

St. Luke Lutheran Church

and

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Worshiping Together

February 23, 2025

Service of Holy Communion

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany





St. Luke Guiding Story and Mission:
The Road to Emmaus: Luke 24:13-35
As the Body of Christ, we proclaim the Gospel by
serving and doing God's will in a manner that
meets the needs of our changing world.

Welcome!

We are glad you have joined us today.

Visitors: please sign the visitor book
upon entering the sanctuary.

Guide to abbreviations:

P: spoken by the Pastor **C: Congregation responds**

WOV—With One voice— blue hymnal

LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship—green hymnal

* stand as you are able

On our website (stlukelutheran.org)
you can find current events and links to our online worship services.

Direct access to our online services:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran,

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@stlukeschaefferstownpa

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office@stlukelutheran.org www.st.lukelutheran.org

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of
our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.**

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen

Opening Hymn: Arise, Your Light Has Come! WOV 652

***Apostolic 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.

P: Let us pray...

***Prayer of the Day:** Please see Celebrate insert

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

Please see Celebrate insert

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40

Read responsively

Ministry of Music: Choir: Let Us Break Bread Together

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the sixth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel:** Luke 6:27-38

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: Be Thou My Vision

WOV 776

***Apostles' Creed:**

P: United by the Holy Spirit, let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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**

Please see Celebrate insert

***Passing the Peace:**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share his peace with one another.

(Congregation may share the peace with a gesture)

*Be Welcome...
and Worship
with US!*

***Offering Prayer:**

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:

our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ



***Great Thanksgiving:**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface for Epiphany:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan
you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine
he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.

***Eucharistic Prayer:**

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

P: God, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

*** Invitation to Communion**

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

***Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion:

All are welcome and encouraged to receive the forgiveness
and community that are given in the bread and wine. Come
forward as directed.

***Communion Blessing:**

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

C: Amen.

***Prayer After Communion**

P: Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
C: Amen.

SENDING

God sends us boldly into the world to share the good news

***Blessing:**

P: The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** How Good Lord, to Be Here

LBW 89

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Our worshipping community:

Pastor: Rev. Angela Hammer **Minister of Music:** Linda Holt

Ministers: The People of St. Luke

Worship Assistants: Karen Stump and Andrea McAllister

W.A. next week: Andrea McAllister

Today's Lay Reader: Donna Moyer

Lay Reader next week: Faith Thunberg

Seminarian Field Student: Wendy Harrison

Live Streaming Technician: William Hoffman

Technical Assistant: Beverly Hoffman

Attendance/Offering 2/16/25

In person: 25 Online Plays: 95 Offering: \$1,583

Ash Wednesday Service

March 5—7:00 PM at St. Luke

We welcome The Rev. Dr. Martin Otto-Zimmann who will be presiding and preaching on Ash Wednesday. He is the Senior Director of Kindling Faith at United Lutheran Seminary. In addition, he also serves as the Executive Director of the Stewardship of Life Institute and as Adjunct faculty in the area of Church in Society. He holds a PhD in American Culture Studies from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Previously, Martin helped shape the synodical partnership between the Southeast Michigan Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Holy Land and Jordan and has helped to organize several ELCA delegations to Jerusalem and the West Bank. In February of 2013, he served the English Congregation of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem and was assistant to former LWF President, Bishop Munib Younan for 1.5 years. He now lives in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with his wife, the Rev. Dr. Angela Zimmann. He is a sinner in the hands of a graceful God and an emotional support human to his dog, Violet.

This week at St. Luke

Sunday, February 23—Epiphany 7

- 8:30 AM Combined Service of Word and
Sacrament—Welcome St. Paul, Penryn
9:30 AM Coffee Hour
9:30 AM Forum with Wendy Harrison
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children)
5:30 PM-6:30 PM Community Free Meal

Tuesday, February 18

- 10:00 AM Band Together

Wednesday, February 19

- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 20

- 10:00 AM Band Together
11:30 AM-1:00 PM Community Free Meal
7:00 PM Book Club

Next Sunday, March 2—Transfiguration of Our Lord

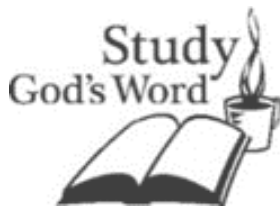
- 8:30 AM Service of Word and Sacrament
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children/Adults)
5:30 PM-6:30 PM Community Free Meal



NEWS IN OUR PEWS

Band Together: meetings Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00-11:00 AM in the Chapel. Contact Sue DeLong for additional information.

Beer & Bible: A Thursday evening monthly meeting for dinner, drinks, and conversation. Join us on March 20 and April 24 at 6:30PM. The location will be announced at a later date.



Bible Study—Thursday morning ZOOM: Join Pastor Angie online on Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM to explore the texts coming up for the Sunday lectionary. A ZOOM link will be emailed out the week of each study. Contact the church office to be added to the email. Upcoming dates are: March 13, 27, April 10 and April 24.

Book Club: Next meeting is on Thursday, February 27 at 7:00 PM in the Chapel. We will be discussing *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. All are invited to attend for a lively discussion. Please contact Richelle Deysher with any questions.



Choir Rehearsals – come share your musical gifts!

Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday at 7:00 PM.
Contact Linda Holt for more information.



Easter Lily orders: Orders for Easter Lily plants are due Sunday, March 30. The plants will have 5-6 blooms. Cost is \$15/each. Order forms are available in the narthex.



Ministry Emphasis for February: St. Luke Family Assistance Discretionary Fund (used for family emergencies) and the St. Luke Food Ministry.



Women of the ELCA: Meetings are on the second Monday of every month (excluding summer months). The meeting time is 7:00 PM in the Chapel. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Epiphany 7

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

LOVE YOUR
enemies?
LIVE
generously.
Luke 6:27-28

Prayers for:

Those who are ill, recovering, or shut-in, especially:

John Adams, Marilyn Adams, Claudia Addison, Brenda Boyer, Amanda Cupernall, Alexandria (Lexxi) Ditzler, Cathy Dunkelberger, Henry Fasnacht, Deb Glassmoyer, Peg Griffe, Kim Lenhart Hale, John Hassinger, Barbara Hehnly, Dean Hettinger, Lilly Higgins & Family, Richard and Nancy Hollen, Christopher Johnson (D Hettinger), Landon Kreider, Richard Leshner, Donald and Sue McClure, Steven McCracken, Casey McGarvey, Dana McKinney, Maureen Marinkov, Howard Moore, Brian Navarre, Kathy O'Roark, Ruth Parson, George Pastore, Ronald Ream, Lance Rhodes, Landon Rhodes, Al Shade, Barry Shriver, Lloyd Smith, Richard Strohl, Caitlyn, Gretta and Mike Stuber, Robert Todisco, Landis Wenger, Josephine Wenrich, Janet Wharton, Josie Williams, Eddie Wolfe, Marian Yoder, Ashton Zohn.

Those who are serving in the military, especially: David Deysher, Tyler Fleagle, Shane Gettler, Steven Ginder, Greg Rocker.

Congregations and ministries with whom we share mutual ministry:

The congregations and pastors of the Heidelberg Ministerium and Lebanon Conference, Agape House, Lebanon Co. Christian Ministries, Women's Shelter, Lancaster/Lebanon Habitat for Humanity, Lebanon Rescue Mission, Support Connections of Lebanon County, St. Paul's Penryn, Our Bishops: James S. Dunlop and Elizabeth Eaton and their staff.

The St. Luke Vision to Mission Team - Kit Ahnert, Richelle Deysher, Elaine Matternas, Scott Rights, and Todd Snyder.

Please notify the church office and Pastor Angie when the prayer chain is activated and for pastoral care & emergencies.

For revisions to the above list, please contact the church office

