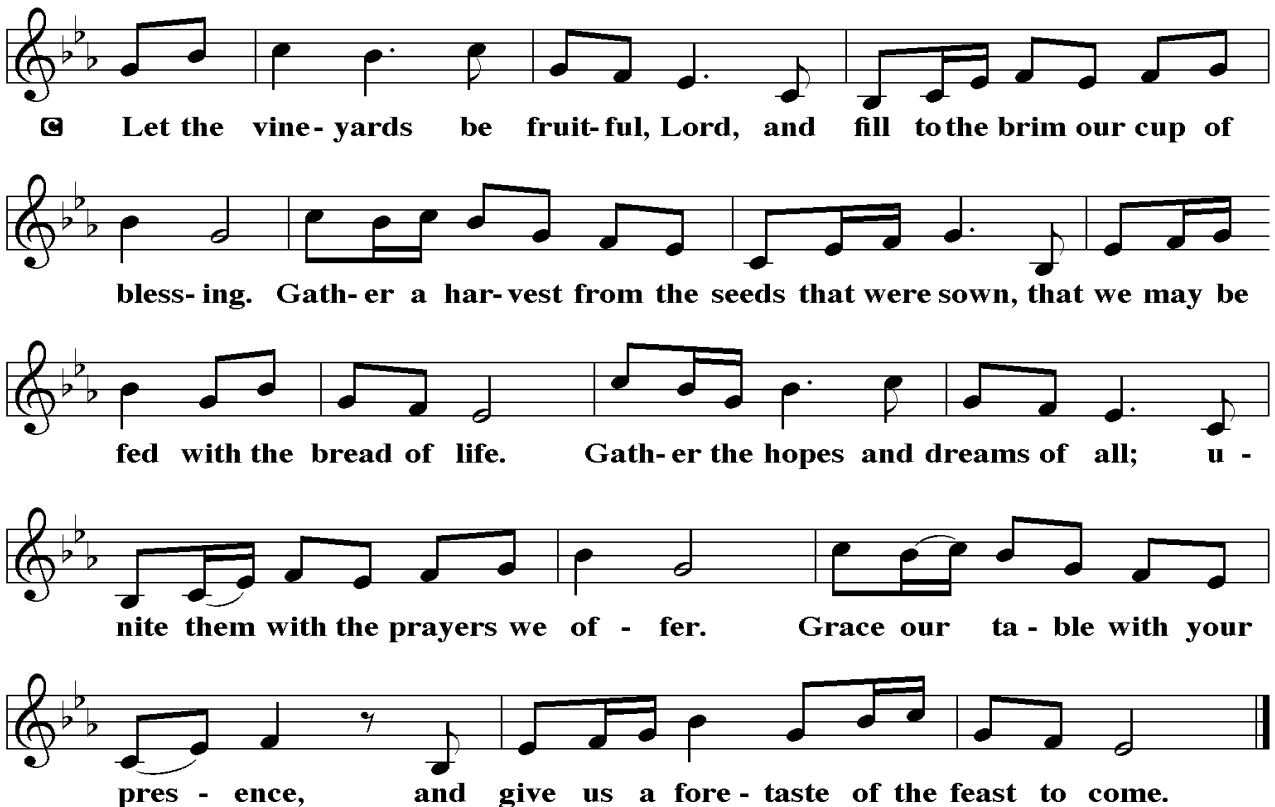
MEAL

Sit

MUSICAL OFFERING: Connor Seagraves, piano; *When the Saints Go Marching In*, traditional, arr. by Dan Coates

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,

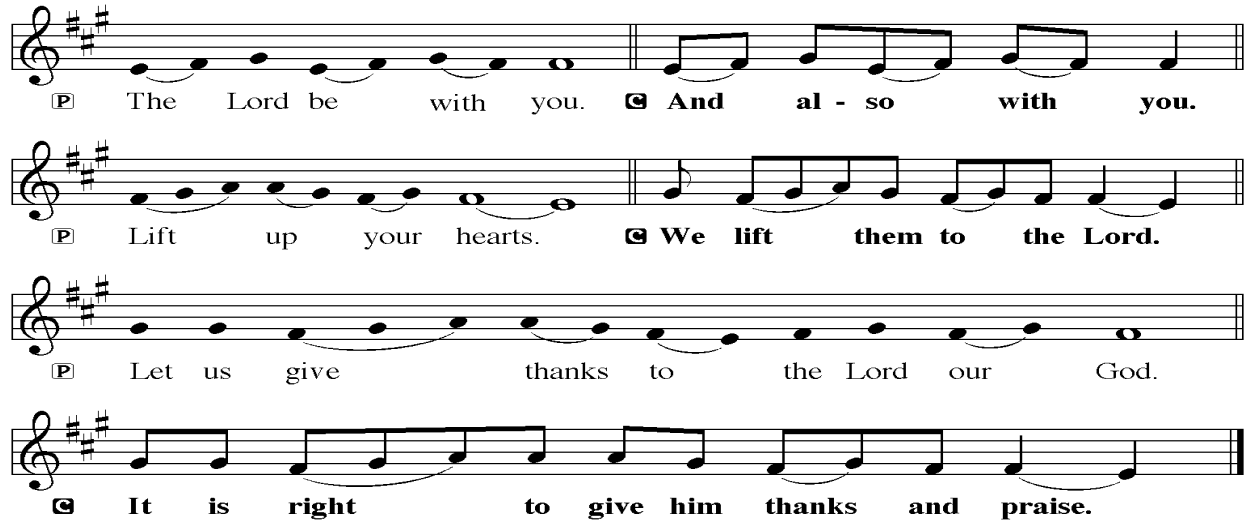
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.

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



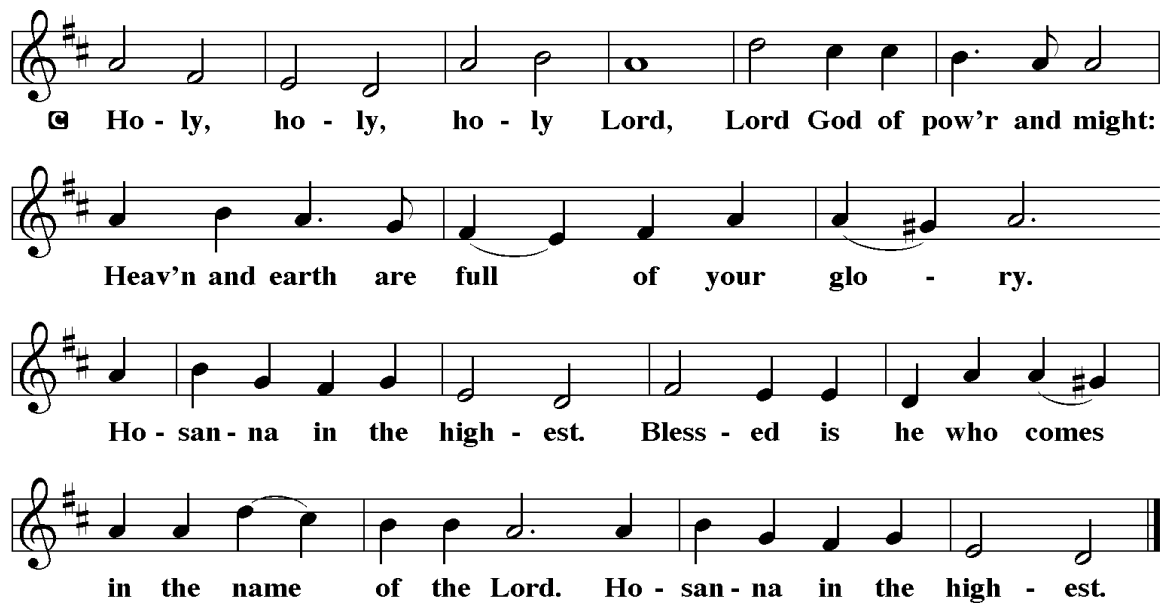
P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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*)

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.)

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.

Stand

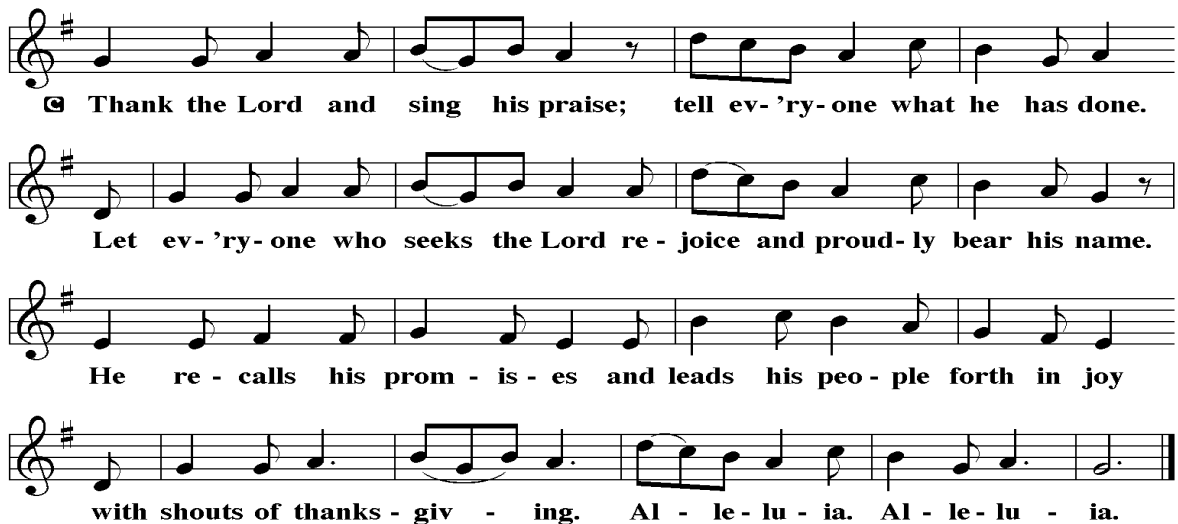
BLESSING

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 359 In Christ There is No East or West

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE *The Church's One Foundation*, arr. by Steven Scott

ALTAR FLOWERS *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of my loving wife, Barb and in honor of our grandchildren, Carter, Kayden and Wyatt, by Bob McCullough.*

PRAYER LIST: From our St. Luke Family:

Glenda Merkel; Jannine Monness; Mary Beth Kibbe; Pat Bernocco; 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 and our homebound members.

Family and friends: Pastor Ron McMontgomery (ELCA retired Pastor; Ursula Conrads (*friend of Karen Spencer*); Mary Ann Segraves (*Connor Segraves Grandmother*); Frankee Shearer (*friend of Rod & Sandy Strother*); Chayton Hatt (*grandson of Wanda Gardner*); Dennis O'Brien (*friend of Rod Strother*); Bob Fremberg (*brother of Kim Fremberg*), Birgit Schraudner (*sister-in-law of Hanne & George Schuman*), Gary & Debbie Swingle (*brother & sister-in-law of the Morrisons*) Doug Lane, Doug Carlson (*friend of the Belles family & previous member of St. Luke*) Larry Chilson (*friend of Jim & 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*); Kathy Eshelman; Betsy Rider (*friend of Nancy McCarty & Williamsport*); family & friends mourning the loss of Ann Morgan (*mother of Diane Gonzalez*); family & friends mourning the loss of Pam Shuler (*friend of Jim & Becky Donnell*).

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: August 3rd, The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00AM In-person Service

9:30AM In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING AT THE WORSHIP SERVICE

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: Aug 3rd – *Ed Kelley*; Aug 10th – Ed Kelley

9:30 AM:

Altar Care: August – *Deb Smith*

Assisting Ministers; *Aug 3rd – Allan Husband*; Aug 10th – Marilyn Eshleman

Lectors; *Aug 3rd – Kim Fremberg*; Aug 10th – Jim Donnell

Communion Helpers; *Aug 3rd – Janice Ogurcak*; Aug 10th – Sandy Lentz Strother

Greeters; *Aug 3rd – Marge Holland & Diane Kohler*; Aug 10th – Lynn & Dave Shade

Ushers; *Aug 3rd – Charlie & Susan Duchman*; Aug 10th – Allan Husband

Acolyte; *Aug 3rd – Mac Harris*; Aug 10th Lily Judge

Live Stream Assistant; *Aug 3rd – Brad Nason*; Aug 10th – Daniel Taormina

OFFERING COUNTERS

Aug 3rd – *Nancy McCarty & Marilyn Eshleman*; Aug 10th – Ray Schreckengast & Pat Kelley

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Aug 2nd – Aug 8th

Aug 4th – 9:00 AM – 3:00PM – Scrappy Friendship Quilt Day – Bell Hall

5:00 PM – St. Luke Fund – Lib

6:00 PM – Executive Committee – Lib

Aug 5th – 2:00 PM – PVC (Parrish Visitation Corp) – Lib

3:00 PM – Service – Lib

Aug 7th – 6:00 PM – Outreach

Aug 8th – 6:30 PM – Scout Commissioners

NEXT SUNDAY: Aug 10th Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00AM In-person Service

9:30AM In-person Service & Livestream

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE is now underway. Please notify the church office if you have any change in contact information such as ***ADDRESS, HOME PHONE, MOBILE PHONE, OR EMAIL CHANGES***. We would like to keep the directory updated and as accurate as possible. Thank you for your assistance. **DEADLINE IS AUGUST 31, 2025** Call church office at 570-323-7309 or email: info@stlukeweb.com.

DISCERNMENT SESSIONS The Second Session will be on **Aug 13 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Brad Nason & Cheryl Newburg. It'll be an informal conversation about listening to the Spirit, as we continue to focus on listening to what God has to say about our congregation, our community, and where God is leading us. The address is in the Church Directory or you may call the church office at 570-323-7309. Please RSVP.

KEY INVENTORY is underway. We are in the process of updating our records of who has a key to the church. If you have a key please let Becky Lewis or the church office know either what number is on the key or which door your key opens. If you no longer need your church key, please return it to the church office. Thank you for your assistance with this project.

HELP NEEDED with news articles regarding families of St. Luke congregation. As you know I just started working for St. Luke and I am not familiar with the history nor the wonderful membership I'm getting to know. Therefore, if you see any newspaper articles please let know me so I can post them on the Bulletin Board, thank you, Karen Spencer, Office Coordinator 570-323-7309 or email info@stlukeweb.com.

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 at 570-323-7309.

USHERS Anyone interested in serving as an usher, please contact Nancy McCarty - nmac7149@gmail.com or 570- 419-7827 or the church office at 570-323-7309.

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 at 570-323-7309.

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.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST. LUKE

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:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ground Coffee | Alfredo Sauce |
| Pancake Syrup | Rice |
| White and Brown Sugar | Canned Mandarin Oranges |
| BBQ sauce | Mustard |
| Flour | Mayonnaise |
| Wide Egg Noodles | Relish |
| Boxed Pasta but No Spaghetti or | Ketchup |
| Macaroni | Honey |
| Chicken Noodle Soup | Salt and Pepper shakers |
| Pork and Beans | (Note Coffee is divided up into |
| Spam | sandwich size bags) |

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

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.**

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.net



Karen Spencer, Office Coordinator
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 9:00AM-1:00PM

Bulletin **deadline** – WEDNESDAY 9:00AM

Spectrum **deadline** – **15th of each month**

Council Pack **deadline** – FRIDAY 9:00AM before Mtg.

Office E-mail – info@stlukeweb.com

Office Phone – 570-323-7309

tinyurl.com/StLWi

