



In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

For just as the body is one and has many members...so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.... If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 26). Because the worshipping members of Jerusalem have a significantly higher vaccination rate than our county that, together with new recommendations from the CDC and other church guidelines, has been prayerfully weighed by our leaders, along with the many different needs and wishes within our congregation. Therefore at this time as we emerge from the Covid pandemic we are worshipping in this way:

WELCOME

- **IN-PERSON WORSHIPERS**, please leave the first few spaces in the front parking lot for parking lot worshipers.
- **IN-PARKING LOT WORSHIPERS**, please park in the first few spaces closest to Dock Street and tune your radio to **90.1 FM**.
- **VISITORS**, we welcome you! In this uncertain time of a pandemic, we believe that grace-filled love of God made known in Jesus Christ, and proclaimed in scripture, prayer, and worship sustains us even now. We are glad that you are here with us, so that together, we all can receive the Good News of Jesus Christ, and then be strengthened in daily love for God and our neighbors.

LARGE PRINT WORSHIP binders are available in the church lobby.

HOLY COMMUNION

13th Sunday after Pentecost – August 22nd, 2021

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

570-385-2657 * www.jerusalemchurch.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

POLICIES ON MASKS AND DISTANCING

- Vaccinated people may choose whether or not to wear a mask.
- Unvaccinated people are expected to wear masks, and to seek inoculation if that is medically advisable.
- People without masks need to assume that people wearing masks will want a six-foot distance from others, unless the masked person welcomes a closer distance.
- People without masks can choose a comfortable distance from each other.
- We have lots of space in which to worship, so we can spread throughout the nave for each service, but we will continue to tape off alternating pews as a precaution for people who are masked and need distance.

CURRENT WORSHIP PRACTICES

- We will continue to offer parking lot worship, video recordings of the service, and mailings of the bulletin and sermon for people who cannot yet attend in-person worship.
- We are resuming congregational speaking and singing in the building.
- Hymnals will be available in the pew racks, and distributed to and collected from people worshipping in the parking lot.
- Large print worship binders are available inside at worship stations. Those worshipping in the parking lot can request large print from an usher.
- Wine and grape juice are once again being offered from the chalice inside, with intinction being offered outside.
- The offering plates will stay in the back for the time being, until our ushering volunteers are back in full force.
- Lectors, Assisting Ministers, Communion Assistants, Ushers, Sound Board people, and Acolytes are needed! If you have done this before, or would like to try something new, please contact the church office.

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GATHERING

PRELUDE

Open My Eyes

Beverly Kriner and Audrey Christ, piano/handbell duet

The bell rings calling us to worship.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Making Their Way

ACS # 979

GREETING


The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.


And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.




1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,




we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you


Refrain




for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-




est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.




2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -
 lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's
 peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -
 est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

The assembly inside is seated.

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ^{14c}Now therefore

revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 34:15-22

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are up- | on the righteous,
and God’s ears are open | to their cry.

¹⁶**The face of the LORD is against those | who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them | from the earth.**

¹⁷The righteous cry, and | the LORD hears them
and delivers them from | all their troubles.

¹⁸**The LORD is near to the | brokenhearted
and saves those whose spir- | its are crushed.**

¹⁹Many are the troubles | of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from | every one.

²⁰**God will keep safe | all their bones;
not one of them | shall be broken.**

²¹Evil will bring death | to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous | will be punished.

²²O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness.

¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of

salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly inside stands to welcome the gospel.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

John 6:56-69

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about

with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

James Covert

SERMON

Pastor David Rowe

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

492

The assembly inside stands. All proclaim the word of God in song.

APOSTLES CREED

We confess our faith with the whole church using the ancient baptismal creed that summarizes the teaching of the scripture and the apostles.

**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 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

As a local assembly of believers, we pray for the whole world and church, as well as our local congregation and neighborhood.

Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Give comfort to the people of Haiti devastated by yet another earthquake. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of compassion, bless all who are sick or in need of care, especially all whom we now raise in prayer before you.... Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence. Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. We remember especially people of Afghanistan endangered by the Taliban, refugees seeking safety, and our military as it tries to provide a safe place Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community. Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us ELCA Vice President William Horne. Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

We greet each other with a nod or gesture of Christian fellowship from a distance, and we also invite you to text or email a word of peace to someone.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANTHEM

Be Still My Soul

Roy Hopp

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister invites the assembly to give thanks.

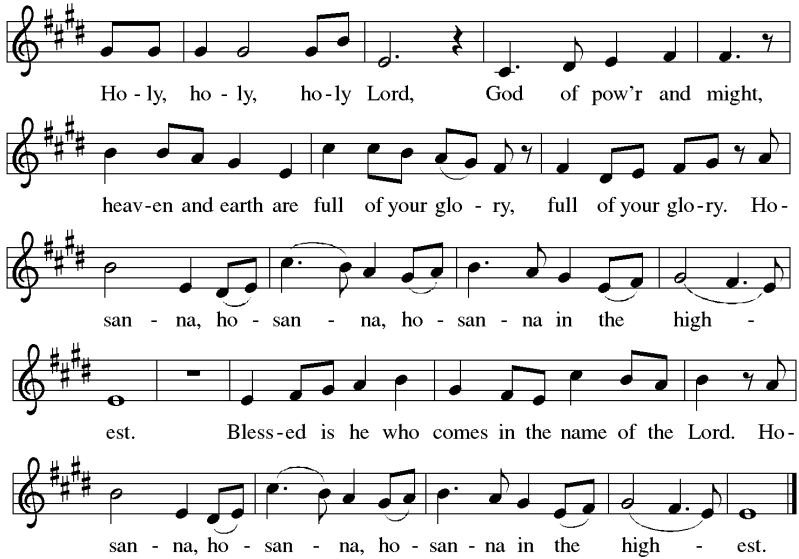
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues with the communion preface; and then the assembly responds with the "Holy, Holy, Holy".



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

The thanksgiving concludes:

. . . to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

INSIDE WORSHIPERS:

During this time as we emerge from the pandemic we continue to follow ecumenical safety guidelines. Ushers will dismiss you by pew, then please give people wearing masks a six-foot distance as you approach the altar by the center aisle. Please take an empty glass if you wish to receive wine, or a glass prefilled with grape juice. The pastor, who has thoroughly disinfected his/her hands will place the consecrated wafer into your outstretched palms so that you may receive the body of Christ. Then proceed to one of the chalices where the wine will be poured, or where you will drink the prefilled glass. There the communion assistant will declare the blood of Christ given for you. Those not receiving Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a no-touch blessing.

OUTSIDE WORSHIPERS:

The Lord's Supper will be brought to those outside by a Communion Assistant, who will use an intinction set so that the consecrated wafer can be dipped in the grape juice, in order to receive the loving body and blood of Christ.

COMMUNION HYMN

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

ACS # 966

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly may be seated.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

Students, teachers, faculty, and staff will receive a blessing as a new school year starts.

BLESSING

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
‡ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

O Jesus, I Have Promised

810

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may leave immediately after the dismissal, or those wishing to stay to listen to the full prelude may leave later.

POSTLUDE

I Am the Bread of Life

Ron Schmoltz

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PRAYER LIST

Joyce Freed, Shirley Foose, Lee Miller, Joanna Sirianni Edwards, Ed Freed, Pauline Crawshaw, Karen Tropp, Diane Buffington, Jack Harnock, Marie Harnock, Keith Shoener, Tom Gerber, Kelly Carl, Cheryl Feeser, Leslie R., Mary Beth (Krater) Dinneen, Sam Huff, Stewart Haver, Sue Sigler, Donna Evans, Joan Heckrote, Robert Schwartz, Craig Bracken, David Huff, Paul Calderone, Nicholas LaScala, Gail Kunkel, Lee Llewellyn, Dennis Heydt, Caroline Eister, Jeanette Stine, Christopher Payonk, Seth Ney, Renee Shade, Ben Moyer, Gaylene Ebling, Wally Foose, Craig Heffner, Jane Deibert, Judy Reihman, Tom Cook, Sylvia Edling, Joe Dewald, Ronald Bromwell, Lisa Weiser, Janest Yost, Anna Mae Berger, Madge Miller, Kathleen Kelleher, Melissa Focht, Jason Brown, Teagan Brown, Brenda Phillips, Family of Keith Ramsey, Cecelia Kacmar, Melanie Hart, Janice Moore, Christie O'Dell, John Cooper, Florence Shay, Clarence Zweizig, Melvin Rodriguez & family, Dorothy Moyer, JoAnn Baker Copley, Carlene Wenner, Christy Deaton Stocks, Maria Motto, Katharine Macnutt, Peter Spontak, Kim O'Donnell, Leslie Wagner, Mateo Thomas, Barry Heffner, Phyllis Trinca Czech, Ed Sirianni, Stephen Edwards, Lester Aungst III, Christa Miller, Jim Heisler, Cathy Covach-Hale, Rev. Bruce MacLaughlin, Nancy Blank, Mary Miller, Rose Martin-Fuls, Earle Kull, Trent Johnson, Roy Stump, Nancy Cooper, Dave Reager

Those with Long-term health issues:

Bonnie Jean Foose, Michelle Ochenrider, Rich & Sandy Moyer, Ethan Yost, Elizabeth Taylor, Carol Landes, Maureen Moyer, Janice Barr, Donna Direnzo, Jim Musico, John Krater, Fawn Goodman, Bob Yanek, Rebecca Marshall, Sapphire Schaeffer, Mark Wyllie, Krysta Kolbe, Shirley Emrich, Mark Noecker, Anna Heffner, David Wise, Joan Steficek, Bill Everly, Donna Leashefski, Florence Clemens, Sara Berger, Chuck Copley, Jeff Kamar, Mary Sewalt, Pat Thomas, Nathan Resch, Casey Watson, Linda Bonfiglio-Boyer, Gemma Geary, Harold & Fay Sausser

Those serving in the Armed Forces:

Major Michael Shay, Staff Sgt. Joseph Moyer, Senior Airman Matthew Nettles, Airman Jackie Nettles, 2nd LT Heather Strouse, Sgt. Travis D. Miller, Sgt. Anthony Cooper, Private 3rd Class Caleb Levan

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR TODAY

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Ministers	Karen Ochenrider	Phil Kriner
Lectors	Lou Messina	Beverly Kriner
Communion Assistants	Mary Rowe	Lloyd Wertz
Ushers	Bill Shay	Frank Mahoney
	Conner Roeder	Jane Mahoney
Sound Board	Paul Boyer	Rachel Kramer
Children's Sermon	Jim Covert	
Video Recorder	Joanne Wertz	
Counters	Lou Messina, Rob Baessler, and Janet Sattizahn	

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Ministers	Ellayna Boyer	Linda Covert
Lectors	Laurie Bedford	James Covert
Communion Assistants	Mary Rowe	Rebekah CdeBaca
Ushers	John Macnutt	Mark Conville
	Donald Nettles	Sheila Conville
Sound Board	Melissa Boyer	Rachel Kramer
Children's Sermon		?
Video Recorder		Mary Rowe
Counters	Linda Collins and Rob Baessler	

THE FLOWERS IN THE ALTAR VASES are to the Glory of God, and are wishes for a Happy Birthday to Karen (74) and Rob Baessler (75). Love, Holly, Todd, Andy, and Nicole.

WHEN YOU ARE VACCINATED, please share that information with us. Since we last asked several months ago when your responses indicated that an overwhelming number of people who gather for worship have been vaccinated, we have more people return to worship while the eligibility for the vaccine has broadened. If you have not told us you are vaccinated, please use the tear-off slip in the bulletin and turn it in. *Only through a vast majority of vaccinated worshippers will we be able to continue to worship without masks, sing throughout worship, and protect our children and young people not yet able to receive an inoculation, during this time when the covid variant and too many unvaccinated people are causing a surge in sickness.*

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WILL BE BLESSED WITH PRAYER during both services today, before returning to school next week. During this uncertain time of pandemic, let us also give support and prayer to them throughout the year.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION will resume on Sunday, September 12, at 9:15. The adult class will begin the year with Manna and Mercy, and over overview of God's love throughout the scriptures.

WE'LL BE KICKING OFF our God's Work, Our Hands project TODAY! After each worship service, we will enjoy a beverage, mini muffins, and, sure, some ice cream, too, we'll share our plans on participating in World Clean up Day! Consider being a team leader and gathering a group of friends, family, or whomever you wish, to walk around town and clean up trash. All who participate will be given gloves, a reflective vest, and trash bags. World Clean up Day is set for Saturday, September 18, 2021. Every little bit helps....because together we are making our world a better place! Please see Linda to let her know that you would like to form your own clean up team!

FIVE EASY STEPS IN BECOMING A FANTASTIC WORLD CLEAN UP DAY TEAM LEADER:

1. Ask people to be on your clean up team. Teams consist of 2 or more people.
2. Give your team a name. Be silly....be creative!
3. Choose an area in the community that you will pick up trash.
4. Get complimentary supplies (gloves, reflective vests, and trash bags) from Social Ministry Committee for each of your team members.
5. Have fun and know you are making a difference in Schuylkill County.

FLOWER SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE! If you would like to sponsor flowers for **Sunday, September 5th** and have the Altar Vases in honor of or in memory of someone special, please contact the church office, (570) 385-2657.

THANK YOU for the calls, visits, cards, and prayers during my transition to Luther Ridge. Sincerely, Nancy Blank (To send Nancy a card, mail to: Nancy Blank, Luther Ridge, 160 Red Horse Road, Rm 111, Pottsville, PA 17901.)

PLEASE READ THE PRAYER LIST. If there are names that should be removed please contact the church office. Thank you!

THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN WITNESS in Schuylkill Haven will be celebrated in the fall. From the first service of Holy Communion in November of 1821, several Lutheran congregations, a number of pastors and leaders, and most importantly succeeding generations of Lutheran Christians have been, and will continue to be witnesses and servants to the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the area. If you would like to help plan the celebration that will both remember the past and continue to point us into God's future, please see Deb Reed or Pastor Rowe. Food and fellowship, remembrance and thanksgiving, witness and service into the fall!

ST. JOHN'S UCC IN SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, located at the corner of Dock St. and Main St. will be hosting a free winter clothing give away on October 23rd (Oct. 30 rain date) from 9:00am – noon. If anyone would like to contribute clean, gently used clothing for this mission...the items can be dropped off at St. John's Church any Tuesday or Thursday from 9:30 am till 3:00 pm. Or on October 7th & 14th from 5:00 till 7:00 pm. Thanks!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

TODAY	8:00am Worship
	9:00am God's Work, Our Hands Kick-off
	10:30am Worship
	11:30am God's Work, Our Hands Kick-off
MONDAY	11:00am Worship & Music Committee Meeting in Library
TUESDAY	11:00am Coronavirus Task Force Meeting
	7:30pm Anniversary Committee Meeting
WENESDAY	6:30pm Choir Rehearsal
	7:00pm Property Committee Meeting



ELCA mourns death of Vice President Bill Horne

CHICAGO (August 17, 2021) – William "Bill" Horne II, vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), died Aug. 14 of a suspected heart attack. Horne was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Clearwater, Fla. He served as city manager of Clearwater since 2001.

"Bill was a man of absolute integrity and a deep, living faith in the grace and love of Jesus. Bill embodied the Lutheran understanding of vocation as husband, father and city manager," said ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

Horne was elected vice president by the 2016 ELCA Church wide Assembly. The position is the highest a layperson can hold in the ELCA, and in this role Horne presided over the ELCA Church Council. In his reports to the council, he often spoke of his practice of meditating on the Sunday lessons "to hear what God is up to in my life, and how I might apply the word to my work vocation and daily walk with my congregation, family and neighbors."

Horne loved Christ's church. He was invited by a Lutheran Air Force chaplain to be part of the community and never looked back. He was active in his congregation and sang in the choir. He also had served as the vice president of the Florida-Bahamas Synod and on the ELCA Church Council as a member and, these past five years, as the ELCA vice president. "Bill was energized by being the church wide representative to synod assemblies. His leadership was strong, thoughtful and wise," Eaton said.

Following his election in 2016, Horne told the assembly, "Brothers and sisters, I love this church. I love you. We have a lot of work to do, and I know that our dedication and our commitment to each other and our hard work will make the ELCA what God wants us to be."