



*Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as “Son of David” he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won’t give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus’ question, “What do you want me to do for you?”*

## **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 worshiping 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 worshiping 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**

**22nd Sunday after Pentecost – October 24th, 2021**

**Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972**

**570-385-2657 \* [www.jerusalemchurch.com](http://www.jerusalemchurch.com)**

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK!**

## POLICIES ON MASKS AND DISTANCING

- Vaccinated people are encouraged to consider wearing 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 see Melissa Boyer or Pastor Rowe.

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# HOLY COMMUNION

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## GATHERING

**PRELUDE**

*Amazing Grace*

**Raymond Haan**

*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,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**

**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**

**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**

**We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.**

**Free us from our sin, gracious God.**

**Listen when we call out to you for help.**

**Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

## ENTRANCE HYMN

*O God beyond All Praising*

**Red Hymnal # 880**

## 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*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
 Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**Jeremiah 31:7-9**

*The assembly inside is seated.*

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;

proclaim, give praise, and say,  
“Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.”

<sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 126

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**

**Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup>**Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup>Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,  
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 7:23-28

<sup>23</sup>The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; <sup>24</sup>but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. <sup>25</sup>Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

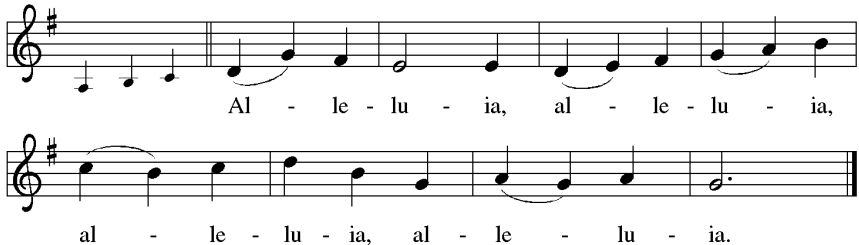
<sup>26</sup>For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. <sup>27</sup>Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. <sup>28</sup>For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*The assembly inside stands to welcome the gospel.*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### **GOSPEL**

**Mark 10:46-52**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>46</sup>As [Jesus] and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. <sup>47</sup>When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>48</sup>Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>49</sup>Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” <sup>50</sup>So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” <sup>52</sup>Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **SERMON**

**Pastor David Rowe**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Be Thou My Vision*

**Red Hymnal # 793**

*The assembly inside stands. All proclaim the word of God in song. There will be an organ interlude before the final verse of the hymn.*

### **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.*

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

Risen One, we give you thanks for congregations and ministries throughout the world that serve as centers of prayer and action. Empower missionaries, teachers, healers, evangelists, and all who are sent to share your song of joy.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Holy One, we give you thanks for generous land that produces abundant harvests. Strengthen and protect all soils, from rooftop gardens to prairie farmlands, to patio planters to fertile valleys, and bless all who lovingly tend them. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Ruling One, we give you thanks for leaders of nations who work to build up the common good. Strengthen efforts of reconciliation among all nations, that justice and peace may extend in every direction. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Healing One, we give you thanks for all who labor for the health of others, especially during this time of pandemic. Comfort and strengthen all who struggle with chronic pain. Send healing and relief to all who are sick, especially all whom we now raise in prayer before you.... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Providing One, we give you thanks for all who share with others. Inspire generosity in your people, so that we may carry out the work of making disciples of all nations. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Living One, we give you thanks for the saints who have increased our faith. Give us courage to follow in hope until you gather us all around your table of abundance. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.*

**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**

*Sing All the Earth to God*

**Eugene Butler**

**MEAL**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*The presiding minister invites the assembly to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. 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: Ushers will dismiss you by pew. As you approach the altar, take an empty glass if you wish to receive wine, or a glass prefilled with grape juice. The pastor 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. 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 ANTHEM**

*Communion Meditation*

**Jay Althouse**

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord of life,  
in the gift of your body and blood  
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.  
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,  
bearing witness to the abundance of your love  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The assembly may be seated.*

## **DEDICATION OF SEASONAL BANNERS**

### **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

People of God,  
you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a suffering world.  
The holy Trinity, † one God,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG**

*We Praise You, O God*

**Red Hymnal # 870**

### **DISMISSAL**

*The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **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**

*You Shall Go Out with Joy*

**Douglas Wagner**

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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, Stewart Haver, Sue Sigler, Robert Schwartz, Craig Bracken, 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, Melissa Focht, Jason Brown, Teagan Brown, Brenda Phillips, Cecelia Kacmar, Melanie Hart, Janice Moore, Christie O'Dell, John Cooper, Clarence Zweizig, Melvin Rodriguez & family, 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, Cathy Covach-Hale, Rev. Bruce MacLaughlin, Nancy Blank, Mary Miller, Rose Martin-Fuls, Earle Kull, Trent Johnson, Nancy Cooper, Dave Reager, Kevin Seibert, Mary Rauch, Tom Lokitus, Albert Tripp, Dorothy Moyer, Helen Fath

### **Those with Long-term health issues:**

Bonnie Jean Foose, Michelle Ochenrider, Rich & Sandy Moyer, Ethan Yost, Elizabeth Taylor, Carol Landes, Janice Barr, Donna Dizenzo, Jim Musico, John Krater, Fawn Goodman, Bob Yanek, Rebecca Marshall, Sapphire Schaeffer, Mark Wyllie, Krysta Kolbe, Shirley Emrich, Anna Heffner, David Wise, Donna Leashefski, Florence Clemens, 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**

	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	<b>Karen Ochenrider</b>	<b>Lloyd Wertz</b>
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Mary Rowe</b>	<b>Rebekah CdeBaca</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>Julie Coleman</b>	<b>Philip Kriner</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Faith Batz</b>	<b>Luke Hale</b>
	<b>John Macnutt</b>	<b>Noah Hale</b>
<b>Sound Board</b>	<b>Paul Boyer</b>	<b>Danika Kuhar</b>
<b>Video Recorder</b>		<b>Joanne Wertz</b>
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Lou Messina, Rob Baessler, &amp; Janet Sattizahn</b>	

## **WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

	<b>10:30am</b>
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	<b>The Rev. Christopher deForest, Bishop</b>

<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	<b>Karen Ochenrider, Pastor James Covert, Pastor Linda Bonfiglio, and Pastor David Rowe</b>
<b>Crucifer</b>	<b>Lloyd Wertz</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Conner Roeder</b>
<b>Cantor</b>	<b>Deacon Beverly Kriner</b>
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Ellayna Boyer and Bob McCloy</b>
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	<b>The Rev. Christopher deForest, Bishop</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>Pastor Harold Hand, Pastor Harvey Weitzel, Tanya Cartwright, Karen Ochenrider, and Julie Coleman</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>John Macnutt, Joy Heffner, Bill Shay, and Donald Nettles</b>
<b>Sound Board</b>	<b>Gary Reager</b>
<b>Video Recorder</b>	<b>Joanne Wertz</b>
<b>Organist</b>	<b>Audrey Christ</b>
<b>Special Music</b>	<b>Mount Laurel Brass</b>
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Linda Collins, Deb Reed, and Marie Shay</b>

**THE FLOWERS IN THE ALTAR VASES** are to the Glory of God, in honor of Elizabeth and Ryan Lamm's 13<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on October 25<sup>th</sup>, by Bob and Jill McCloy.

**TWO NEW GREEN and TWO NEW RED BANNERS** will be dedicated today to enhance our worship space. The red banners will hang on either side of the altar on the "red" Sundays of Pentecost and Reformation day, and depict the Spirit's call to this congregation as well as Marti Luther's seal which puts God's love in Jesus Christ in the heart of the Gospel for the world. The new green banners proclaim the cross and Holy Communion, and together with the two green banners that we already have, will add beauty, meaning, and variety throughout the long "green" seasons of Epiphany and Pentecost. The banners are a gift of our general memorial fund.

**WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL JOIN US TODAY AT 3:00 P.M. FOR AN ORGAN AND HARPSICHORD CONCERT FEATURING THEODORE (TED) DAVIS.** He has been the organist and choirmaster at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Baltimore, Maryland for the past 16 years. He holds music degrees in organ performance, choral conducting and harpsichord and recently received his doctoral degree from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. As a soloist, he has performed around the mid-Atlantic region, New England and the Southeast. Masks are required to attend the concert. *The Jerusalem Concert Series is funded by sponsorships and the free will offerings we receive at the concerts. Sponsorship forms are available at the sign-up table in the lobby.*

**THE SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE MEETING** has been moved to Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**NEXT SUNDAY**, there is only one service at 10:30am. Please try to arrive by 10:00am to hear the special half hour musical prelude of organ, handbells, and brass music.

**A SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY OFFERING** will be received for our celebration on October 31. A letter has been sent with an offering envelope asking you to give toward Lutheran Seminary Students, a Water Project for our Partner Synod (the South Central Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania), our Capital Appeal, and/or a Digital Sign for in front of the church to share Christ's love and our congregation's ministry with our community each day.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS YEAR'S CROP WALK** sponsored by our Schuylkill Haven and Vicinity Council of Churches to alleviate hunger globally, nationally, and locally. Walkers from Jerusalem raised \$730, and all the participating churches together raised \$3,560.87. Thank you for walking, giving, and praying!

**ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**, November 7th, is a time to give thanks for the witness of the saints through the ages, and especially for those in our lives who have lived and died in faith. We will also rejoice in praying for new saints baptized in God's promise, as well as those in our congregation who died in the past year. **THE BOOK** to list names of those to remember in prayer is in our lobby on the lectern (please print or write clearly), **AND WHITE BAGS** are available on which you are invited to write a name or names of those you wish to remember. The white bags will become luminaries decorating our sanctuary.

**JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH** extends happy birthday wishes to Martena Schnerring on her 97th birthday on October 28. When you see Martena, please extend your best wishes! If you'd like to send a card, her address is: 203 Antique Lane, Orwigsburg, PA 17961

**PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH** is October, and Pastor Appreciation Sunday is always the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in October. This celebration was established in 1992 with a mission of uplifting and encouraging pastors. We would like to uplift Pastor Rowe for his hard work. Please mail him a greeting card to Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972.

**THE JERUSALEM CHILD CARE CENTER** is in need of donations of paper or plastic dixie cups. Either 5oz or 7oz. Please no Styrofoam.

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:**

**TODAY** 8:00am Worship  
9:15am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship  
11:30am New Member Orientation  
3:00pm Concert featuring Theodore Davis  
**TUESDAY** 5:30pm JCCC Staff Meeting  
6:30pm Social Ministry Committee Meeting  
**WEDNESDAY** 6:15pm Bell Rehearsal  
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm Property Committee Meeting

**STAFF AND LEADERS**

Rev. David Rowe, <i>Pastor</i>	610 987 9798(H) 570-933-5511 (C) pastorowe@jerusalemlutheran.com
Audrey Christ, <i>Music Director</i>	musicdirector@jerusalemlutheran.com
Tanya Cartwright, <i>Director of Faith &amp; Families Ministries</i>	faithandfamilies@jerusalemlutheran.com
Rachel Kramer, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	mail@jerusalemlutheran.com
Jill McCloy, <i>Treasurer</i>	treasurer@jerusalemlutheran.com
Karen Ochenrider, <i>Financial Secretary</i>	karenochenrider@comcast.net
Gina Cappel, <i>Child Care Director</i>	jccckids@jerusalemlutheran.com
Mike Sausser, <i>Sexton</i>	linknomad@hotmail.com
Deborah Reed, <i>President of Church Council</i>	dreed1955@comcast.net





About our Pastoral  
**TRANSITION**

Now that several weeks have passed since Pastor Rowe announced his retirement at the end of this year, here is brief overview to answer some of the questions that people have asked:

- Unlike when a pastor is called to another congregation giving a 30-day or so notice, retiring pastors are encouraged to announce the end of their congregational ministry several months in advance. This longer, unhurried time will allow for some celebration of this chapter of Jerusalem's ministry.
- Our Bishop and leaders of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod will soon begin working with our church council to start a transitional process that will eventually lead to calling a new pastor.
- When Pastor Rowe leaves, another pastor will be designated by our synod to provide pastoral visitation, and to do marriages, funerals, etc. – so care will go on! In addition, the bishop's office will provide supply pastors for Sunday services, so worship will continue!
- It will probably be at least a year until a new pastor is called, in order to give time for Jerusalem's leaders and members to prayerfully reflect on its strengths, growing edges, and opportunities for ministry in the years ahead. These will be submitted to the synod to help develop a congregational profile.
- The council will appoint a call committee, and using Jerusalem's profile, our synod will submit pastoral candidates to the call committee for an interview.
- When the call committee discerns that a candidate has some of the leadership gifts that Jerusalem needs, that person will then be sent to council for an interview where salary and benefits will be negotiated. Finally, with the support of the call committee and council, the candidate will be presented to the congregation, and after an opportunity for the candidate to meet people and lead worship, the congregation will be asked to vote to affirm the candidate, and to extend a call to the new pastor.

Please note that several things have changed over the last 20-30 years. First, Jerusalem itself has changed – for the first time in over a generation the call process will not take place in either the stressful aftermath of a fire and congregation merger, or the synodical disciplinary action of a pastor (so this will be the first "normal" transition in decades!). Second, there are now fewer pastors in mainline denominations, including our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, so the process to call the next pastor may take longer. But what **HAS NOT CHANGED** is that this will be a time for congregational members and leaders to work with our bishop and synod for prayerful conversation, reflection, and discernment concerning Christ's mission for Jerusalem's witness in this neighborhood.