



Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

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

14th Sunday after Pentecost – September 6, 2020

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

570-385-2657 * www.jerusalemchurch.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Thanks Be to Thee
Beverly Kriner, Handbell solo

G.F. Handel

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,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgression

Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,

Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

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 Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Romans 13:8-14

The assembly is seated.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the

fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

The assembly stands for the gospel.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor James Covert

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

759

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

- 1 My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away,
oh, let me from this day
be wholly thine!
- 2 May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me,
oh, may my love to thee

pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire!

- 3 While life's dark maze I tread
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray
from thee aside.
- 4 When ends life's transient dream,
when death's cold, sullen stream
shall o'er me roll;
blest Savior, then, in love
fear and distrust remove;
oh, bear me safe above,
a ransomed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

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.

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community, especially through the Schuylkill Haven and Vicinity Council of Churches. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew and enliven places suffering from fires, hurricanes, pollution, and especially where the Coronavirus has caused unemployment, sickness and grief. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Turn nations and leaders from ways that lead to death. Shape new paths toward peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward laws that protect the well-being of all people. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit, especially all whom we now raise in prayer before you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our daily work. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in faith. As you equipped them, equip us with your protection and power, until with them we see your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through 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.**

(8:00) ANTHEM

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
Beverly and Philip Kriner, Duet

Arr. Harold W. Friedell

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly may be seated.

BLESSING OF THE VOCATIONS OF THE BAPTIZED

BLESSING

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

Mothering God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Earth and All Stars!

731

1 Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Refrain

God has done marvelous things.
I too sing praises with a new song!

2 Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

3 Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Limestone and beams! Loud building workers!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

4 Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

5 Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son! Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Text © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Jaques Lemmens

OFFERING

You may drop your offering in the plates as you leave. If you are worshiping 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.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License with Video Streaming #SAS000730. From CCLI. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc. #11247411. Reprinted/ podcast/ streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-735134. All rights reserved.

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

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 Steficheck, 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	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	

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Minister	Mary Rowe	Leslie Wagner
Cantor(s)	Mary Rowe	Leslie Wagner
Guides	Faith Batz	Lloyd Wertz
	Deb Reed	Don Boyer
Sound Board	Melissa Boyer	Rick Heckrote
Altar Guild	Alberta Hudson & Linda Collins	
Counters	Lou Messina and Janet Sattizahn	

WEEKLY NEWS

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S CANTORS: 8:00 am – Beverly and Phil Kriner & 10:30 am – Lloyd Wertz.

THANK YOU TO PASTOR JIM COVERT for being our supply Pastor today. As many of us know, Jim and his wife, Linda, are members of Jerusalem. Today we are grateful for his Pastoral leadership.

COUNTERS WILL MEET ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 DUE TO THE HOLIDAY ON MONDAY. The Counters are: Lou Messina and Janet Sattizahn.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, September 7TH FOR THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY.

TODAY, the Sunday in the Labor Day weekend, we will BLESS OUR DAILY VOCATIONS. One of Martin Luther's contributions was to teach that all Christians share a primary vocation – that is our baptismal calling (*voco*) to love and serve God, and love and serve our neighbors. One way we live out this call or vocation is in daily paid and unpaid

work. Our jobs, our volunteer work, and our work in school, are some of the ways that we live out loving service to our neighbors.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS 2020. Today is the last Sunday to contribute to Jerusalem's GWOH project for 2020. We are joining 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.

FROM THE FAMILY OF RON GILL: Thank you to our church family for all your expressions of support through our Dad's final journey home to be with his Lord. Special thanks to Pastor Rowe for his visits to Dad while he was still at home and for delivering a hopeful message at his funeral. Thanks also to Phil & Bev Kriner for being cantors at his funeral; the songs were sung so beautifully. We greatly appreciate all the cards, flowers, and verbal condolences. We are fortunate to be a part of such a caring fellowship of faith.

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE WILL HOST A WORK DAY on Saturday, September 12th, 2020 starting at 9:00am. Any time you can help donate to keeping our church looking beautiful is gratefully appreciated!

THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TOTAL AS OF AUGUST 31ST IS \$202,896.53!

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.

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.

THE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF SCHUYLKILL HAVEN AND VICINITY is holding a CROP Walk to End Hunger on World Communion Sunday, October 4. The Walk starts and ends at the Council Food Pantry (100 Market Street) behind the old Walk In Shoe Factory, with registration beginning at 12:45 PM and devotions at 1 PM. Virtual individual and small group walks are also encouraged. In this time of pandemic and natural disaster, our help to feed people is more important than ever. One-quarter of the funds raised will be returned to the Council Food Pantry. The remaining funds will be sent to Church World. CWS is always one of the first charitable organizations to respond within hours of any disaster. Additional information

can be found online at www.churchworldservice.org. If you need more information about the Schuylkill Haven CROP Walk, please contact Rev. Ms. Shawn D. Van Dyke, First United Church of Christ, firstuccpastor@verizon.net or 570-385-2049.

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.

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:

TODAY 8:00am Worship
10:30am Worship
MONDAY **Happy Labor Day: Church Office Closed**
TUESDAY 6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting (via Zoom)
7:00pm Church Council Meeting (via Zoom)
THURSDAY 3:30pm COVID-19 Task Force Meeting (via Zoom)
7:00pm Schuylkill Mission District Meeting (via Zoom)
SATURDAY 9:00am Property Committee Workday

STAFF AND LEADERS

Rev. David Rowe, Pastor: 610-987-9798(H), 570-933-5511 (C),
pastorrowe@jerusalemlutheran.com

Audrey Christ, Music Director: musicdirector@jerusalemlutheran.com

Tanya Cartwright, Director of Faith & Families: faithandfamilies@jerusalemlutheran.com

Rachel Kramer, Parish Administrator: mail@jerusalemlutheran.com

Jill McCloy, Treasurer: treasurer@jerusalemlutheran.com

Karen Ochenrider, Financial Secretary: karenochenrider@comcast.net

Gina Cappel, Child Care Director: jccckids@jerusalemlutheran.com

Mike Sausser, Sexton: linknomad@hotmail.com

Deborah Reed, President of Church Council: dreed1955@comcast.net