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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak
eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

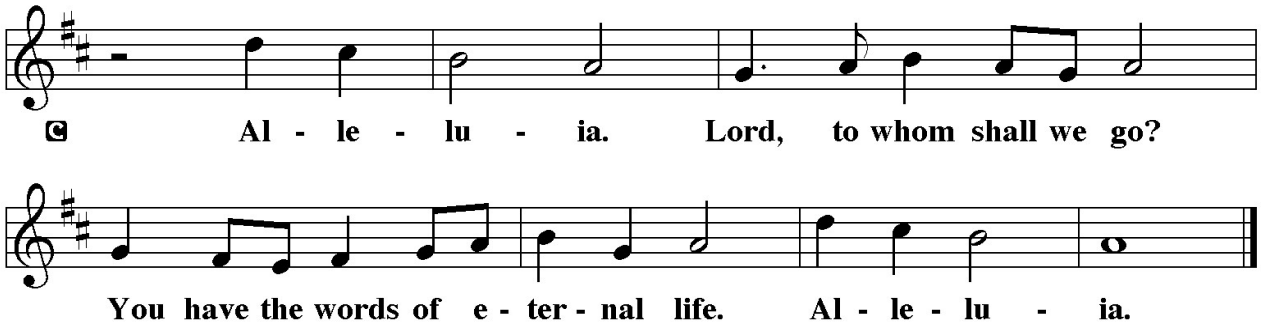
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

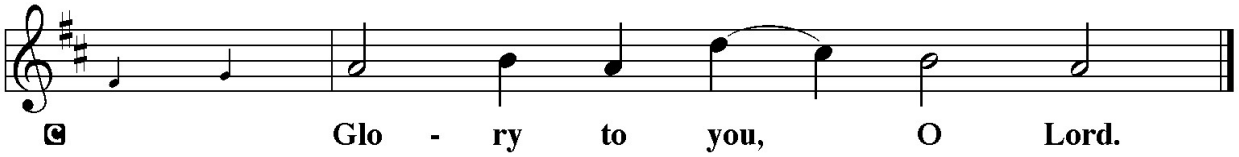
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



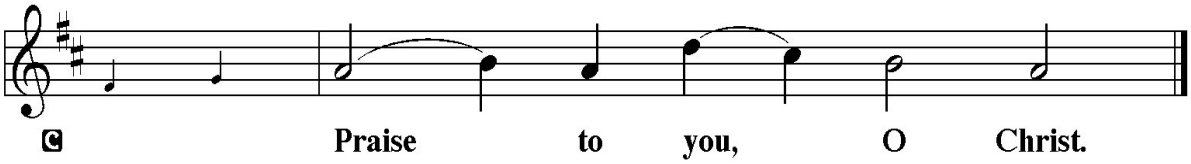
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

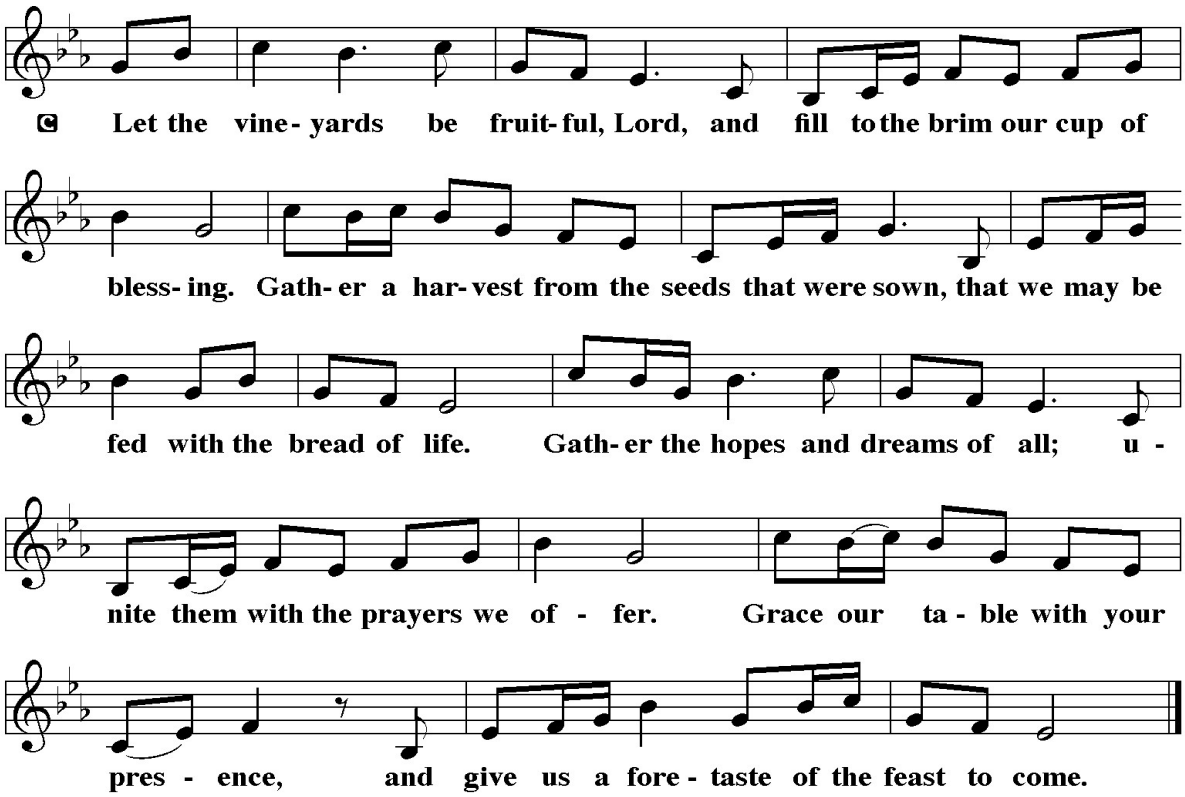
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



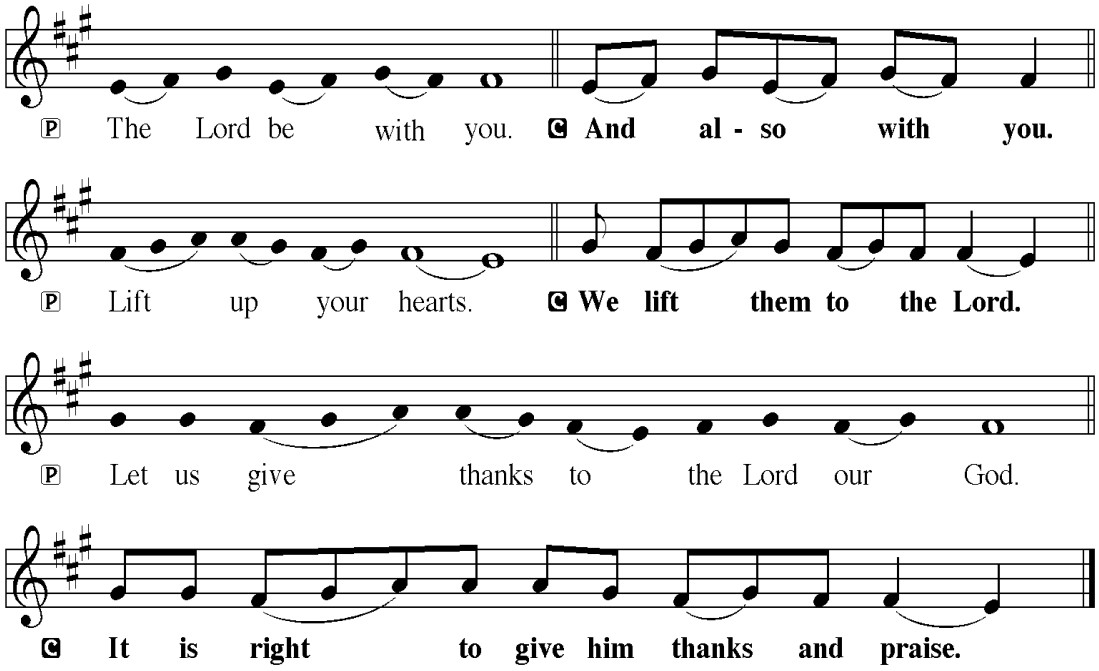
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

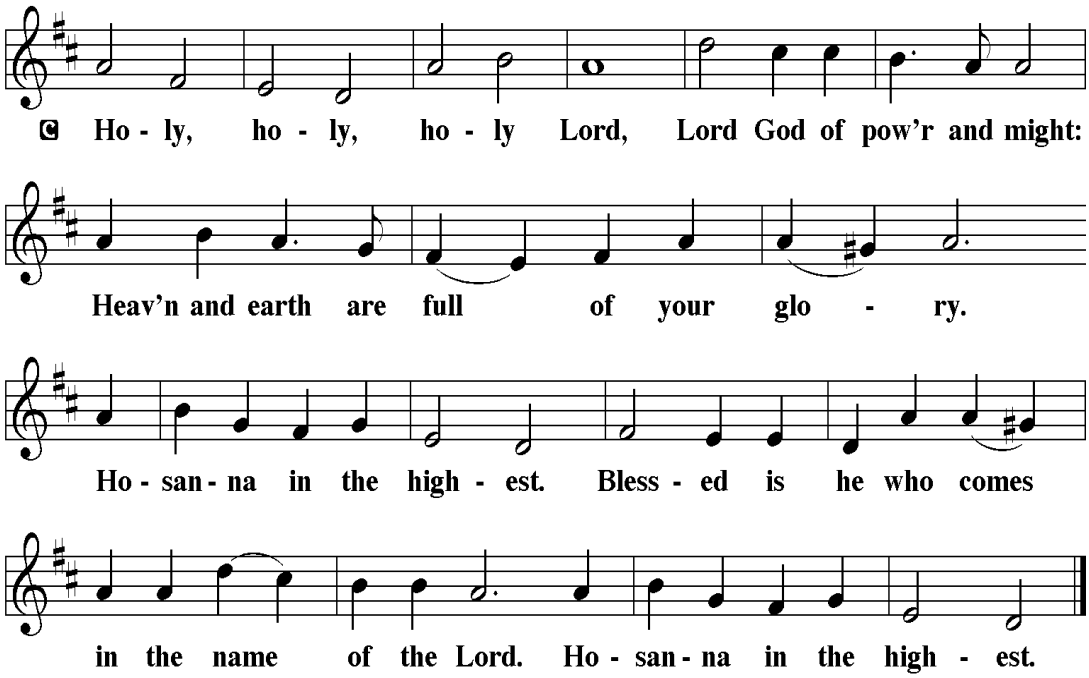
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

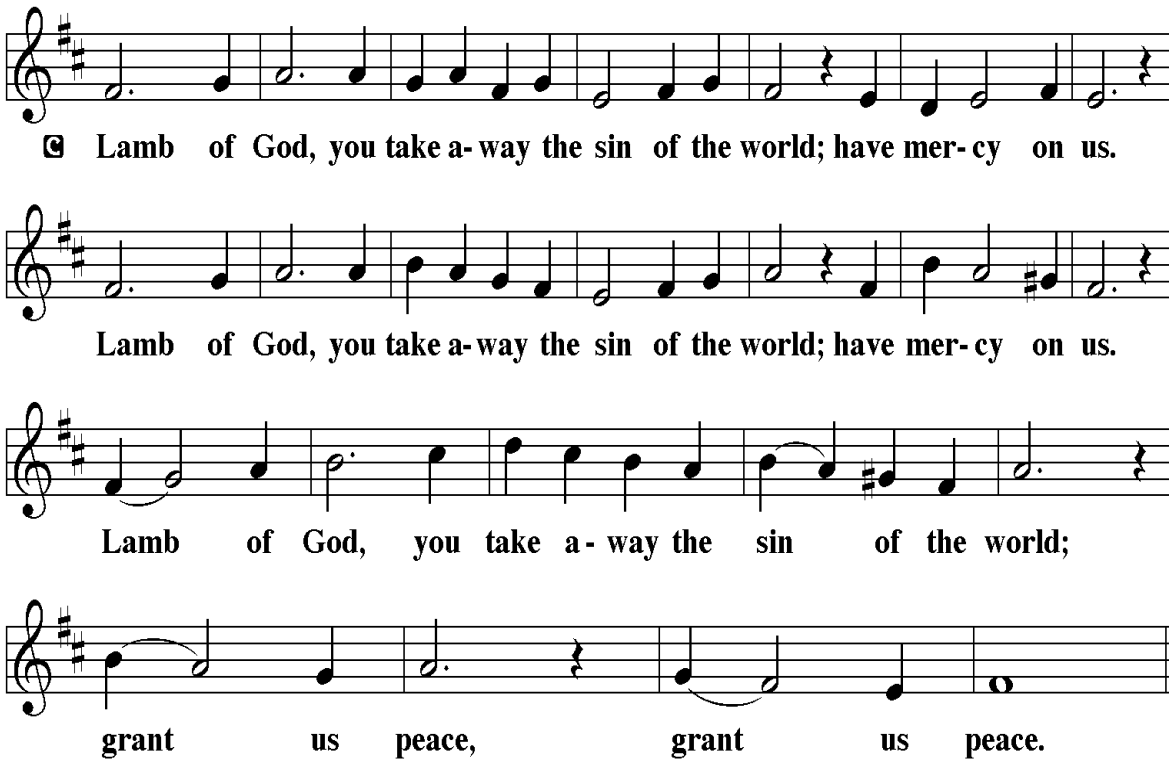
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

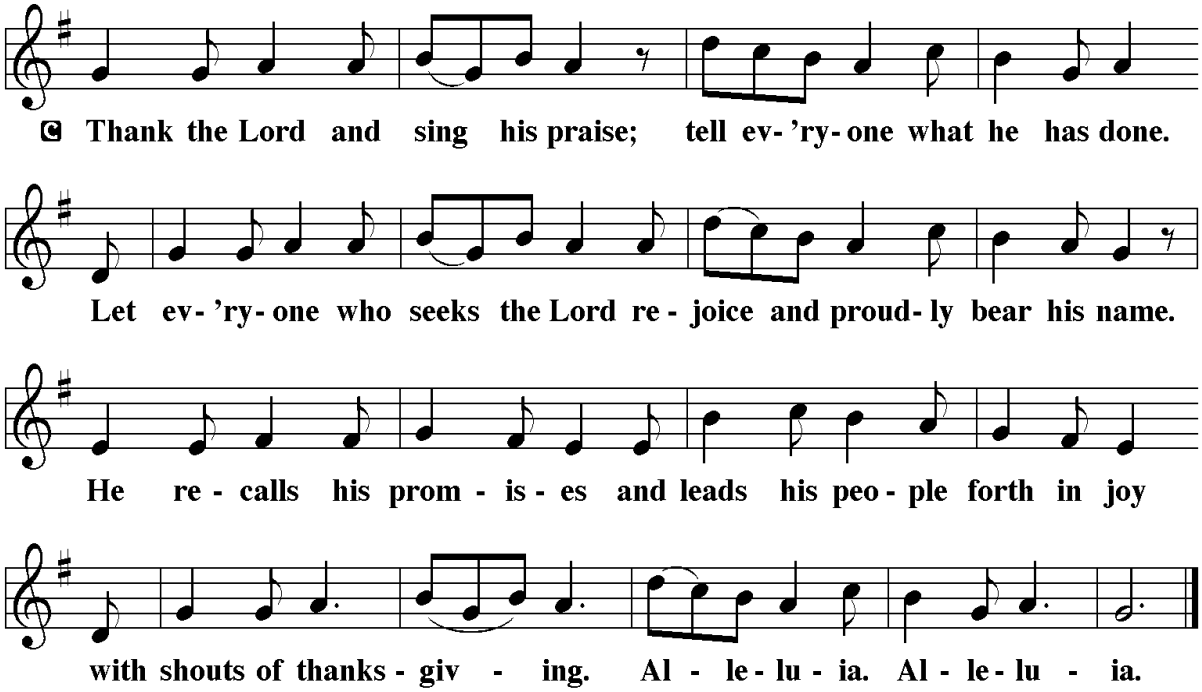
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

+570-971-9231 | EXITDOS@GMAIL.COM

Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

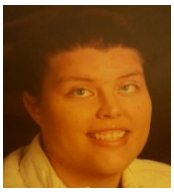
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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~~~~~~

Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak
eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

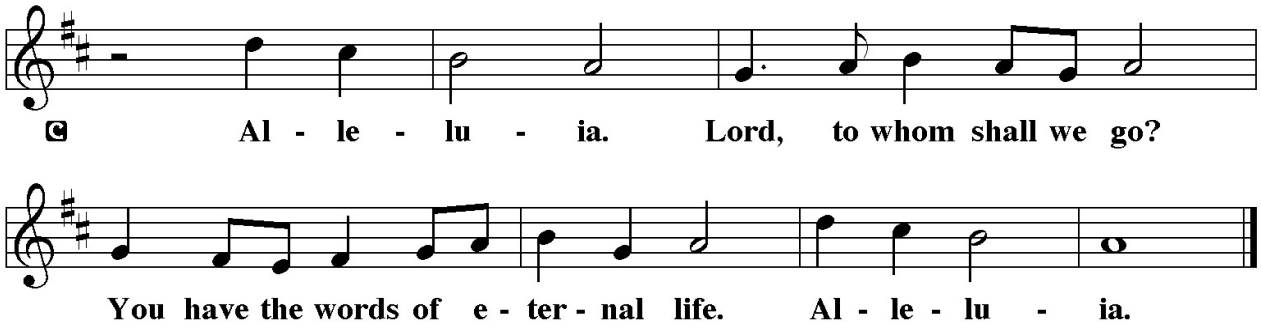
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

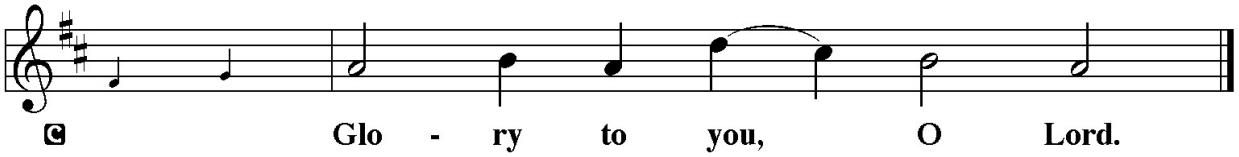
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



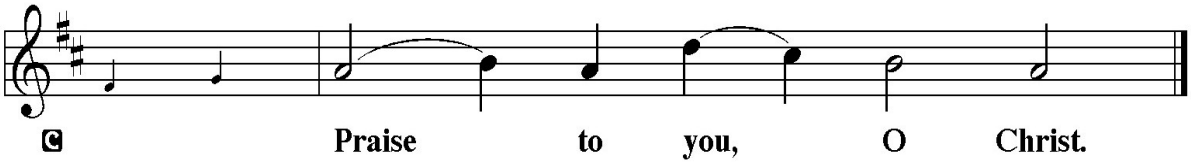
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

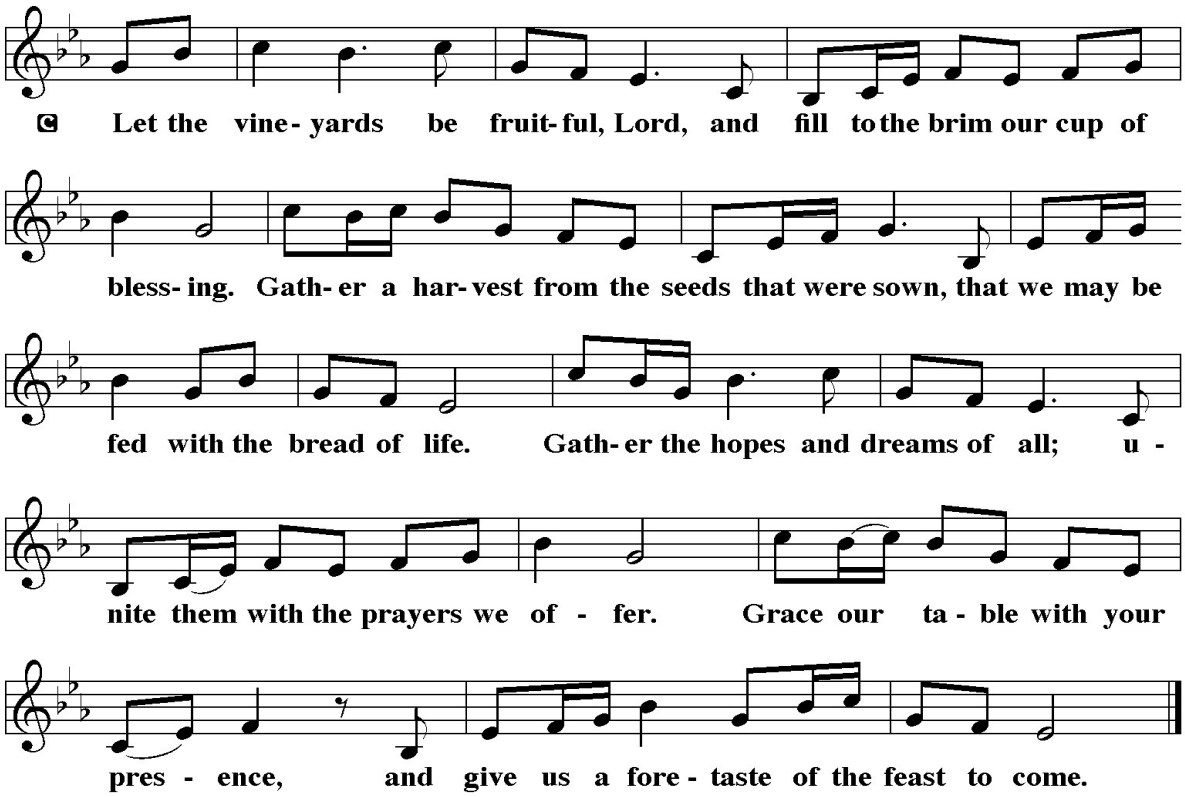
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



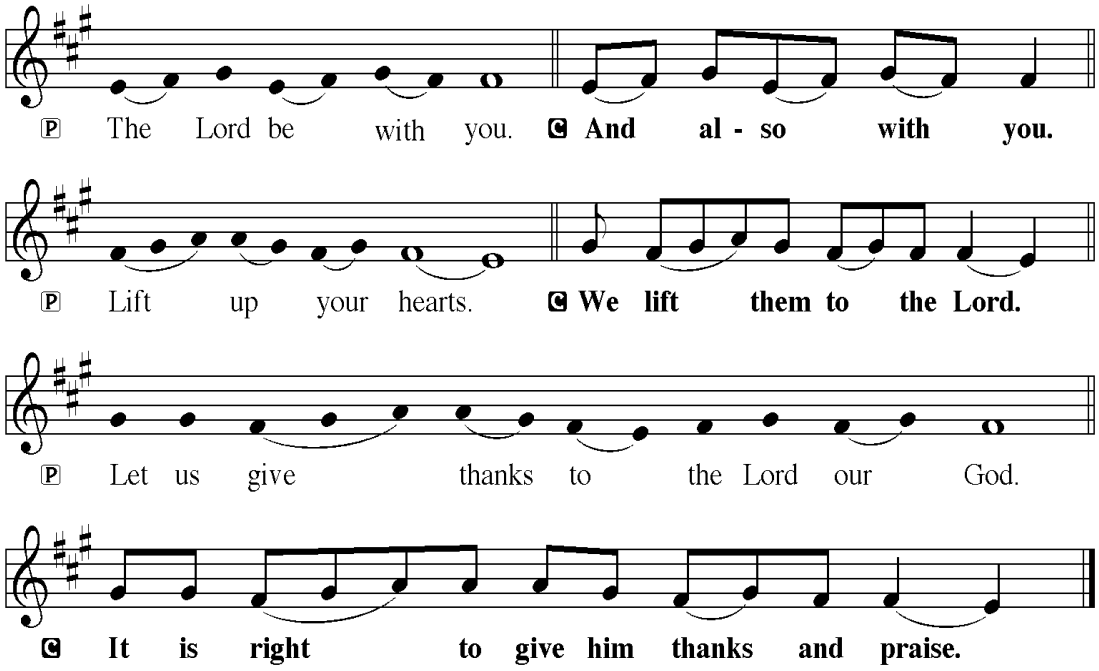
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

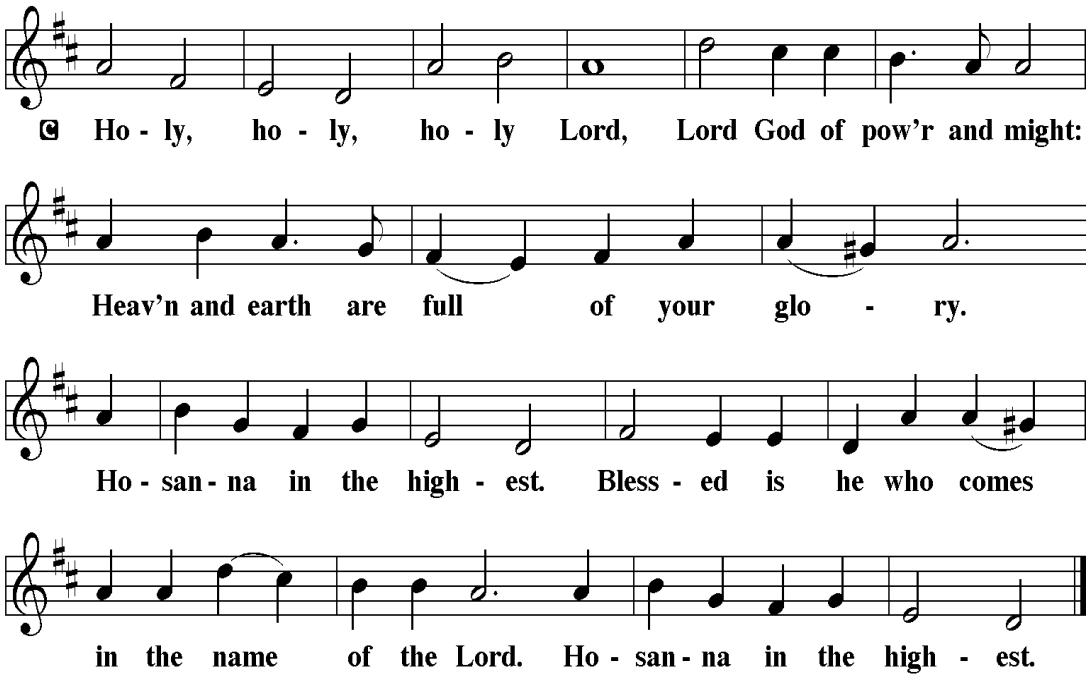
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

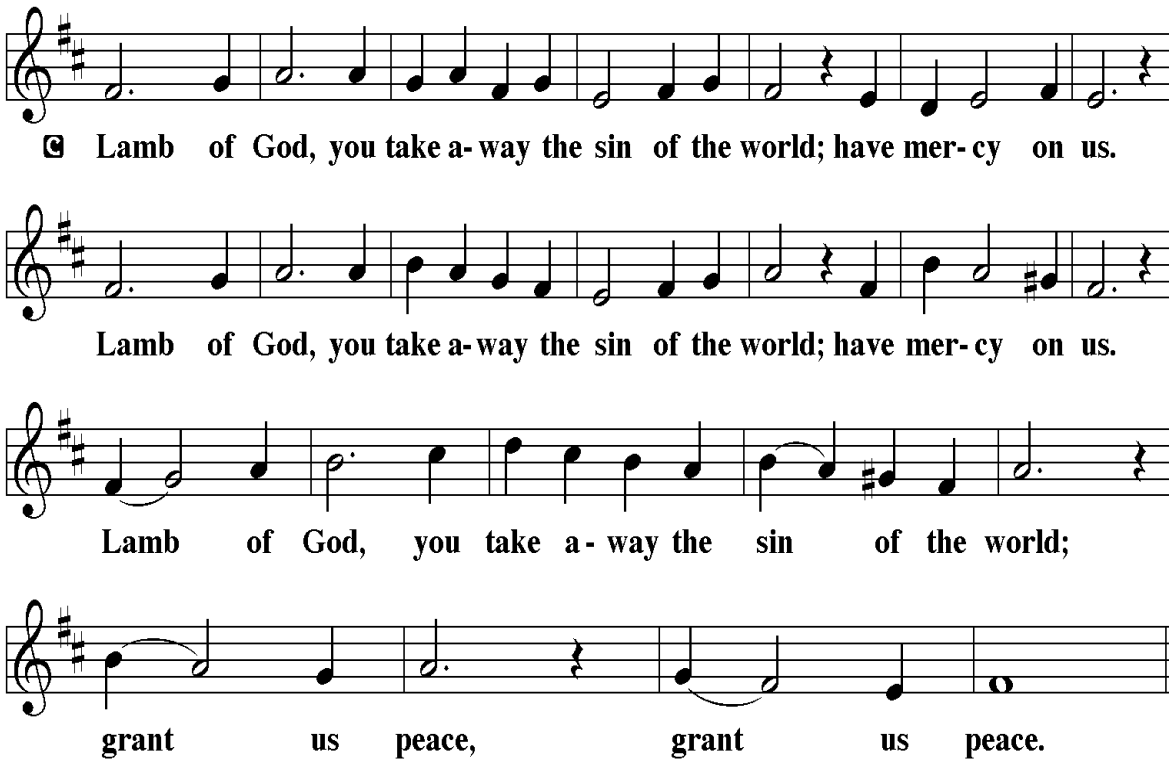
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

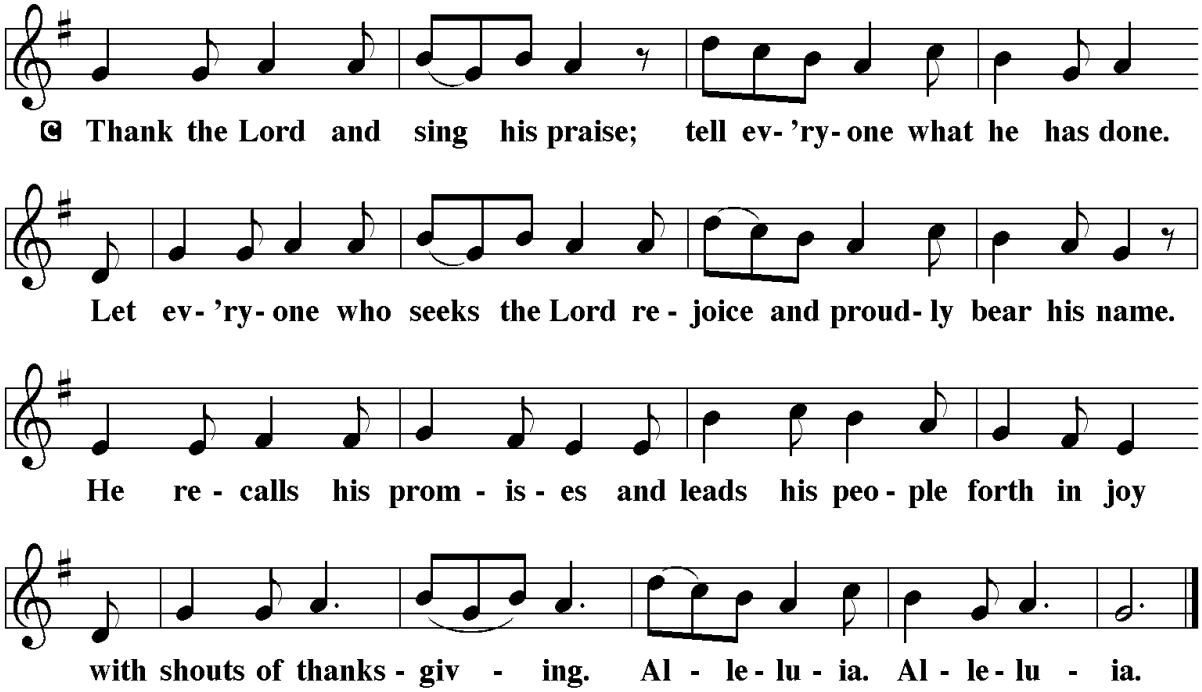
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

+570-971-9231 | EXITDOS@GMAIL.COM

Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

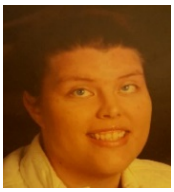
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak
eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

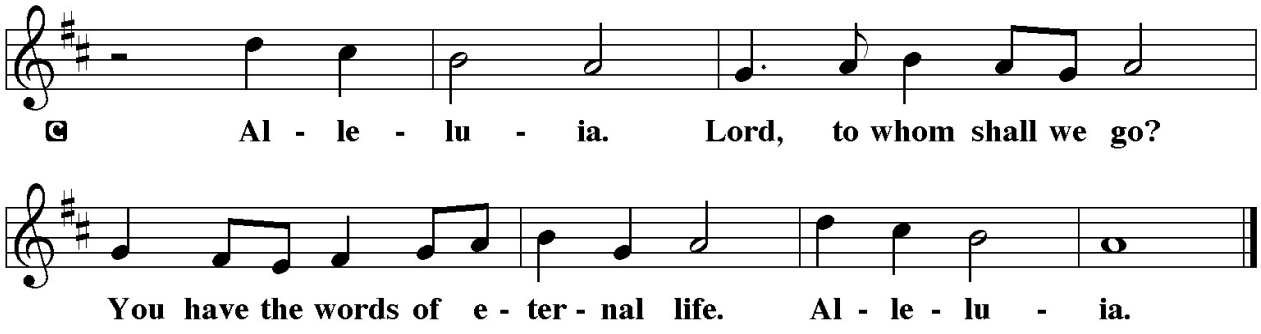
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

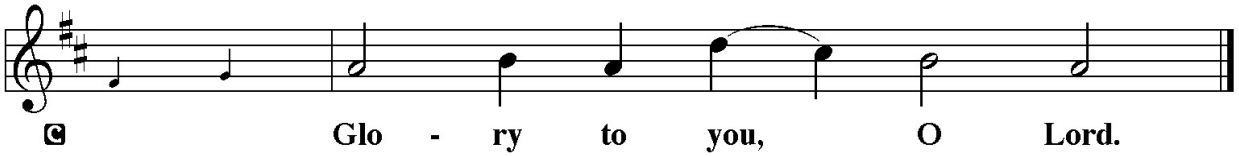
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



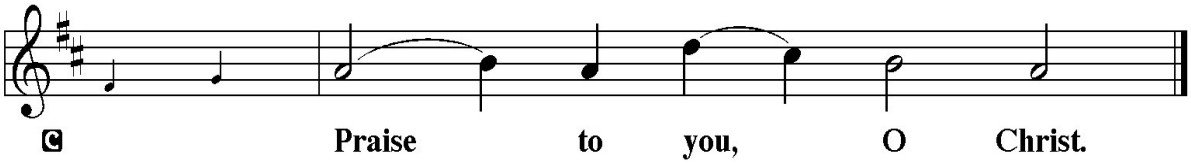
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

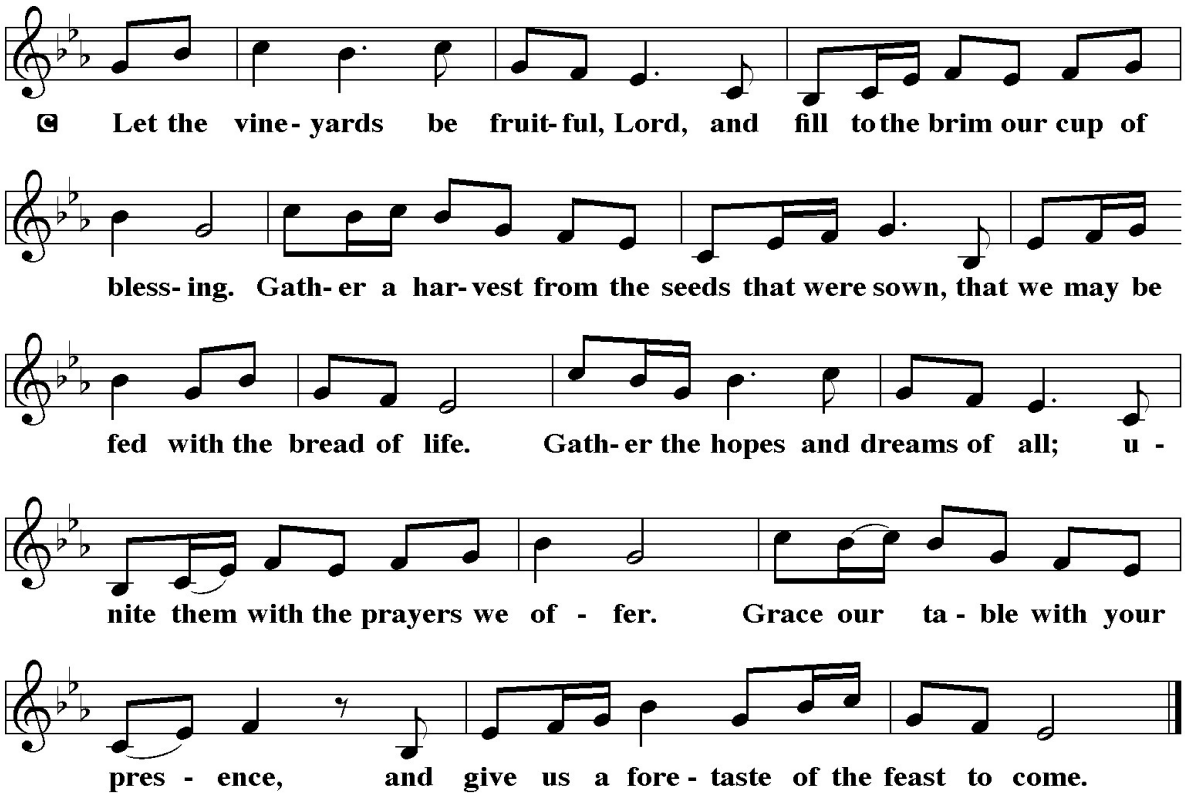
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



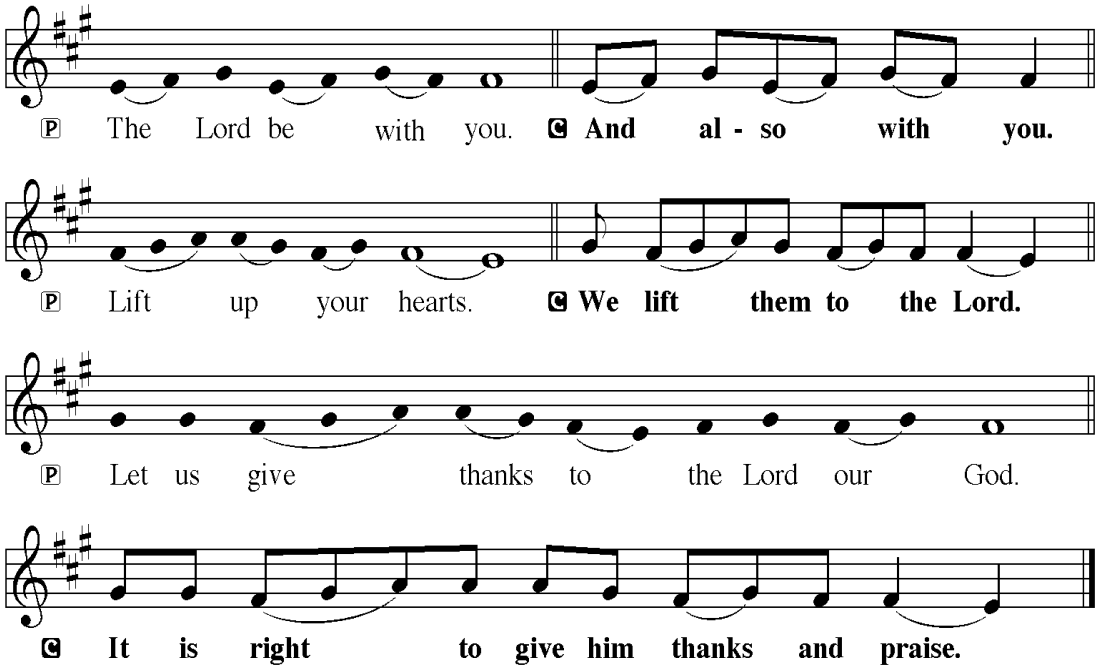
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

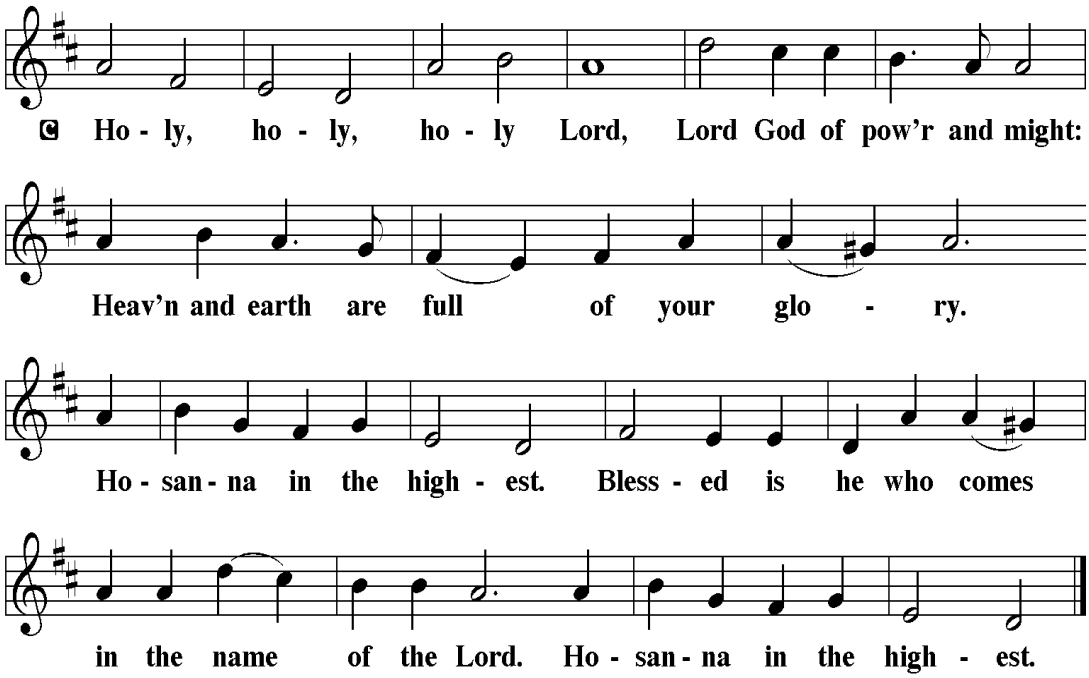
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

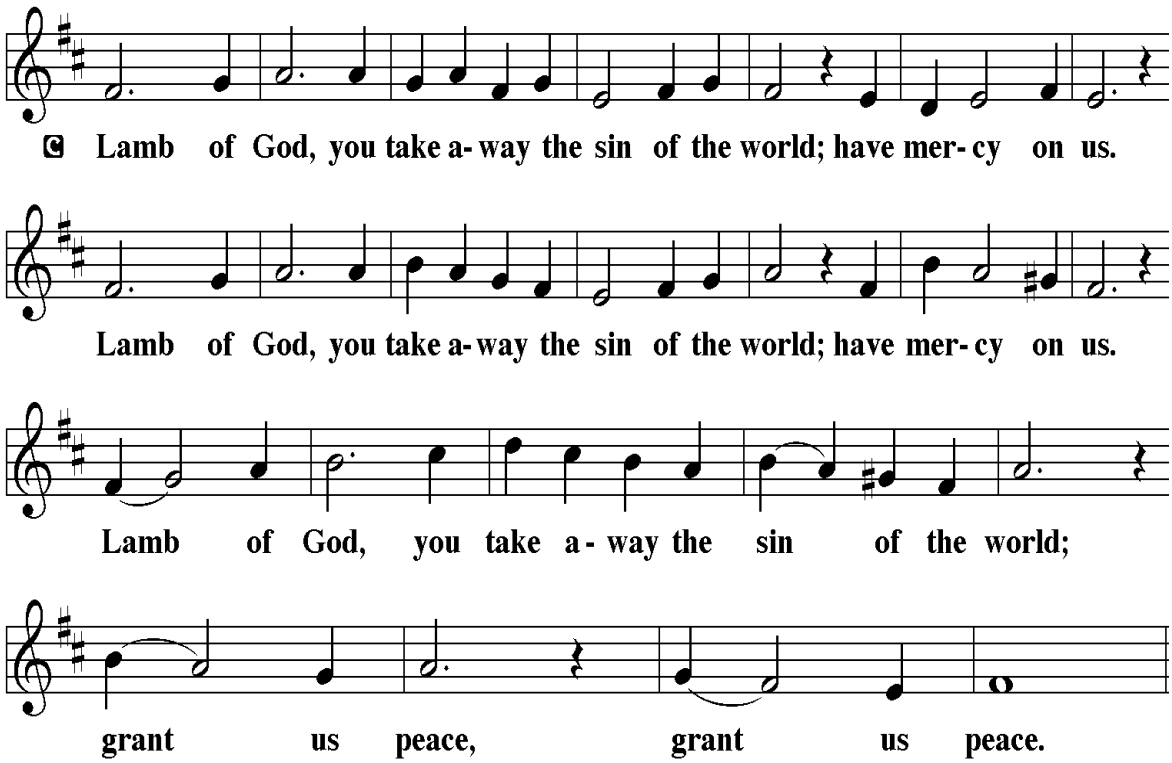
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

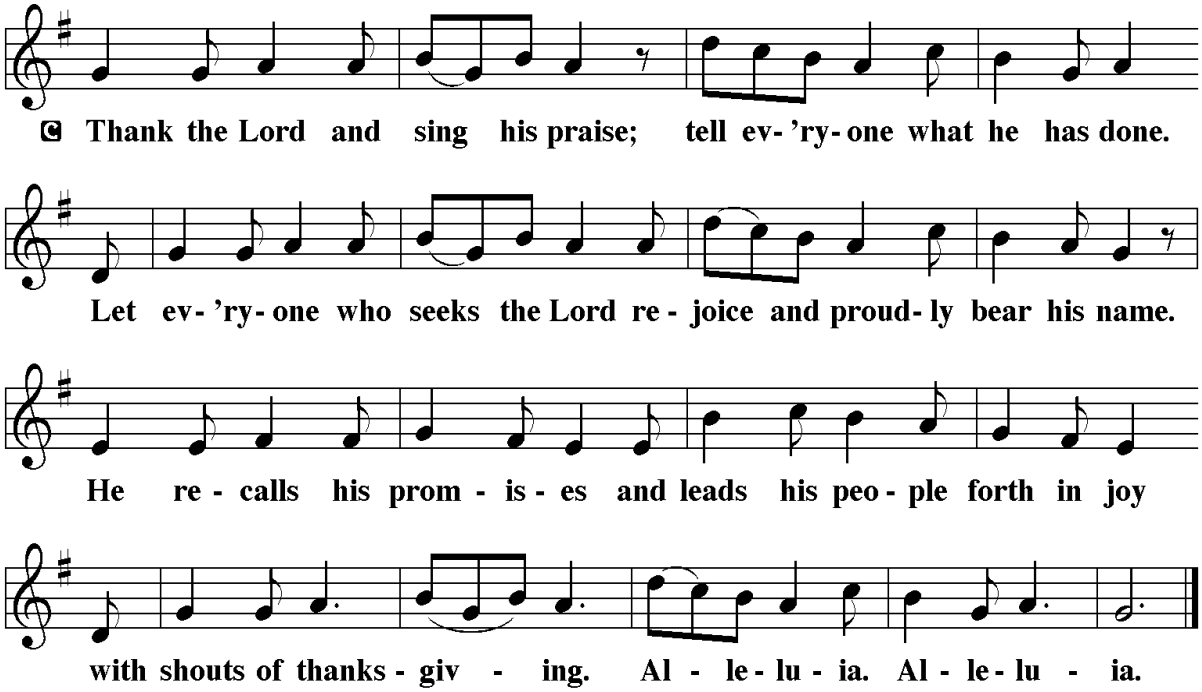
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

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Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

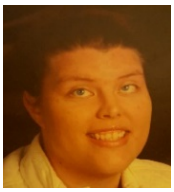
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak
eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

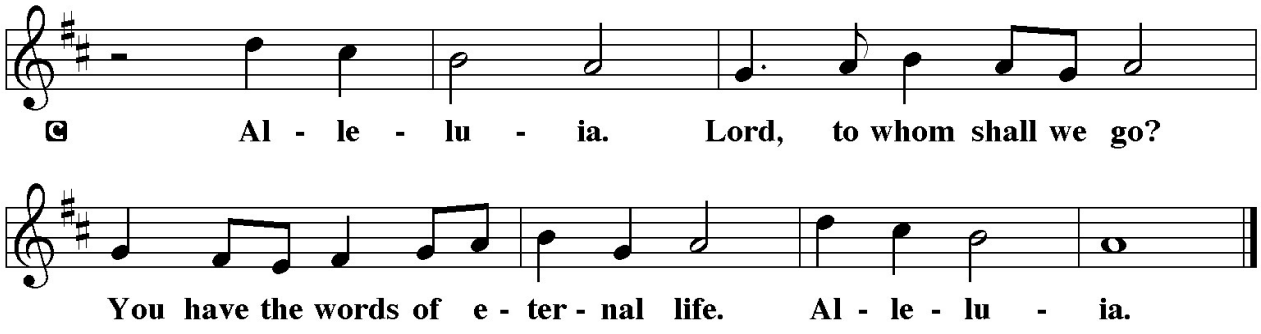
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

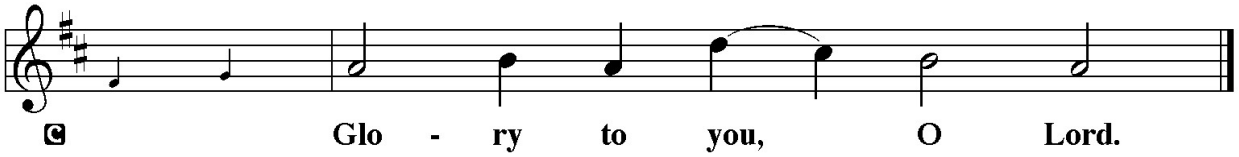
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



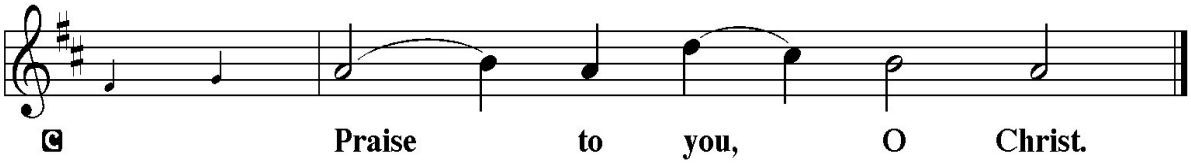
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

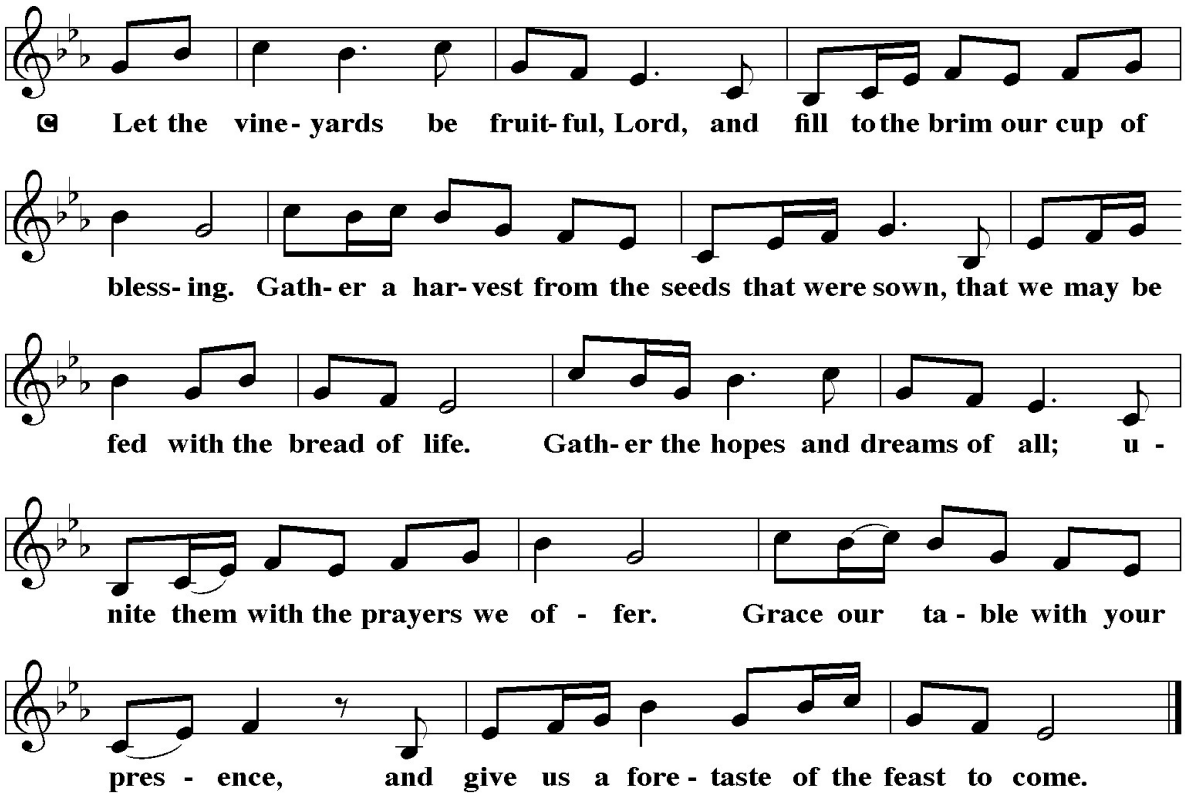
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



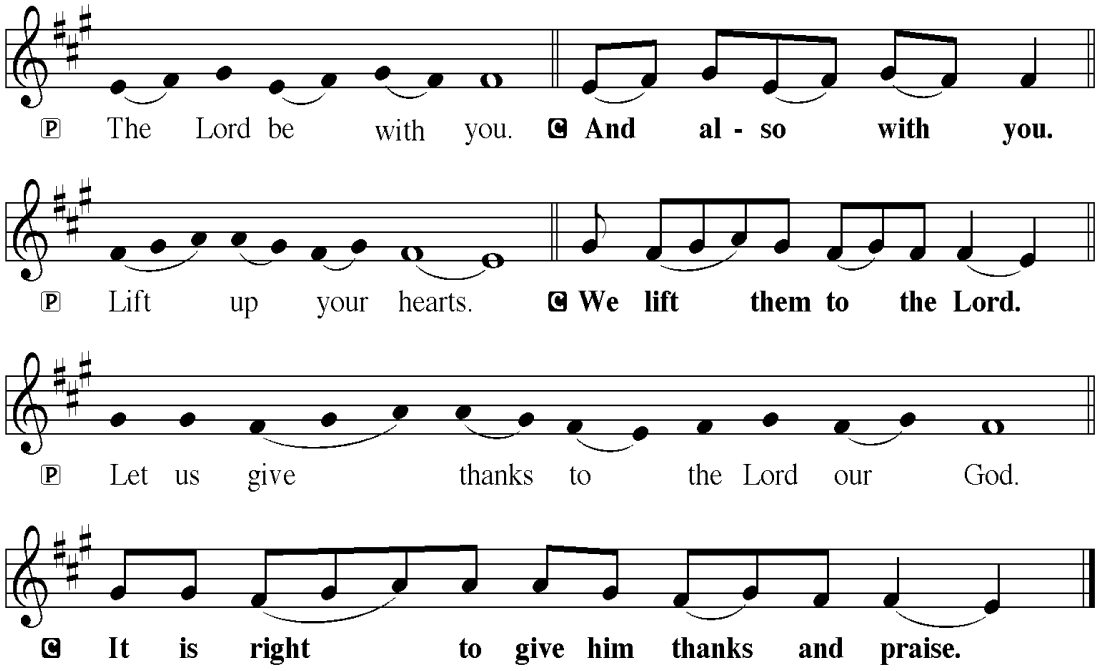
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

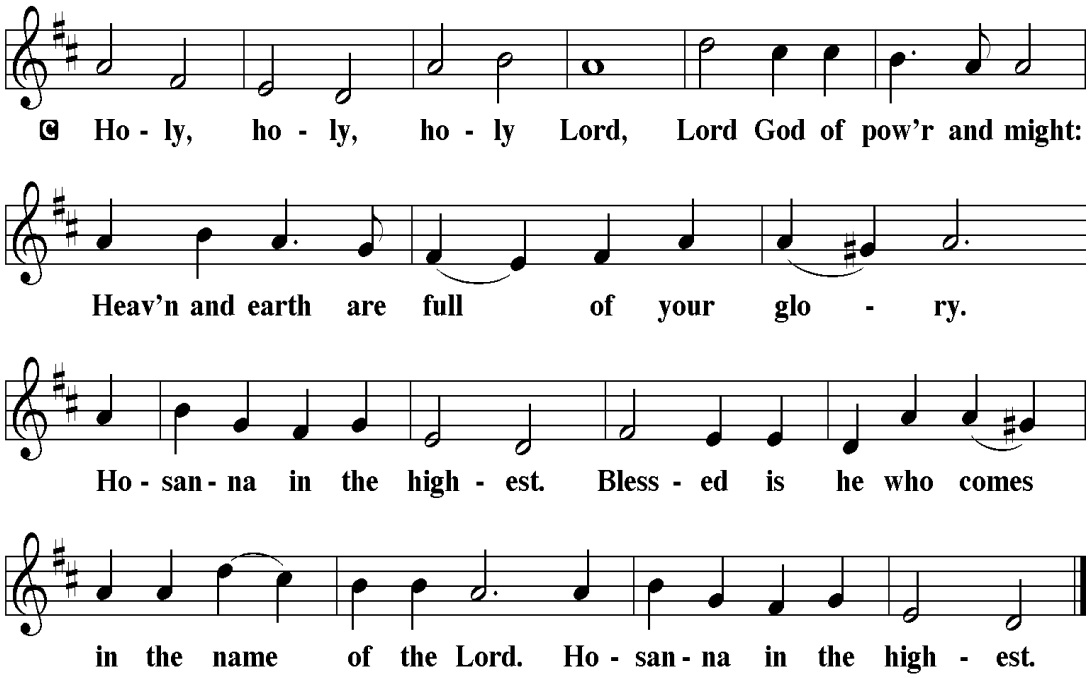
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

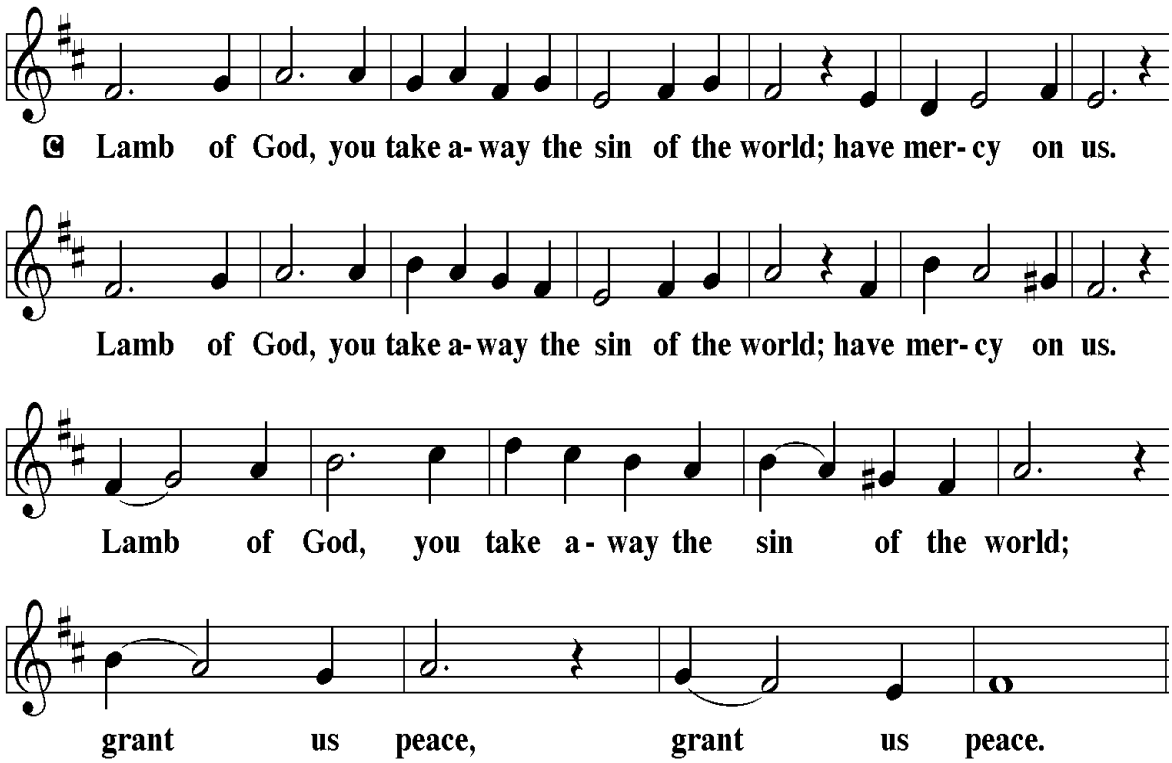
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

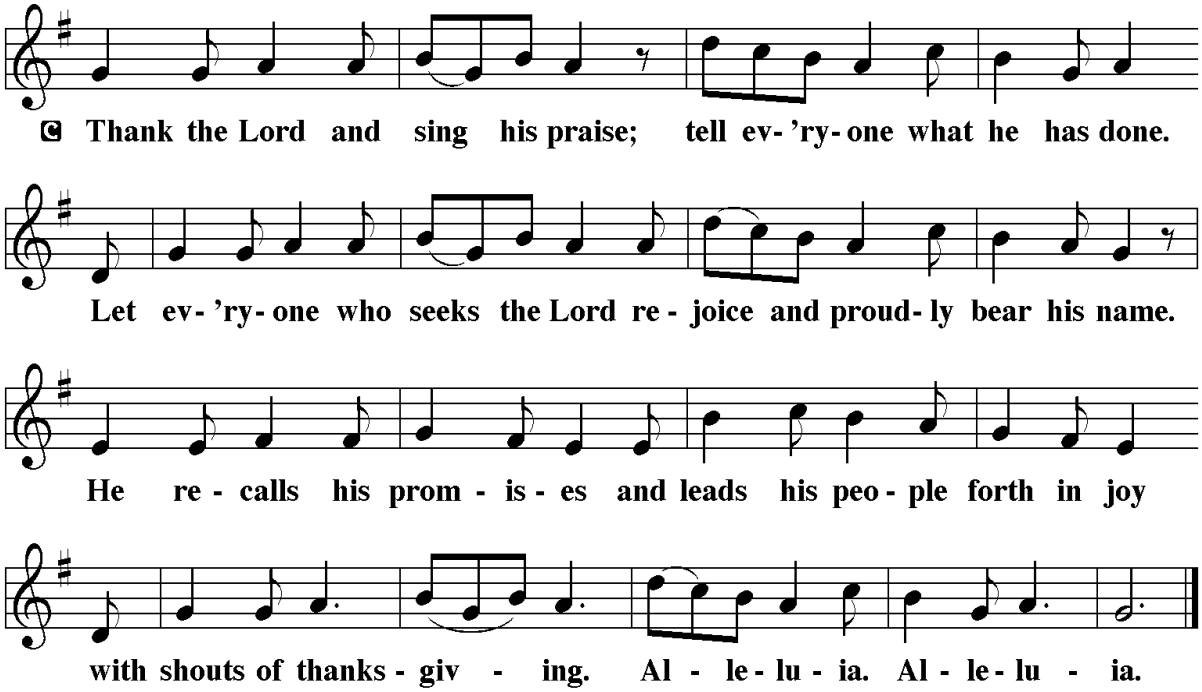
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

+570-971-9231 | EXITDOS@GMAIL.COM

Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

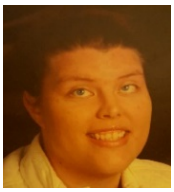
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak
eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

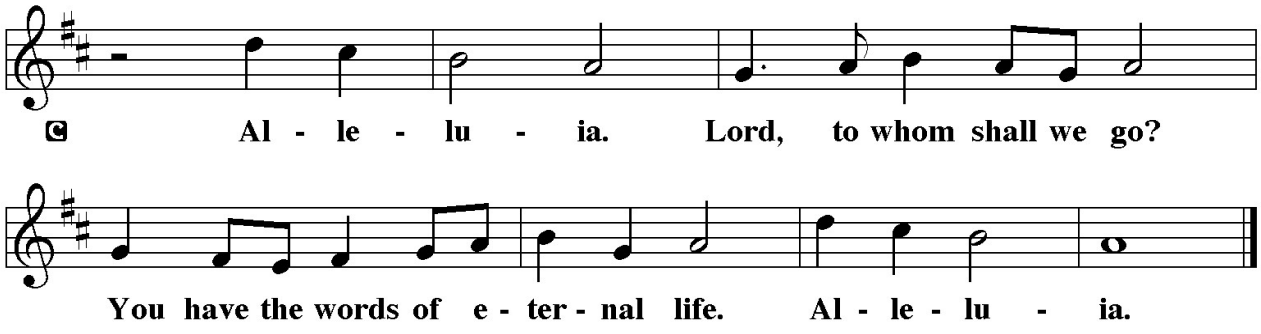
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

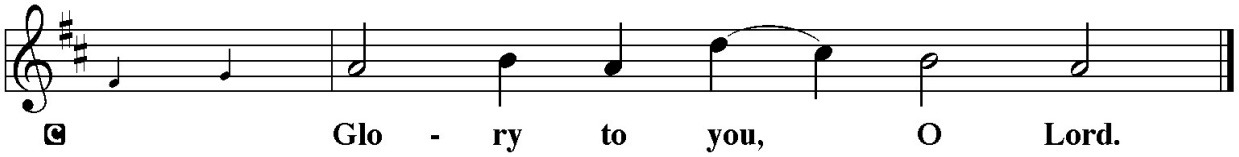
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



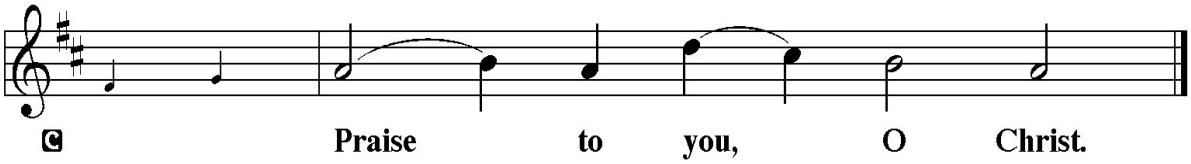
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

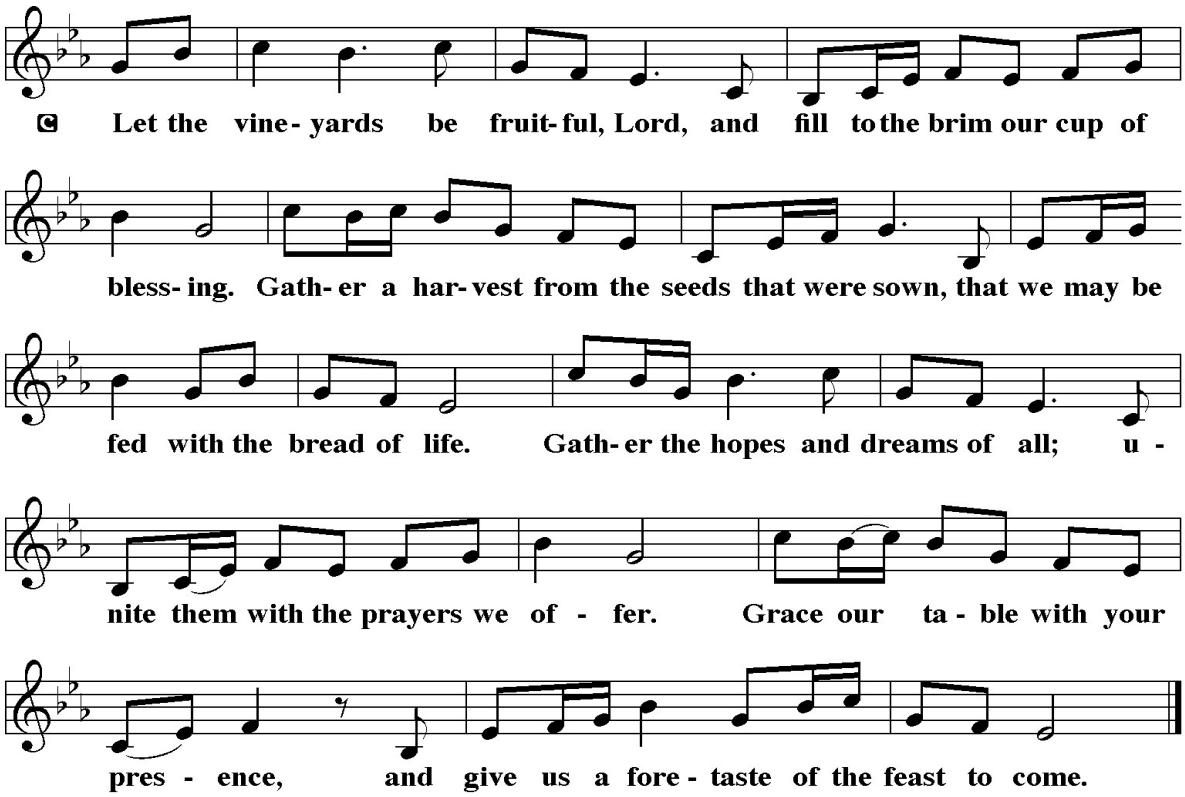
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



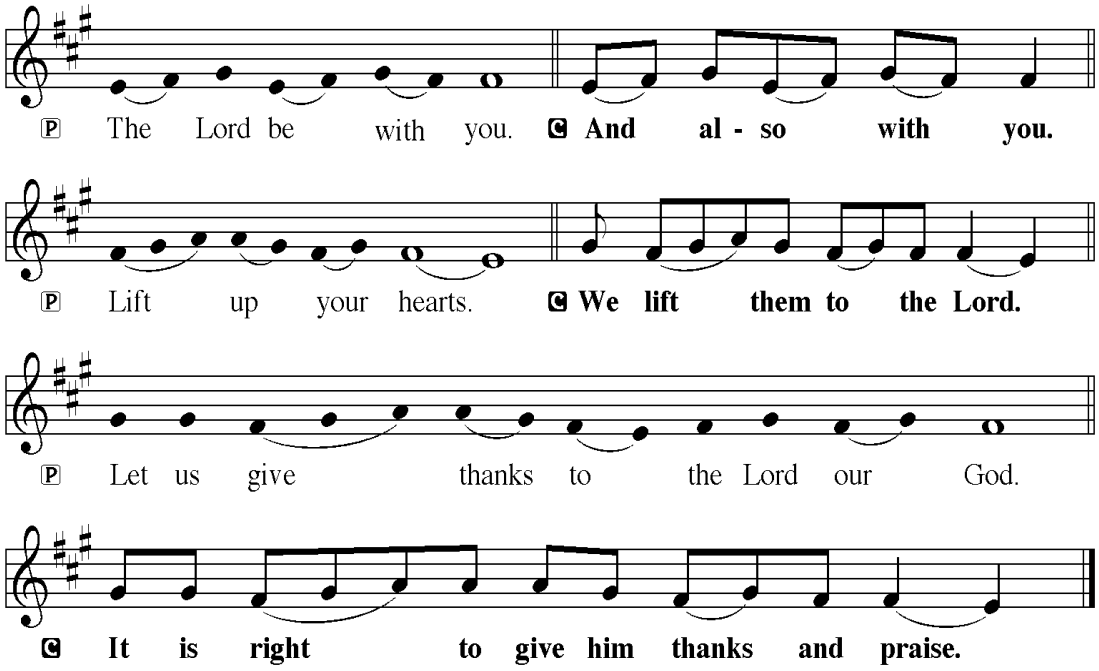
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

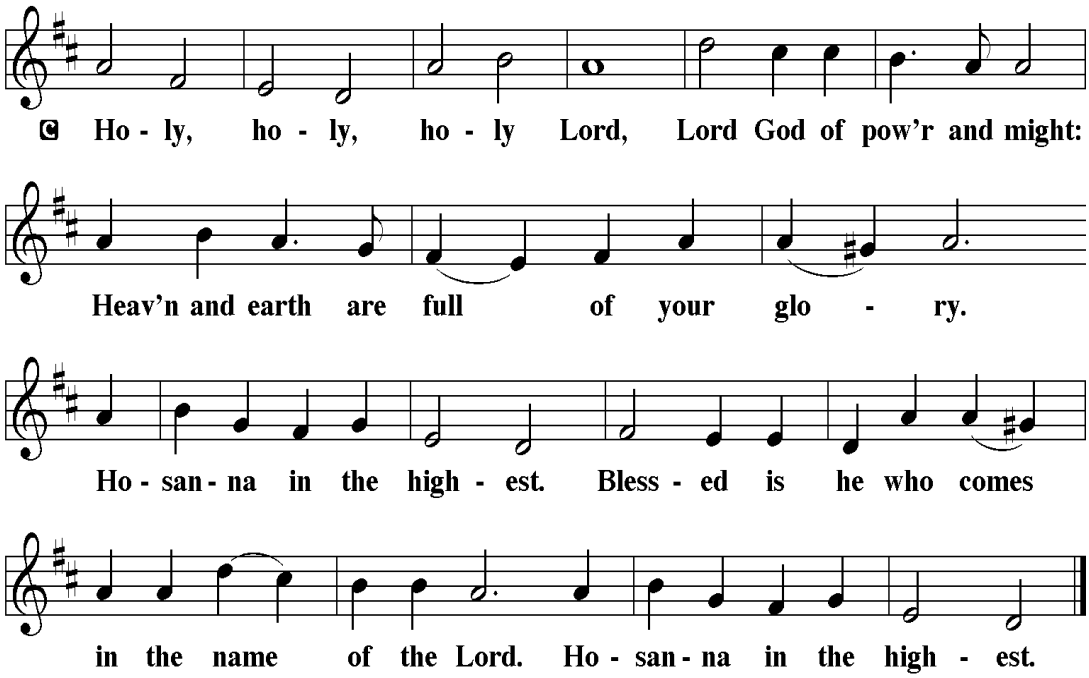
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

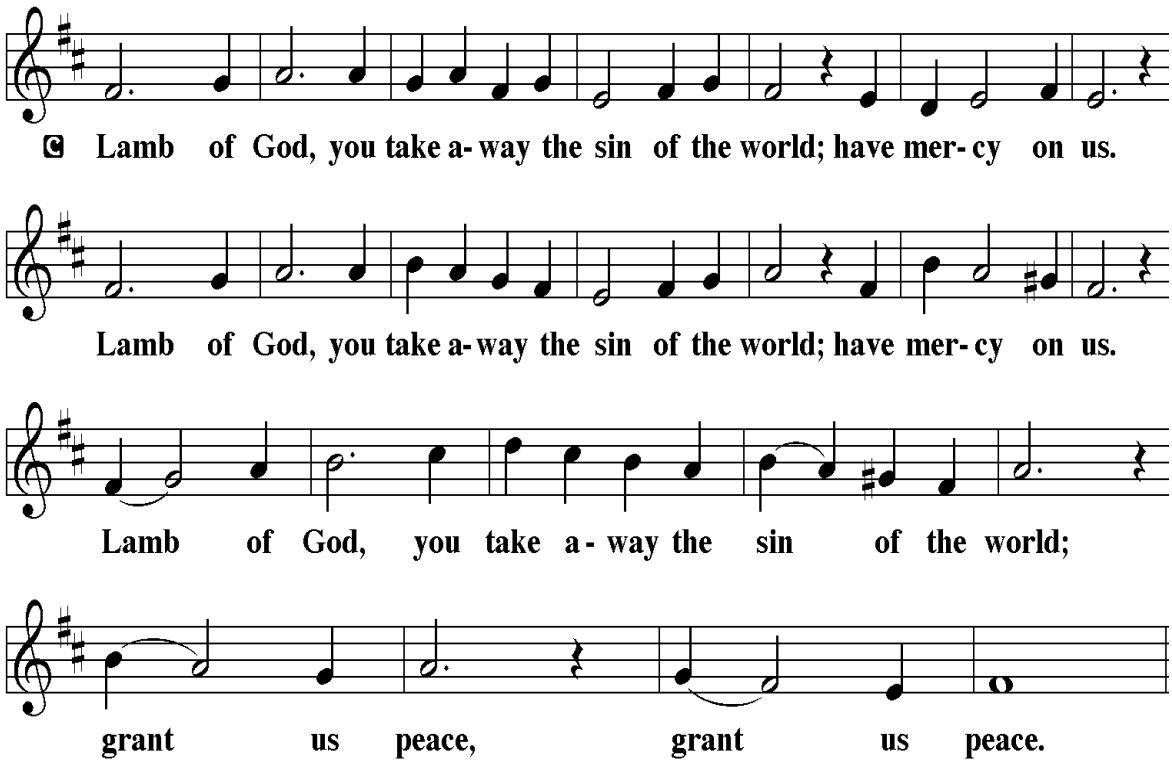
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

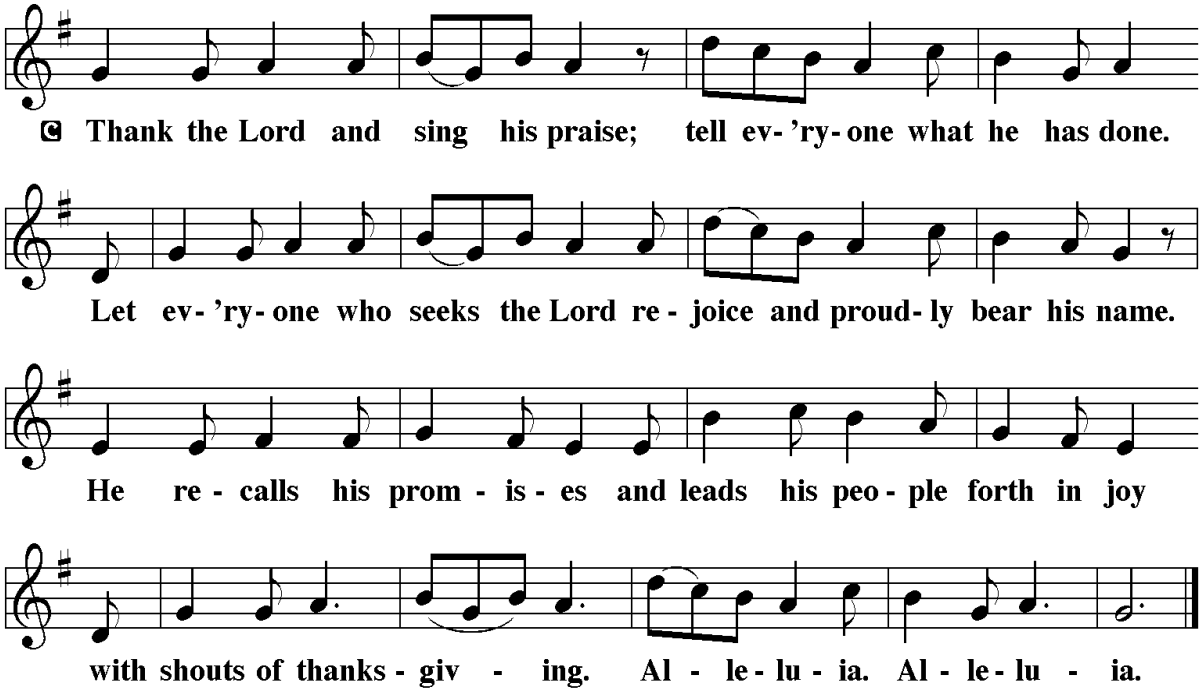
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

+570-971-9231 | EXITDOS@GMAIL.COM

Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

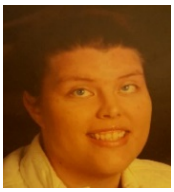
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

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and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

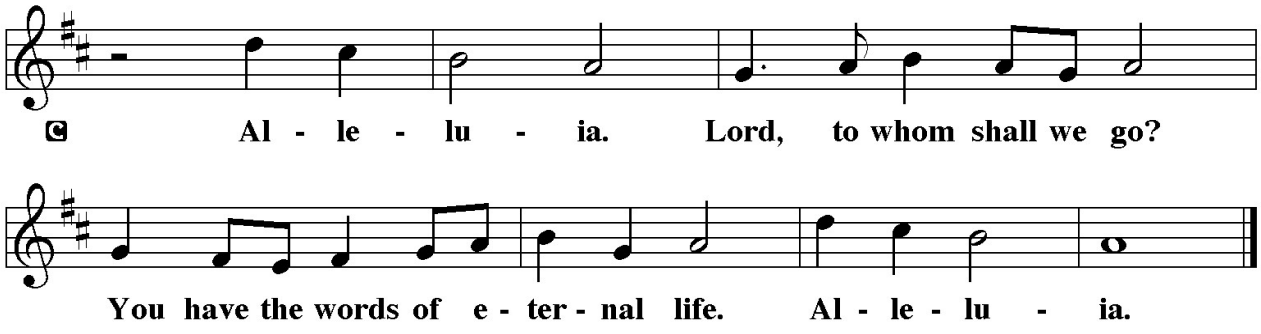
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

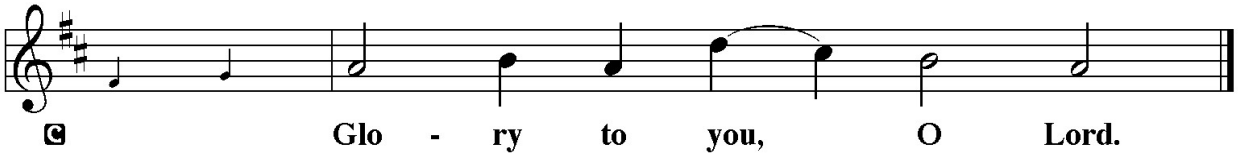
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



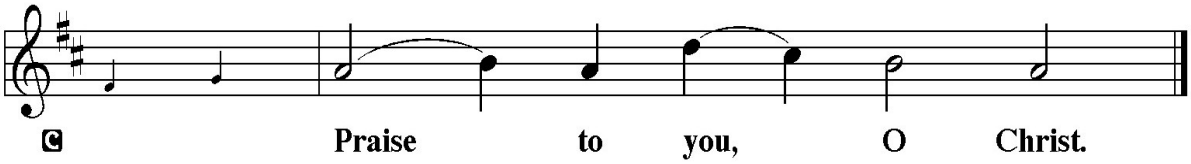
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

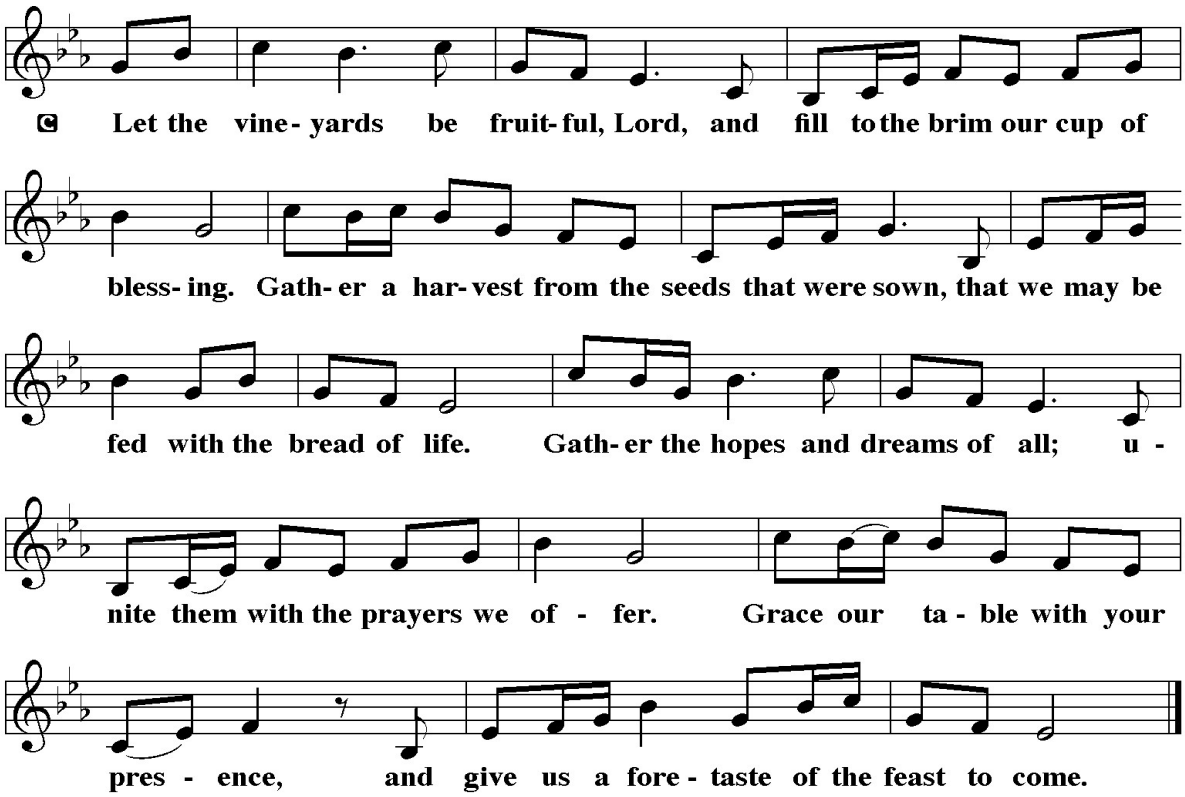
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



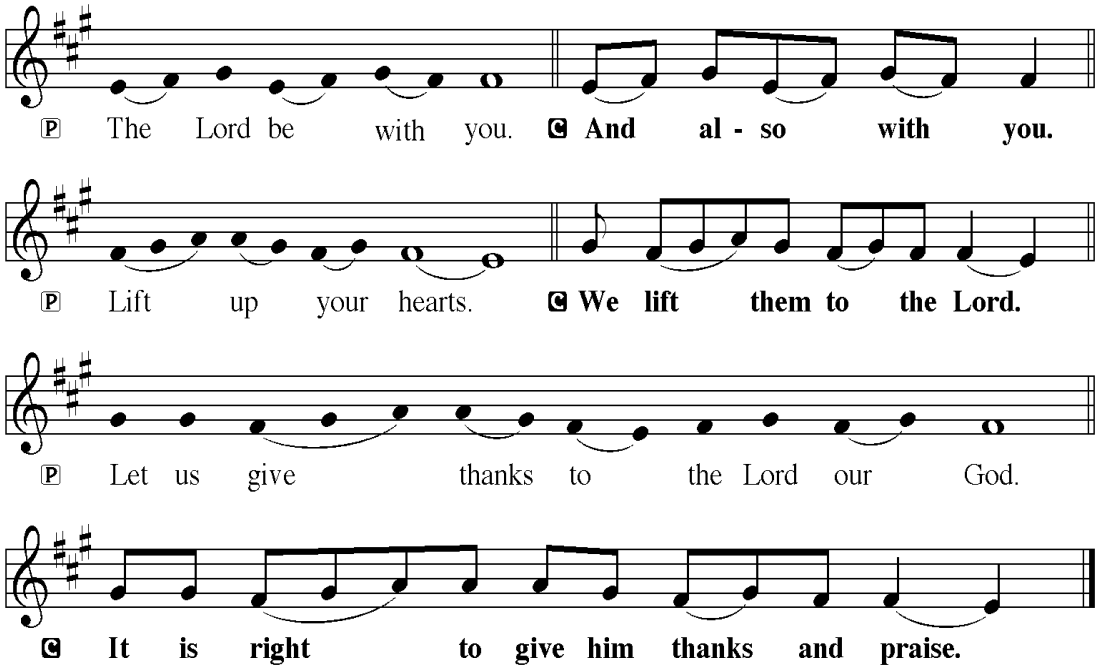
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

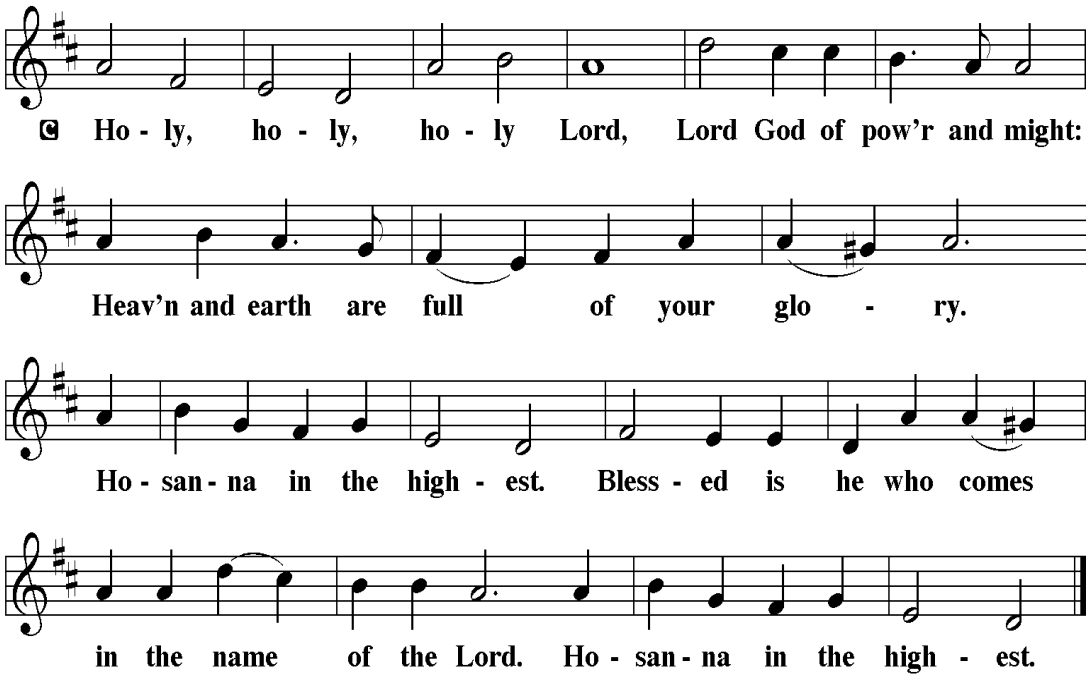
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

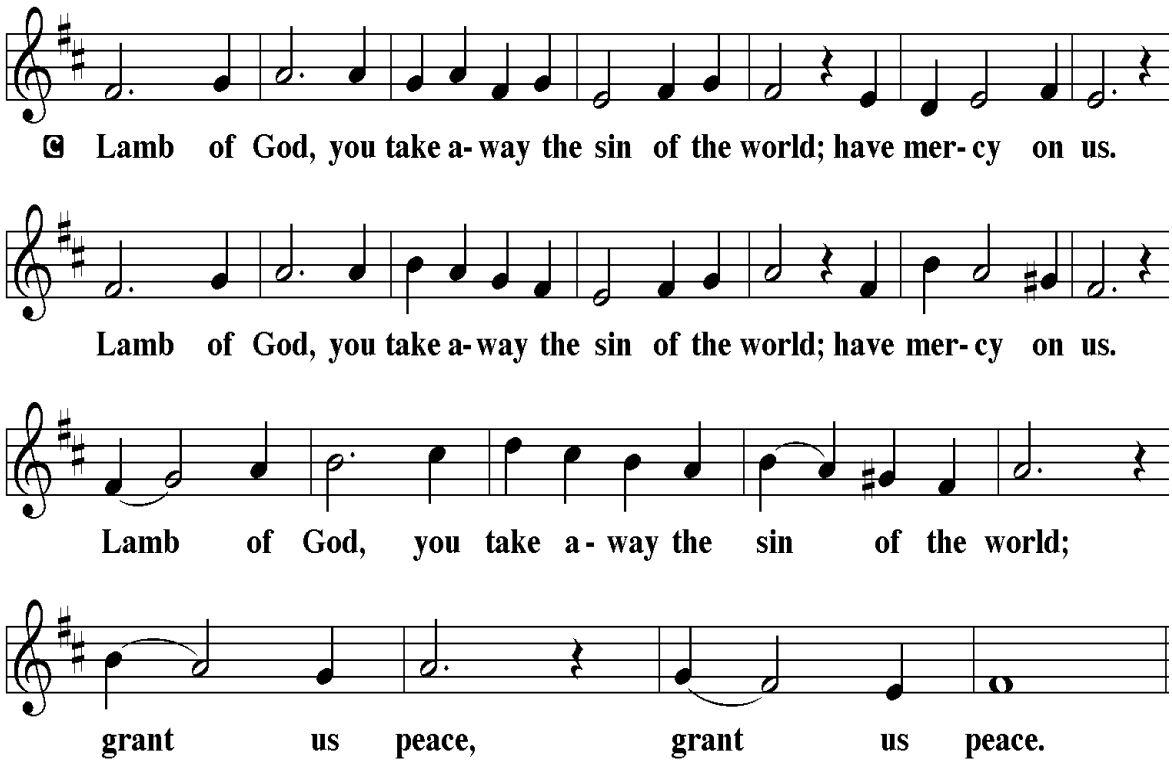
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

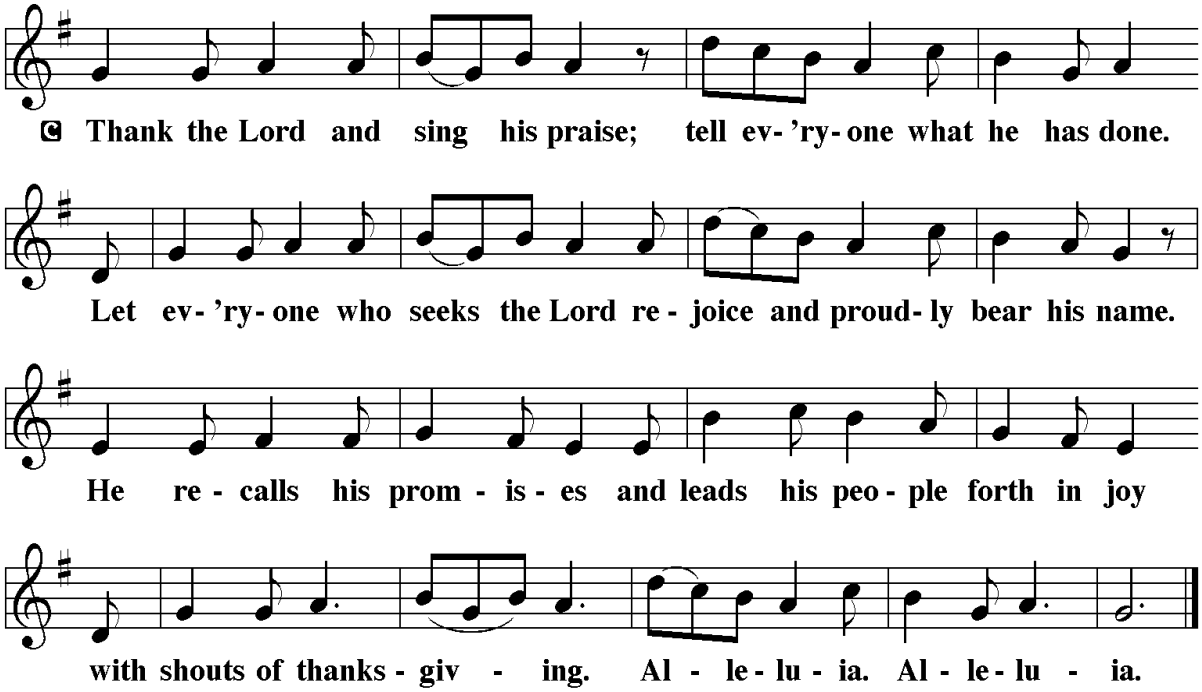
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

+570-971-9231 | EXITDOS@GMAIL.COM

Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

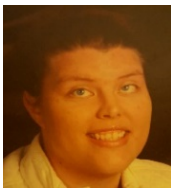
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak
eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

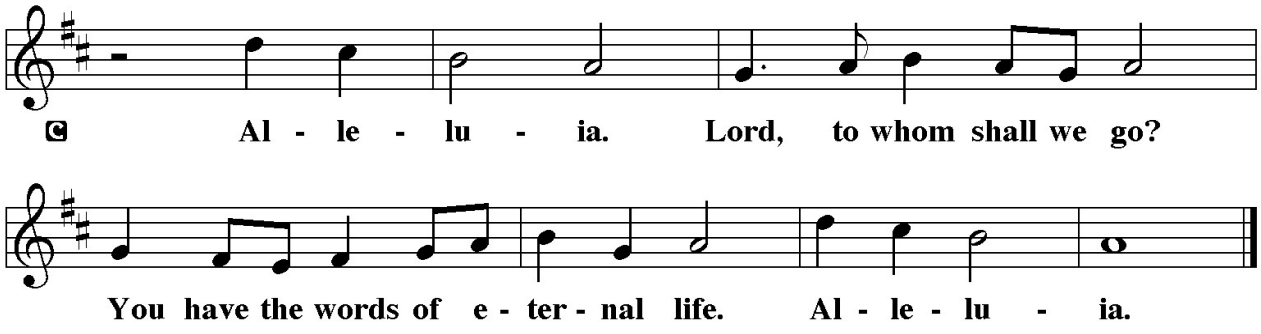
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

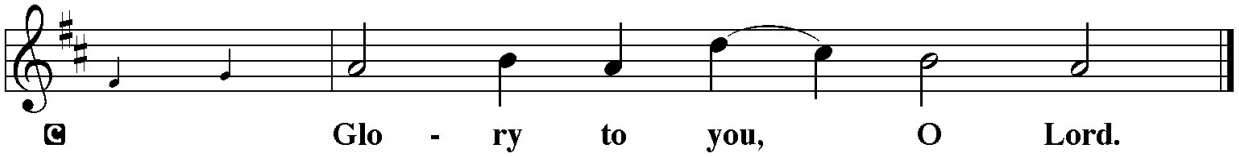
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



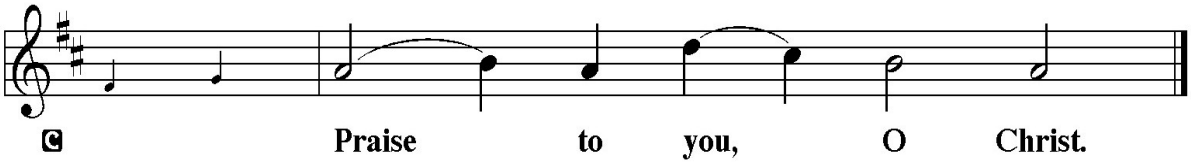
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

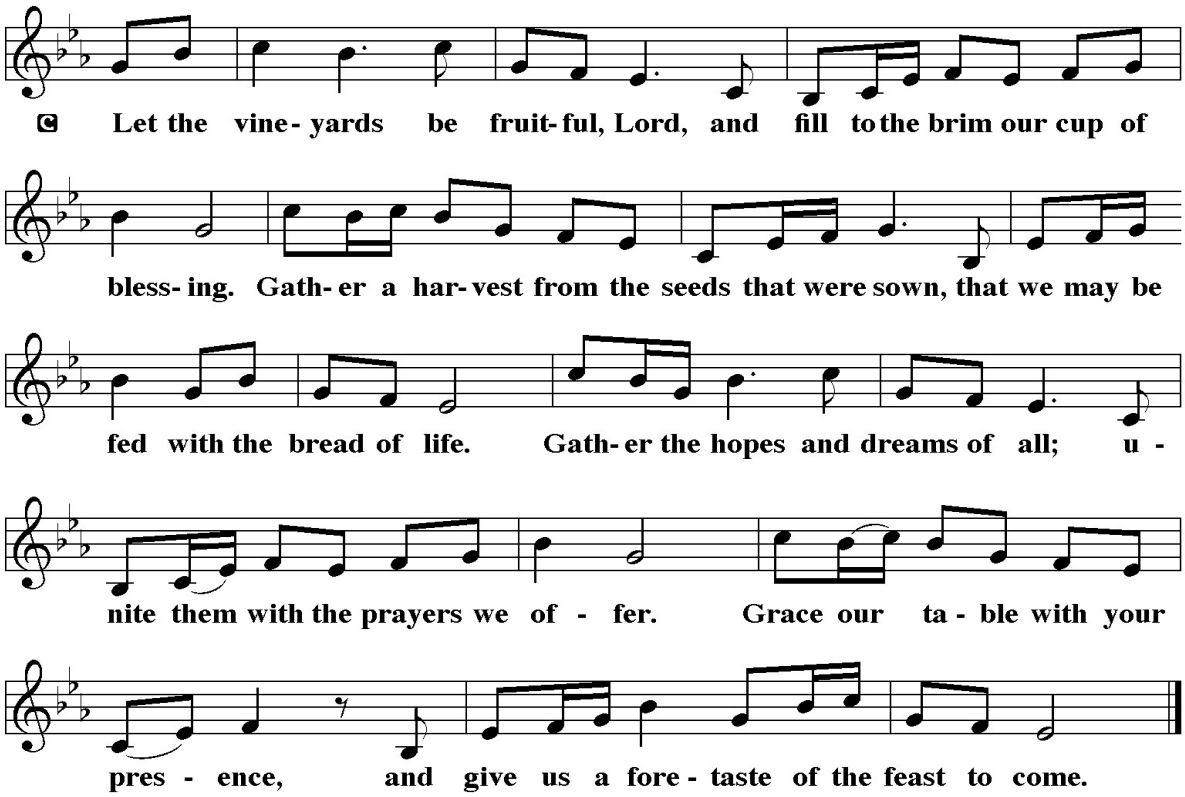
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



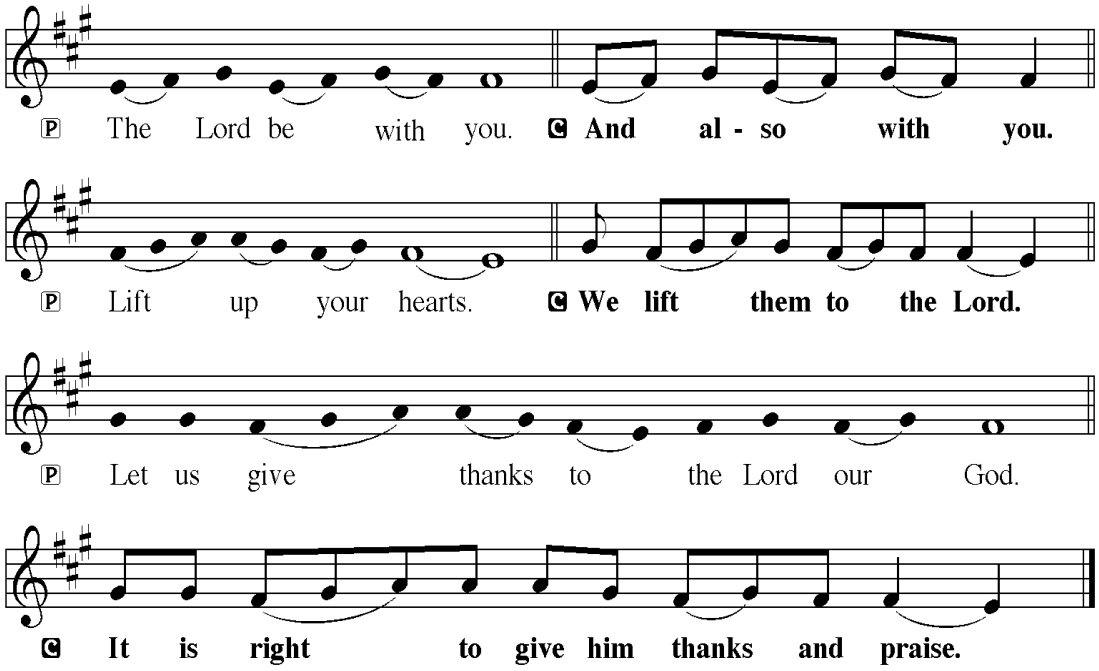
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

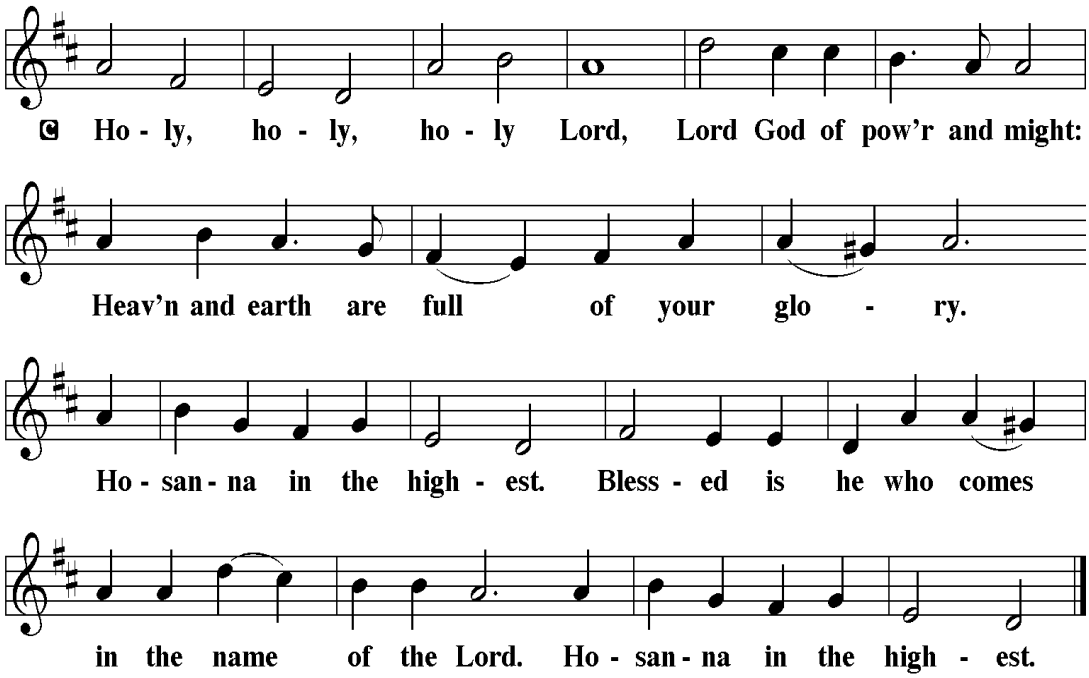
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

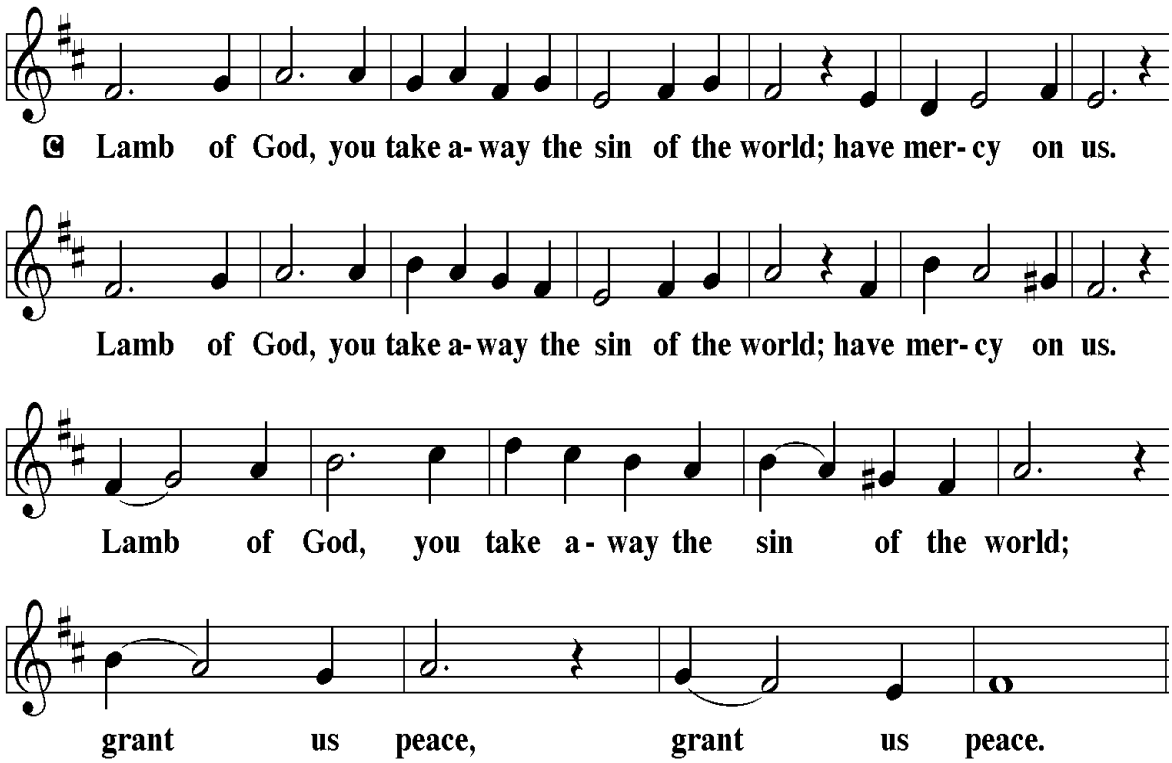
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

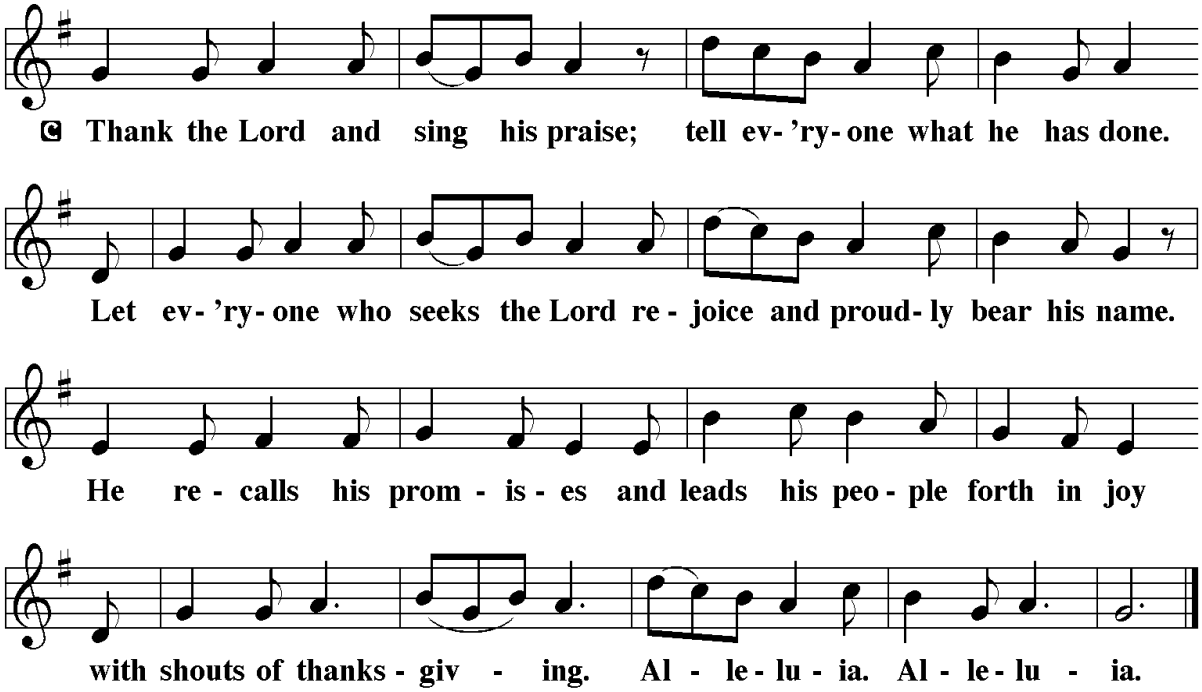
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

+570-971-9231 | EXITDOS@GMAIL.COM

Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

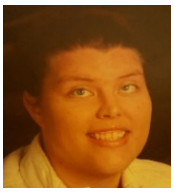
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak
eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

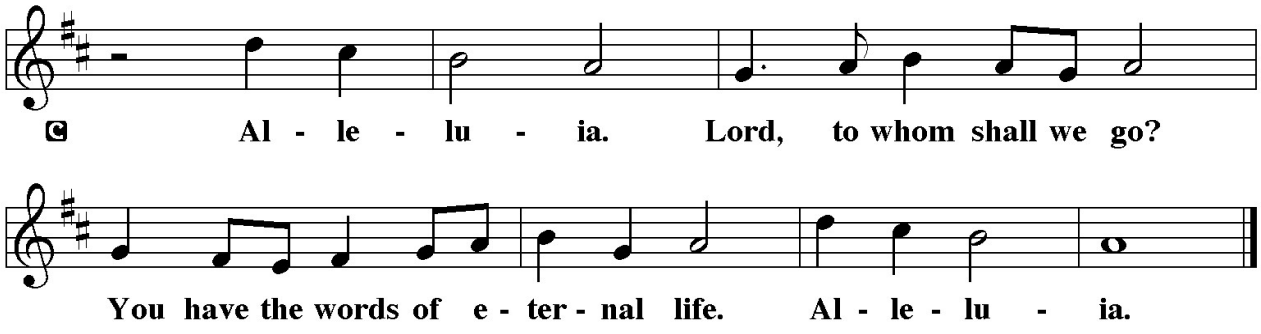
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

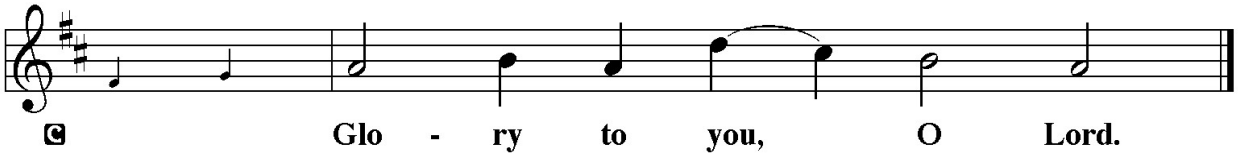
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



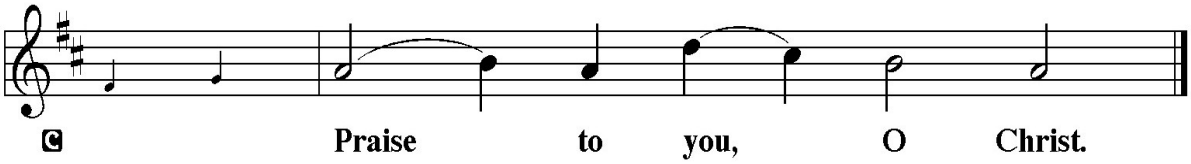
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against
me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to
him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

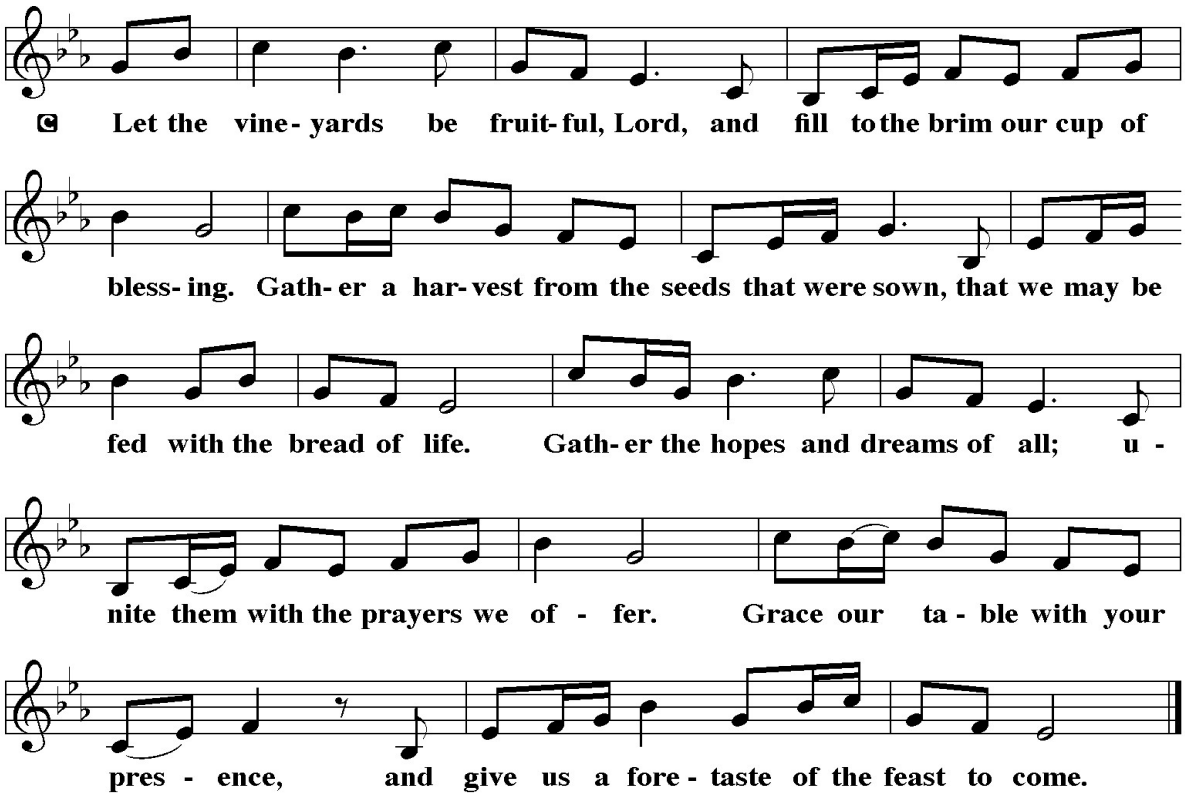
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



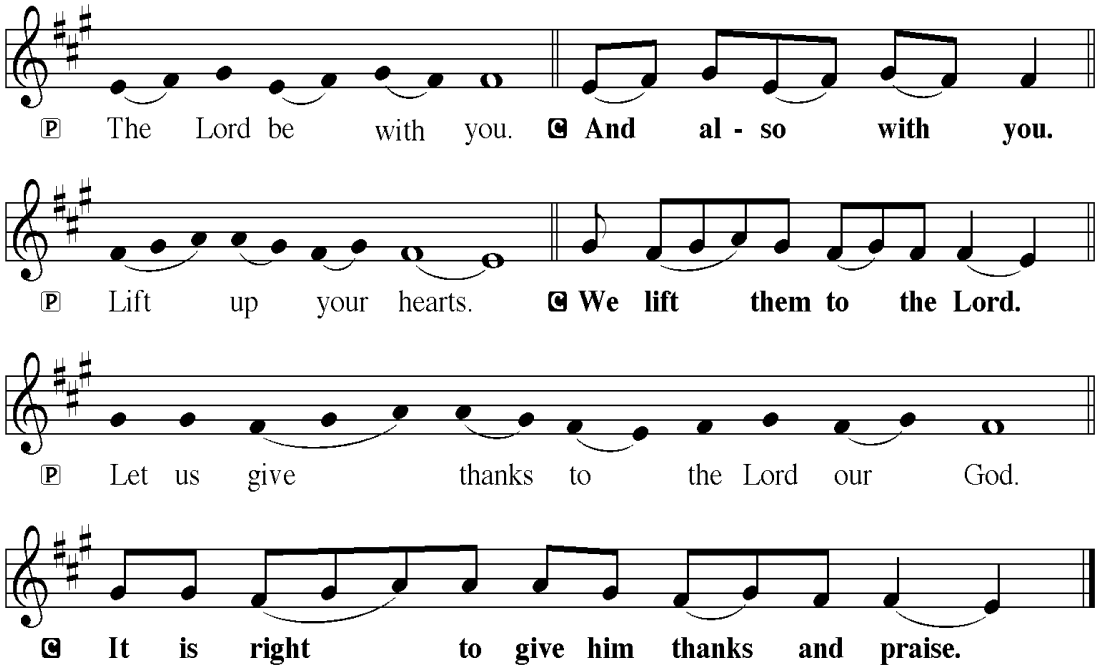
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

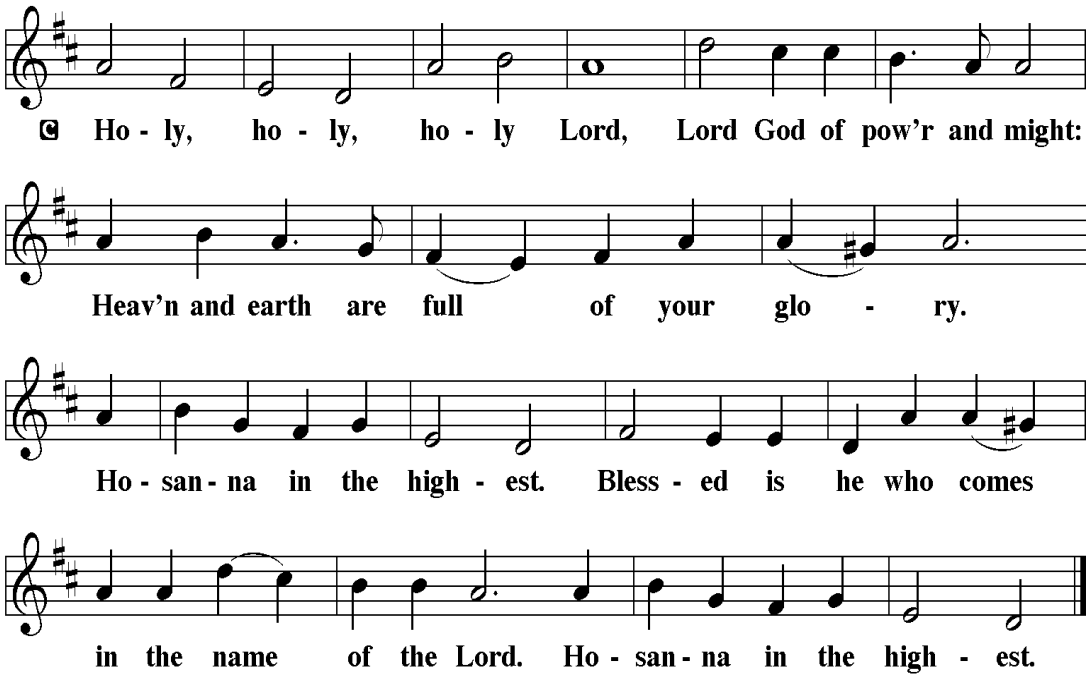
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

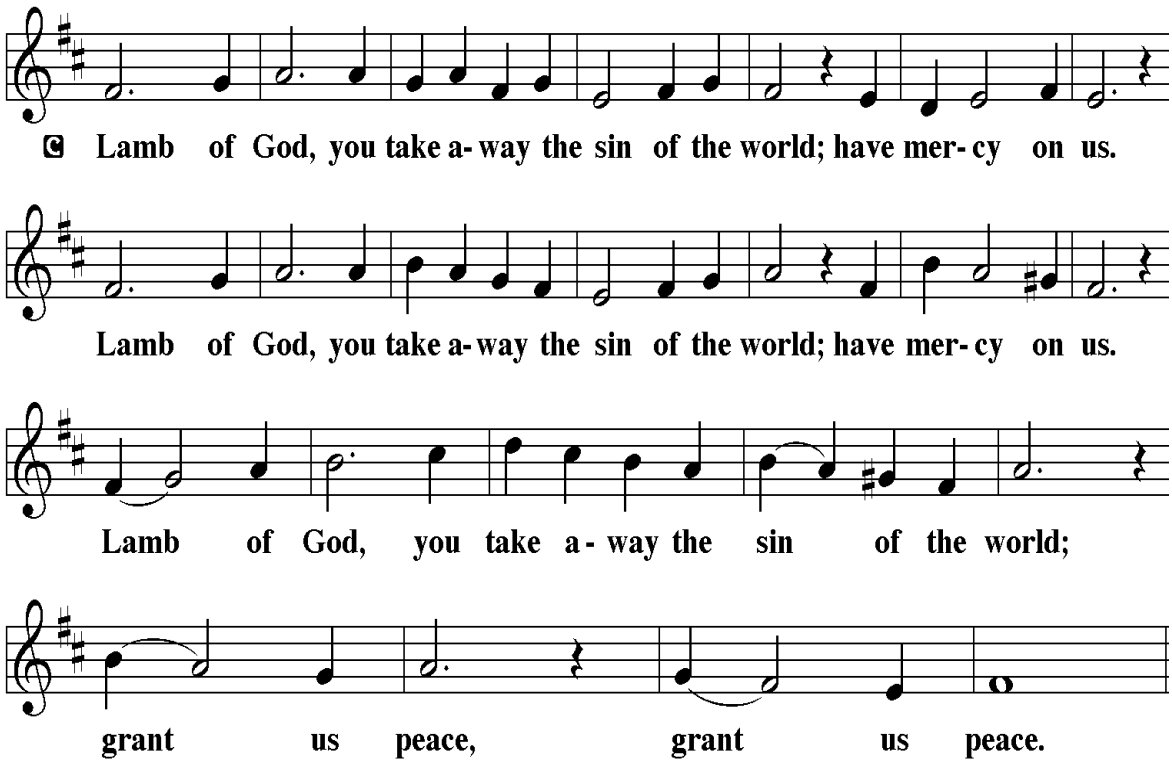
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

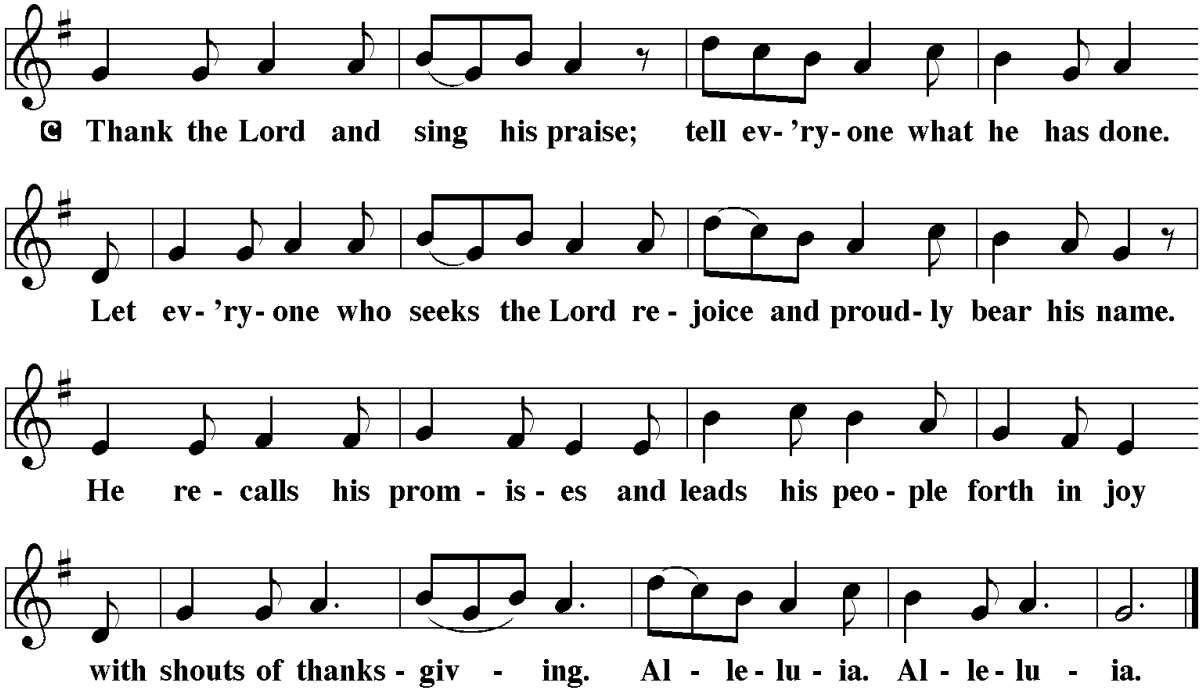
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

+570-971-9231 | EXITDOS@GMAIL.COM

Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

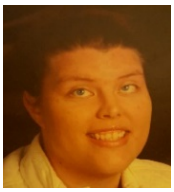
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come;* arr. by James Mansfield

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 527 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if
Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the
wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you,
forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your
father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? [20] Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. [21] So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: PSALM 103:1-13 ***(*read responsively:** light print-*cantor*,*
dark print-*congregation)*

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[1] Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.
[2] **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God’s benefits—
[3] who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
[4] **who redeems your life | from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
[5] who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.
[6] **O Lord, you provide | vindication**
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
[7] You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
[8] **Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
[9] you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
[10] **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
[11] For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
[12] **As far as the east is | from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak
eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God
has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who
observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the
Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for
the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

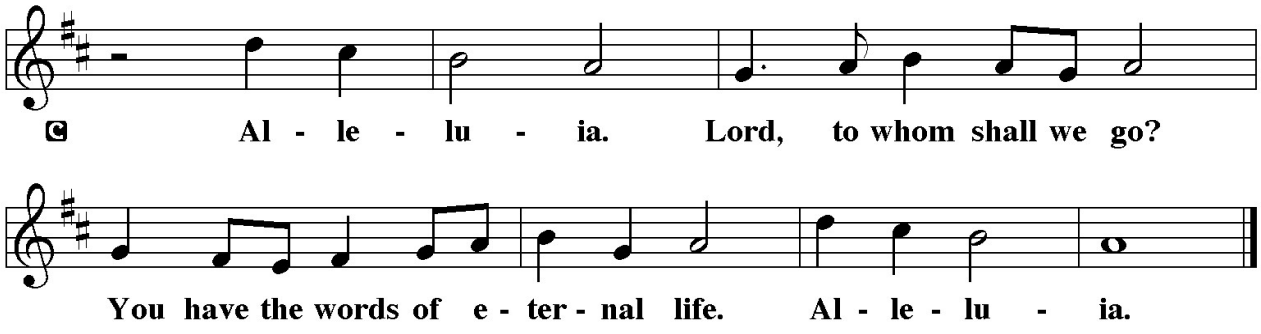
10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do
you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the
judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

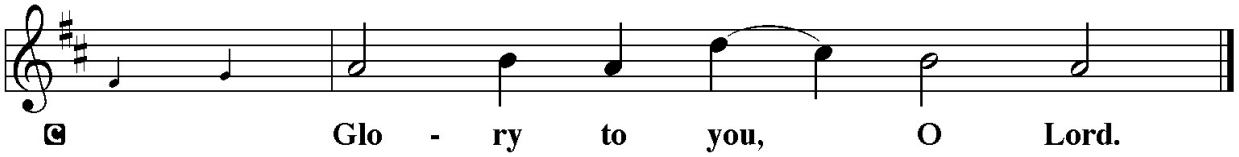
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Stand

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.



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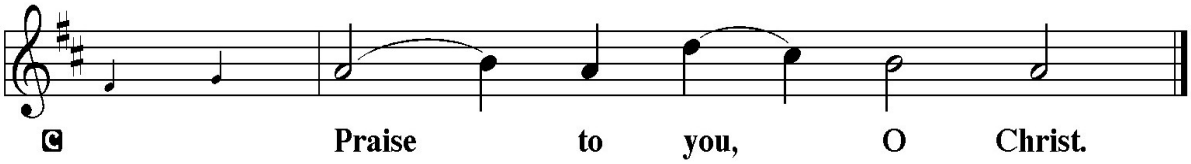
him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be
made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience
with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord
of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave,
as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a
hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you
owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and
threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow
slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord
summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that
debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on
your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed
him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your
brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

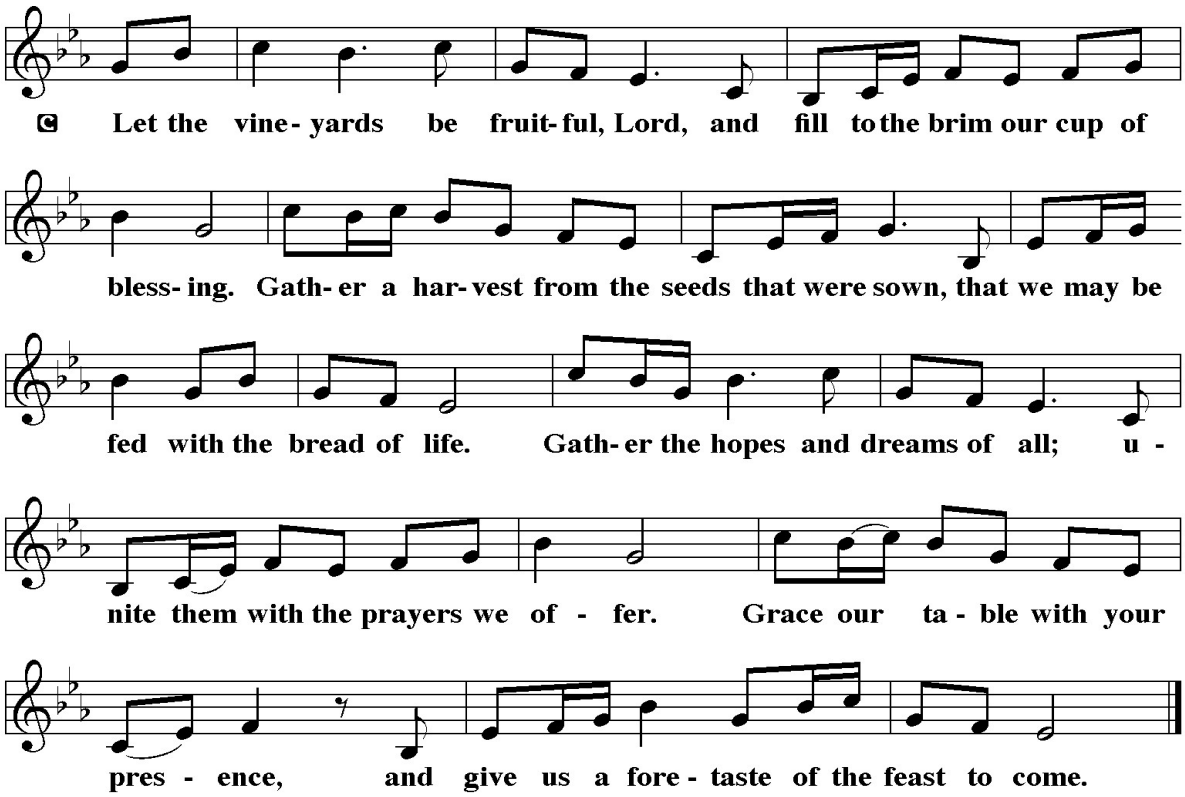
MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM – *(10:30): Feed My Lambs,* by Natalie Sleeth, featuring guest artists Erin Edmonds & Aegina Leidhecker, flute

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



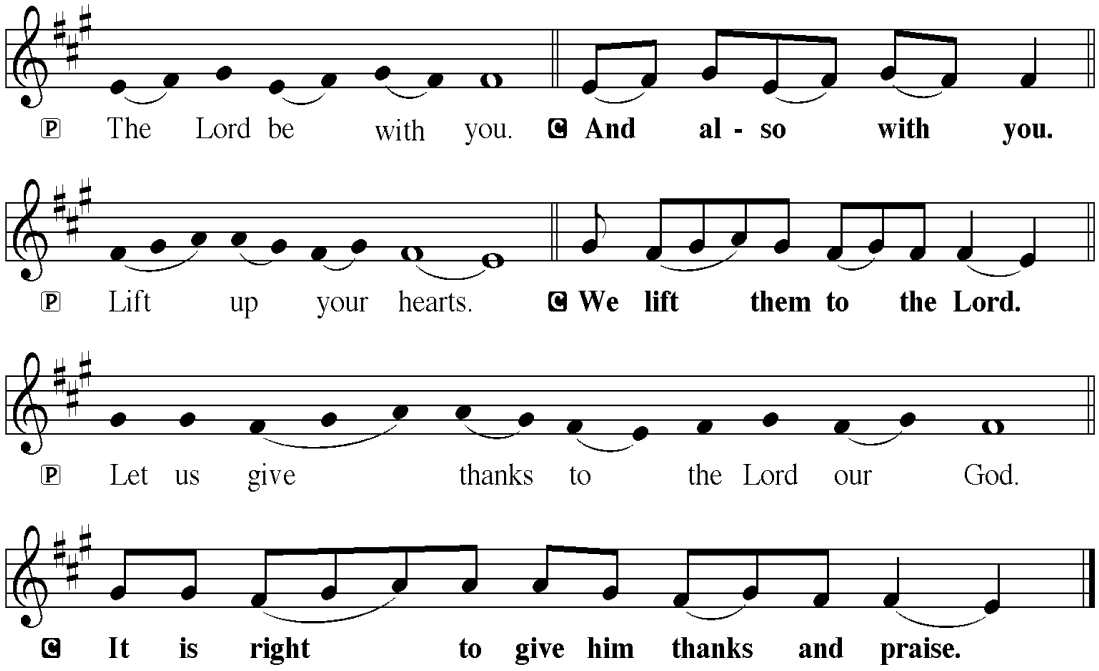
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

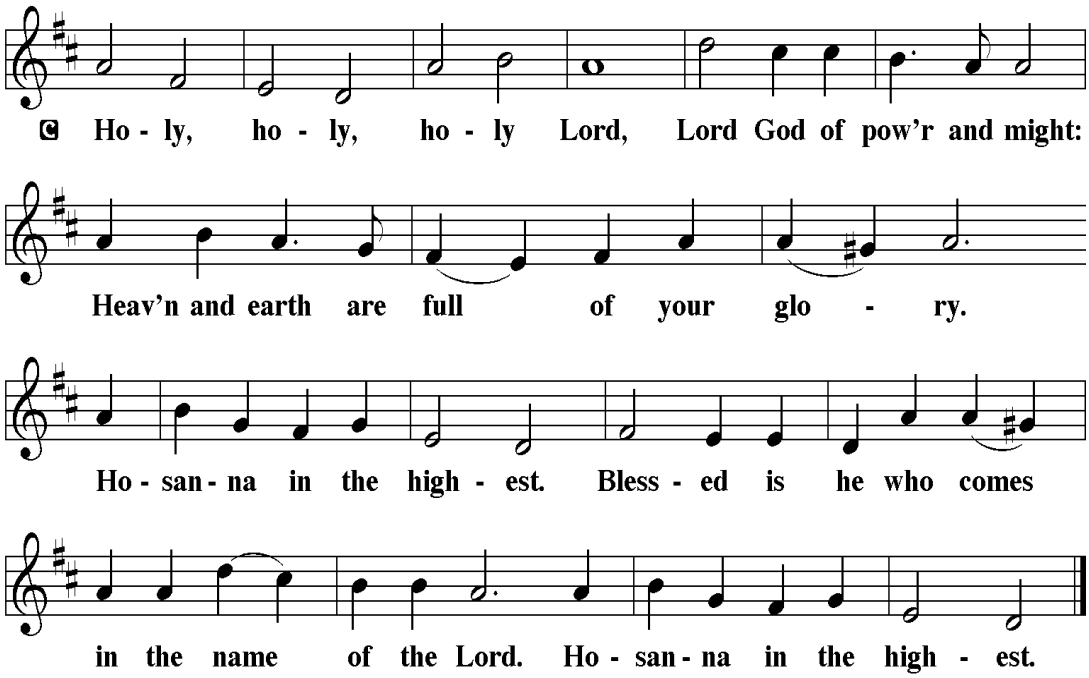
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

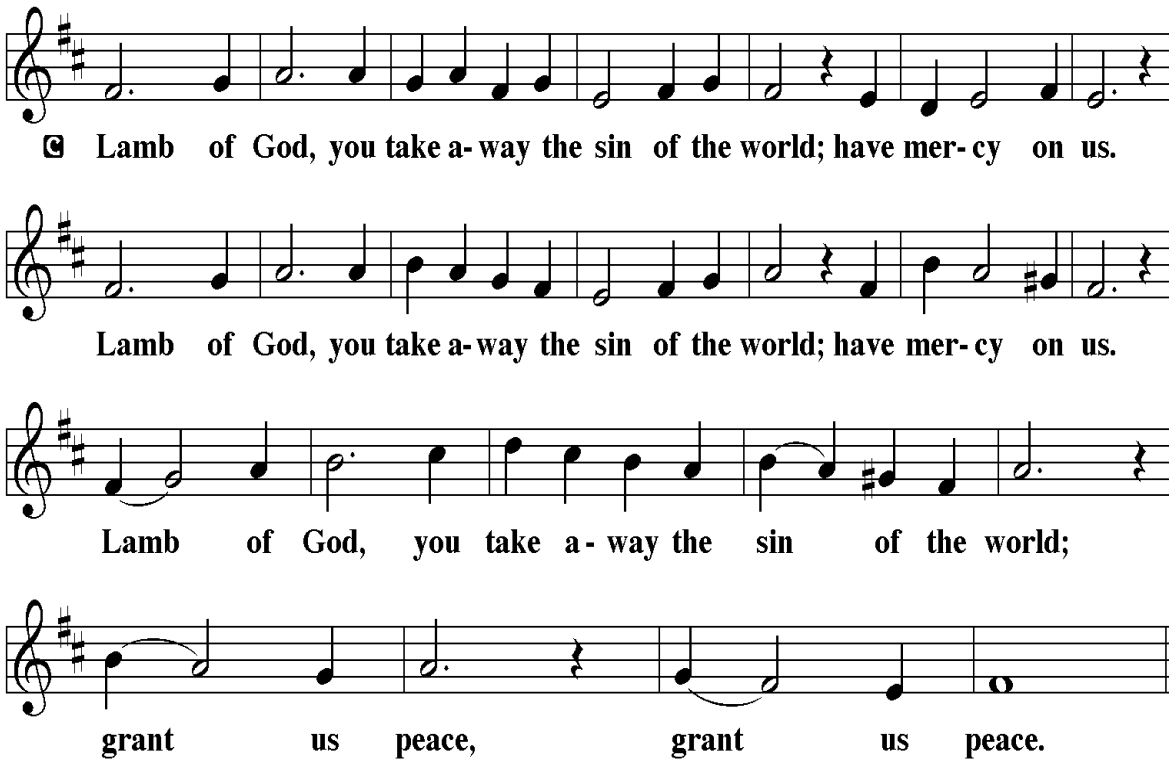
C Amen.

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

LAMB OF GOD *(Administrants commune)*



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.

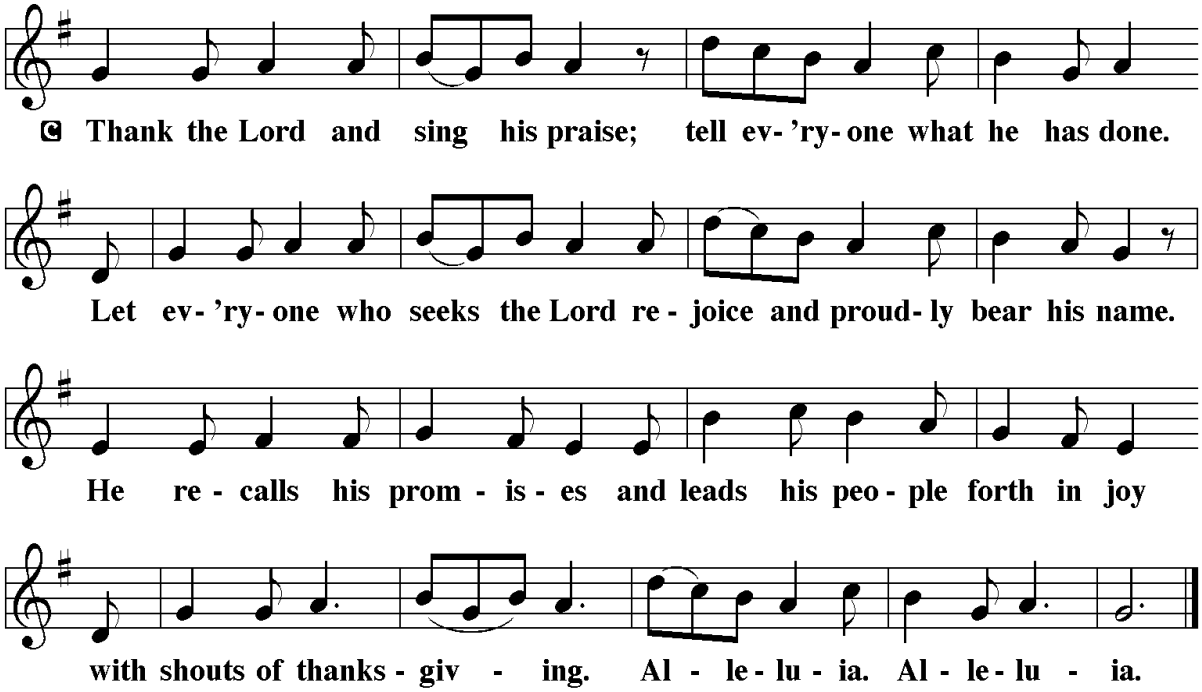
The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

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

C Amen

CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – *WOV 721 Go My Children, With My Blessing*

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,* setting by Larry D. Cook

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ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

*The **Altar** flowers are in honor of the birthday of our son-in-law, Tim Eygabroad, by Susan & David Horn.*

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Samuel Mahler and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Ben Foster (son of co-worker Rod Strother); Larry Chilson (friend of Becky & Jim Donnell); Cindy Keller (friend of Maria Daigle); Clark Pickard (friend of Maria Daigle); Declan Gregory (son of co-worker of Sandra Lentz Strother); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MOURNING:

- ✝ The loss of Sue Meyers (*friend of Kirk & Sondra Fisher)*
- ✝ The loss of Sharon Shick (*friend of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi)*
- ✝ The loss of Ocie Hoffman (*Cousin of Bill & Jeanne Yaggi*)

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

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

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Sept 13th THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LATE SERVICES RETURN TO 10:30AM & FALL FESTIVAL & KICKOFF

8:00AM – In-person Service
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Sept 13th – Nancy McCarty***; 20th – Nancy McCarty; 27th – Ed Kelley

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***SEPTEMBER – Cindy Belles*** ~ October – Jannine Monness

Assisting Ministers: ***Sept 13th – Marilyn Eshleman***; 20th – John McNassor; 27th – Charles Mahler

Lectors: ***Sept 13th – Kim Fremberg***; 20th – Melanie Taormina; 27th – Wilma Reeder

Communion Helpers ***Sept 13th – Janice Ogurcak***; 20th – Marilyn Eshleman; 27th – Hanne Schuman

Greeters: ***Sept 13th – Gerda LeCrone***; 20th – Hanne Schuman; 27th – Jan Matz

Ushers: ***Sept 13th – Hanne Schuman***; 20th – Terry Belles; 27th – Ruth Croyle

Acolyte ***Sept 13th – Lily Judge***; 20th – Daniel Taormina; 27th – Luke Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant ***Sept 13th – Brad Nason***; 20th – Dan Taormina; 27th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters ***Sept 13th – Sondra Fisher & Jannine Monness***; 20th – Pat Kelley & Janice Ogurcak; 27th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Sept 14th – Sept 19th

Sept 14th – 9:00AM – Sew Fine Quilters (9:00AM – 3:00PM)
– 7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Sept 15th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library
– 9:30AM – Shawl Ministry starting up
– 5:30PM – Finance/Support Meeting
Sept 16th – 7:00PM – Mutual Meeting in Library
Sept 17th – 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Sept 19th – 8:00AM – Scouts – Bell Hall (8:00AM – 2:00PM)

NEXT SUNDAY: Sept 20th – THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Late coffee hour after service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Come join the fun for our First Quilter work day making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us for our first work day on **Monday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! Lunch – Salad bar & Desserts. Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry resumes monthly crafting gatherings on **Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-Noon in the Lounge**. They will continue on the third Tuesday, September - May. All are welcome to join us as we knit and/or crochet shawls to bring comfort in times of suffering or need. Yarn, needles, patterns and lessons are available for beginners. Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN - 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.

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

GREETERS - Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.
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SERVING ***(Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants)*** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS - Items needed are of regular sizes **not trial size**: Deodorant (Women's), shampoo, soap (body & hand), Children's Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Q-tips, Band-Aids, Combs (men, women, children), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen. *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:

Granulated White Sugar	Boxed Potatoes
Small ketchups	Canned Pineapple
Wide Egge Noodles	Alfredo Sauce
Saltine & Ritz Crackers	Canned beets & white Potatoes
Pork & Beans and SPAM	Tea bags & Coffee
Ramen & Chicken Noodle Soup	Mandarin Oranges
Condiments (Ketchup, BBQ, Mayo,	Mustard, Mayo

Also, in need of: Plastic bags and egg cartons

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

DANIEL'S CLOSET - Seasonal clothing ***(no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers***. Seasonal clothing and accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.) are needed for all ages; infants, children, and adults. 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.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 10AM - 12PM

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

About Our Event:

Recycle Unwanted Electronics Safely and Securely

Items accepted are: Computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, servers, routers, firewalls, printers, CD players, radios and more. We do NOT accept: CRT TELEVISIONS or MONITORS, washers, dryers, microwaves, freon-related appliances such as air conditioners.

KVS Computers, the area's official R2 certified electronics recycler, will securely sanitize or destroy any hard drives.

$5 Minimum Donation — Help Support Scouts

- **NOW ACCEPTING FLAT SCREEN TV'S** -$20.00 per TV
- Bring your unwanted electronics to the **St Luke Church 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA**

KVS COMPUTERS

R2 v3 CERTIFIED

AMTIVO ISO 9001:2015 ISO 14001:2015 ISO 45001:2018 Certified

+570-971-9231 | EXITDOS@GMAIL.COM

Thirty-first

Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

begun by Dick Lakey
to support the patients & families
of Independent Dialysis Clinics

Sunday October 4, 2026
2:30 in the afternoon
St. Luke Lutheran Church
1400 Market St. Williamsport, PA (at Grampian Blvd.)

Performance by the Lycoming Low Brass Collective

An outreach of the Lycoming College music department, the Lycoming Low Brass Collective aims to serve our community through quality brass music played on Trombone, Euphonium or Tuba. This ensemble had previously performed at the St. Luke Dialysis Benefit concert in 2010, as well as First Friday Williamsport, Central Oak Heights, area elder care homes, the Williamsport Music Club and several concerts at Lycoming College. Prepare to be "blown away!"

Refreshments will follow the concert

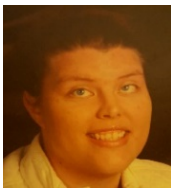
STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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 Newsletter **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/StLW