



The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

WELCOME MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND VISITORS.

Individuals need to follow healthy hygiene practices, stay at home when sick, practice physical distancing to lower the risk of disease spread, and use a cloth face covering... in community settings when physical distancing cannot be maintained. These universal precautions are appropriate regardless of the extent of mitigation needed. [The Center for Disease Control] Therefore out of love for one another as part of the Body of Christ, we will all wear masks, stay six feet away from other households, sanitize our hands, refrain from singing, and speak together very quietly only for the Lord's Prayer and Apostles' Creed. The louder we speak, the more potential viral spread there would be, even from behind masks."

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

13th Sunday after Pentecost – August 30, 2020

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

570-385-2657 * www.jerusalemchurch.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young

The bell rings calling us to worship.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands and faces the baptismal font. 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,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

**We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.**

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

**We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.**

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us;

through your love, renew us;

and in your Spirit, lead us;

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy

we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus,

through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

Our sins are forgiven.

Let us live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts

through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world.
Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow
your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 15:15-21

The assembly is seated.

¹⁵O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;

know that on your account I suffer insult.
¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.

²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-28

The assembly stands for the gospel.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you."

²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor David Rowe

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Will You Come and Follow Me

798

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

- 1 "Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?
- 2 "Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?
- 3 "Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?
- 4 "Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"

- 5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

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APOSTLES CREED

Spoken together quietly enough not to wake a baby, in order to share as little airborne virus as possible from community speaking. 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.

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

God of faithfulness, you bid your people to follow Jesus in the way of the cross. Set the mind of your church on divine things. Grant us trust in you, that we may lose our lives for the sake of Christ and thereby discover joy in life through him. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of wonder, the earth is yours, and yet even You grieve when creation inflicts pain on humanity. Raise up responders for the gulf coast in the aftermath of hurricane Laura to respond to the loss of life and property. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of all nations, you call us to live peaceably with all. Give us ears to hear one another, even those we name as enemies. Fill all leaders with mercy and understanding that they may advocate and care for those who are poor and most vulnerable in their communities. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of salvation, you promise to deliver us. Give those who suffer a strong sense of your presence and love. Accompany those who are uncertain, give wisdom and comfort during the covid pandemic, raise the spirits of those who are despairing, and heal the sick, especially all whom we now raise in prayer before you... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of community, you call us to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer. Make our congregation a community centered in Christ's love. Help us overcome evil with good. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of all grace, you give us everlasting life. In love we recall your holy ones who now live in your undying light. In our remembering, give us a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

The presiding minister invites the assembly to give thanks.

We thank you, O God, for your life-giving Word,
for calling creation into being,
declaring forgiveness from the cross,
and delivering the spirit of rebirth.

We praise you, O God, for your Word:
we praise you, O God, for your Word.

Your word is a lamp lighting our path,
a mirror reflecting our selves,
a shield providing us refuge,
a fire burning for justice and truth.

Your word is sweeter than honey:
it nourishes our bodies like milk,
it sustains your people like bread.

We receive your promises, more treasured than gold.
We bless you, O God, for your Word:
we bless you, O God, for your Word.

Open our ears to your prophets, apostles, and saints,
and to all the cries of the needy.
Breathe into your church the mighty Spirit of Christ,
that heeding your voice of beauty and power
we are strengthened to serve wherever we are called.

To you, Father, Son, and Spirit – the Source, Word, and Breath --
we offer our thanks for your life-giving Word:
we offer our thanks for your life-giving Word.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Spoken together quietly enough not to wake a baby, in order to share as little airborne virus as possible from community speaking.

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.**

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 who cannot be here! Yes, now is the time to use our phones in church, on silent of course!

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

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 assembly stands. The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

551

- 1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.
- 2 We go to comfort those who mourn
and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream
and help the blind to see.
- 3 We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.
- 4 Then let us go to serve in peace,
the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Allegro

Arcangelo Corelli

OFFERING

You may drop your offering in the plates as you leave. If you are worshipping at home, please mail your offering to Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA. Or you can drop it through the slot in the door at the back, office entrance of the church building.

To avoid crowding and therefore lessening the six-foot physical distance, we ask you to leave starting from the front pews to the back. If you and others feel comfortable, you can continue fellowship conversation in the lobby and outside with masks from a safe distance.

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MINISTRY NEWS

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, Charles Gurski, 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, Kenny Noecker, Nancy Reese, David Huff, Paul Calderone, Nicholas LaScala, Gail Kunkel, Lee Llewellyn, Dennis Heydt, Caroline Eister, Jeanette Stine, Christopher Payonk, Gemma Geary, Seth Ney, Renee Shade, Cathy Hale, Ben Moyer, Gaylene Ebling, Wally Foose, Craig Heffner, Jane Deibert, Judy Reihman, Tom Cook, Sylvia Edling, Joe Dewald, Ronald Bromwell, Carla Zelinsky, Lisa Weiser, Janest Yost, Anna Mae Berger, Madge Miller, Kathleen Kelleher, Ron Gill, Melissa Focht, Jason Brown, Teagan Brown, Brenda Phillips, Family of Keith Ramsey, Cecelia Kacmar, Lois Pavelko, Edith Kriner, Melanie Hart, Janice Moore, Christie O'Dell, John Cooper, Florence Shay, Clarence Zweizig, Jayden Leiby, Melvin Rodriguez & family, Dorothy Moyer, Bruce Stees, JoAnn Baker Copley, Deanna Carl, Linda Bonfiglio-Boyer, Carlene Wenner, Christy Deaton Stocks, Maria Motto, Katharine Macnutt, Peter Spontak, Nancy Cooper, David and Angela Weiser, Heather Boyer

Those with Long-term health issues:

Bonnie Jean Foose, Michelle Ochenrider, Rich & Sandy Moyer, Ethan Yost, Elizabeth Taylor, Carol Landes, Maureen Moyer, Karen Cockill, Janice Barr, Donna Drenzo, Jim Musico, John Krater, Fawn Goodman, Bob Yanek, Rebecca Marshall, Sapphire Schaeffer, Mark Wyllie, Krysta Kolbe, Shirley Emrich, Kathrine Smiley, Mark Noecker, Anna Heffner, David Wise, Joan Stefich, Bill Everly, Donna Leashefski, Florence Clemens, Sara Berger, Chuck Copley, Jeff Kamar, Mary Sewalt, Pat Thomas, Nathan Resch, Casey Watson

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 Minister	Mary Rowe	Linda Covert
Cantor	Mary Rowe	Brenda Searle
Guides	Faith Batz	Frank Mahoney
	Anita Vickers	Don Boyer
	Don Nettles	Lloyd Wertz
Acolyte	Ellayna Boyer	Marla Freiwald
Sound Board	Melissa Boyer	Rick Heckrote
Altar Guild	Karen Ochenrider	
Counters	Linda Collins, Melissa Boyer, and Rob Baessler	

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Minister	Beverly Kriner	Lloyd Wertz
Cantor(s)	Philip & Beverly Kriner	Lloyd Wertz
Guides	Joy Heffner	Frank Mahoney
	Bill Shay	Jane Mahoney
Sound Board	Paul Boyer	Gary Reager
Altar Guild	Alberta Hudson & Linda Collins	
Counters	Linda Collins, Deb Reed, and Marie Shay	

WEEKLY NEWS

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S CANTORS: 8:00 am – Mary Rowe & 10:30 am – Brenda Searle.

COUNTERS FOR MONDAY, August 31st are Linda Collins, Melissa Boyer, and Rob Baessler.

MUSIC NEWS. The organ pipe repainting project is nearing! The pipes will be taken out on September 21st, and replaced the following weekend. The next guest musician will be on Sunday, September 13th at the 10:30 am service featuring Audrey's daughter, Lauren Christ, on marimba playing Bach.

PRAYER AND BLESSING FOR STUDENTS, TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND SCHOOL STAFF will be offered during worship today. A small cross that can be carried throughout the day will also be offered. Please spread the word to people who cannot be here on Sunday that prayer cards and crosses may also be picked up in front of Jerusalem on Wednesday, September 2, from 2:45-4:30. We have ordered extras, so that beginning September 2 family, friends and neighbors can also pick up prayer cards and crosses as this most unusual and difficult school year begins... and of course, let us pray for them all throughout the year as well.

FACE MASKS with A MESSAGE, and to BUILD CAMARADERIE! Four patterns are available – Lutheran's seal, "human - kind be both", "Choose Kind", and "Little Lutheran." Supplies are limited on Little Lutheran, but human kind and Choose Kind are available in both adult and youth sizes. Please see the descriptions on the table for each mask

for further details. We are selling them below cost for \$8 each. See samples and order form in the lobby.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATE! Classes for children and youth will begin in October after a month of the new school year, either in-person or virtually, depending on our county Covid rate and governmental guidelines. We look forward to bringing our younger disciples into relationship with faithful adults, and teaching them the language and stories of faith.

YOU'RE INVITED TO VIEW the ELCA "Thank You" video for the Mission Support received during the time of the Coronavirus pandemic. To view the video visit: nepasynod.org then click the "resources" tab scroll down to click on "mission support" and finally scroll down to click on the link that reads "ELCA 'Thank You' for Mission Support."

SCHUYLKILL HAVEN FOOD PANTRY UPDATE. Due to the impact of the pandemic we find ourselves in at the present time, food donations are falling behind. We ask that you place your donations of canned goods in the shopping cart provided in the lobby. You can also stop by the church from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Monday through Friday with your food donation. At the present time we are in need of juice, corn, green beans, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, rice, fruit, peas, beans, potatoes, or almost anything else you can think of in canned, or boxed form that does not need refrigeration. Thank You in advance for your donations.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS 2020. From now until September 6, we will join forces with Lutheran World Relief's Covid-19 Response by donating funds to help stop the spread of the coronavirus. Please consider choosing one or more of the following options:

1. \$10.00 will purchase a personal hygiene kit.
2. \$25.00 will purchase 25 face masks.
3. \$75.00 will purchase emergency medical supplies.

Make your check payable to Jerusalem Lutheran Church and indicate in the memo line which option you would like to donate to. Together, we are making our community and our world a better, safer place!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to join the Childcare Committee. We are looking for two church members or childcare parents who would like to serve on the committee. Meetings are held once a month. Please see Deb Reed if you are interested.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

<i>TODAY</i>	8:00am Worship 10:30am Worship
<i>MONDAY</i>	Virtual Worship Resources available on website, YouTube, & Facebook Fall Newsletter Deadline
<i>TUESDAY</i>	5:30pm Child Care Staff Meeting 7:00pm Endowment Committee Meeting (via Zoom)
<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	7:00pm Faith and Families Ministry Facebook Live 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting
<i>THURSDAY</i>	3:30pm COVID-19 Task Force Meeting (via Zoom)