



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

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 recommendations from the CDC and ecumenical church worship guidelines, has been prayerfully considered by our leaders for our worship practices. Therefore at this time in 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. Further information on page 2.
- **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

7th Sunday after Epiphany – February 20th, 2022

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

570-385-2657 * www.jerusalemchurch.com

POLICIES ON MASKS AND DISTANCING

- Everyone needs to wear a mask until the local pandemic subsides.
- We have lots of space in which to worship, so we can spread throughout the nave for each service, and we will continue to tape off alternating pews to maintain a safer distance.

CURRENT WORSHIP PRACTICES

- We have resumed congregational speaking and singing in the building.
 - Hymnals are available in the pew racks, and distributed to and collected from people worshipping in the parking lot.
 - Large print worship binders are available inside. 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. Please space yourselves as you come forward.
 - The offering plates are in the back of the sanctuary by the door until we can safely pass the plates through many hands.
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FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

PREPARATION

PRELUDE

A Joyful Ring

Jerusalem Handbell Choir

Barbara Kinyon

The bell rings calling us to worship.

GATHERING

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,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.
We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.
Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.**

Rejoice in this good news:
In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.
Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us
Red Hymnal # 707

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

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

The assembly inside is seated.

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ” ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40

¹Do not be provoked by ¹ evildoers;

do not be jealous of those ¹ who do wrong.

**²For they shall soon wither ¹ like the grass,
and like the green grass ¹ fade away.**

³Put your trust in the LORD¹ and do good;
dwell in the land and ¹ find safe pasture.

**⁴Take delight ¹ in the LORD,
who shall give you your ¹ heart’s desire.**

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust ¹ in the LORD,
and see what ¹ God will do.

**⁶The LORD will make your vindication as clear ¹ as the light
and the justice of your case like the ¹ noonday sun.**

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait ¹ patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in ¹ evil schemes.

**⁸Refrain from anger, leave ¹ rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads on- ¹ ly to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall ¹ be cut off,

but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- ¹ sess the land.

**¹⁰In a little while the wicked shall ¹ be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will ¹ not be there.**

¹¹But the lowly shall pos- ¹ sess the land;
they will delight in abun- ¹ dance of peace.

³⁹But the deliverance of the righteous comes from ¹ you, O LORD;

you are their stronghold in | time of trouble.

⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and | rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you |
they seek refuge.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly inside stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Linda Bonfiglio-Boyer

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Light Dawns on a Weary World

Red Hymnal # 726

The assembly 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.

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and urban gardens. Give favorable weather for planting. Bring forth from buried seed an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Look upon our world with mercy that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest. Release political prisoners and amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your people cry out for mercy. Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another and to resolve conflicts with humility and patience. Bless families of all shapes and sizes, and show love to those who are lonely or grieving. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom. As you have raised them to imperishable and eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

arr. Roy Hopp

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The assembly stands. 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 image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff contains 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff contains 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff contains 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp.

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of'. The second staff contains 'pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third staff contains 'san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the'. The fourth staff contains 'name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER # 3

... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your word

dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth
in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

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

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

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

Come to the banquet for all is now ready.

INSIDE WORSHIPERS: Ushers will dismiss you by pew, then please allow a six-foot distance from other households as you approach the altar by the center aisle (tape marks in the center aisle are a helpful guide). Please 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 pre-filled 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 MUSIC

Come to Me All Pilgrims Thirsty

arr. Janet Linker

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God,
for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.
Send us to bring good news
and to proclaim your favor to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace
in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly may be seated.

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.
God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✠ bless your going out and your coming in,
today and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

Red Hymnal # 603

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.
Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sortie

Douglas Wagner

PRAYER LIST

Joanna Sirianni Edwards, Ed Freed, Pauline Crawshaw, Karen Tropp, Diane Buffington, Jack Harnock, Marie Harnock, Keith Shoener, Tom Gerber, Kelly Carl, 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, Jane Deibert, Tom Cook, Ronald Bromwell, Lisa Weiser, Janest Yost, Madge Miller, Melissa Focht, 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, Kim O'Donnell, Mateo Thomas, Barry Heffner, Phyllis Trinca Czech, Stephen Edwards, Christa Miller, Cathy Covach-Hale, Rev. Bruce MacLaughlin, Mary Miller, Rose Martin-Fuls, Earle Kull, Trent Johnson, Mary Rauch, Tom Lokitus, Albert Tripp, Helen Fath, Diana Vasquez, Dorothy & Dan Ness, Robin Moran, Kendra Johnson, Deb Esposito, Rob Baessler, Stanley Daniels, Darlene and Bob Zechman, Diane Laine

Those with Long-term health issues:

Bonnie Jean Foose, Michelle Ochenrider, Rich & Sandy Moyer, Ethan Yost, Carol Landes, Donna Dierenzo, Jim Musico, John Krater, Fawn Goodman, 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, Casey Watson, Linda Bonfiglio-Boyer, Harold & Fay Sausser, Ruth Brown

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	Connor Roeder	Lloyd Wertz
Lectors	Julie Coleman	Bob McCloy
Communion Assistants	Jean Loose	James Covert
Ushers	Donald Nettles John Macnutt	Mark Conville Shelia Conville
Sound Board	Melissa Boyer	Danika Kuhar
Counters	Linda Collins, Deb Reed, and Marie Shay	

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Ministers	Karen Ochenrider	Rebekah CdeBaca
Lectors	Deborah Reed	Rob Baessler
Communion Assistants	Julie Coleman	Linda Covert
Ushers	Bill Shay Donald Nettles	Noah & Luke Mike Sausser
Sound Board	Paul Boyer	Rachel Kramer
Counters	Lou Messina, Rob Baessler, and Janet Sattizahn	

THE FLOWERS IN THE ALTAR VASES are to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ron and Barbara Gill, by daughters Laurie, Julie, & Marny.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST due to the Presidents Day Holiday. Counters please report in on Tuesday, February 22. Thank you!

THE WINNER OF THE JERUSALEM "SOUP"-ER BOWL: The Cincinnati Bengals! THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS! The Bengals won with 110 cans of soup! The Rams were close with 97 cans of soup! The Real Winner was the SCHUYLKILL HAVEN AREA FOOD PANTRY, which received a grand total of 207 cans of soup! There were also 31 "pop-top" cans of soup collected for Jerusalem's Little Free Pantry! We Tackled hunger!

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND, will be observed with worship at 6:30PM. In addition to offering ashes as a remembrance of our mortality, the services will include Ash Wednesday confession and absolution, as well scripture, sermon, and the Lord's Supper as we begin our Lenten journey.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER will once again be our Wednesday, Mid-week Lenten Services, from March 9 – April 6 at 6:30 PM. Our theme will be 'Praying With Others' in which a story concerning prayer will be told and then time taken to pray as a group. Join us for these Wednesday evening worships, which have become a meaningful part of our Lenten journey.

LENTEN SCHEDULE! This year things are a little different due to not having a 'Called' pastor at Jerusalem. **March 2nd** begins the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday. There will be one service at 6:30 P.M. with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. Every Wednesday in Lent at 6:30 PM we will gather for Holden Evening Prayer. During Holy Week there will be a Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion at 6:30 PM. Good Friday service will also be at 6:30 having a Tenebrae service or Service of Shadows. As you can tell all worship services that are during the week take place at 6:30 PM. But note, there will be no parking lot worship available. Please mark your calendars so you don't miss out on these opportunities!

MINISTRY CELEBRATION FOR 2022, will be held on March 20th at 9:15 AM! There will be no Sunday School on that day. Please join us in the social hall to view displays from Jerusalem's different committees and ministries. Annual Reports will be distributed that morning as well!

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2021! Attention church committee chairpersons, please complete an Annual Report for last year on the ministry of your committee. If you have financial information to share, please include that too. Reports can be emailed to mail@jerusalem.lutheran.com or a paper copy can be dropped in the "Administrator Inbox" in the church office by **February 20th!**

UPCOMING SPRING CONCERTS. SAVE THE DATES!

- ❖ March 20, 2022 at 3:00pm, Trumpet and Organ Recital featuring John H. Thyhsen on Trumpet and Randall D. Perry on Organ.
- ❖ April 24, 2022 at 3:00pm, Clarinet and Piano concert featuring Dr. Steven Christ on Clarinet with Caleb Flick on Piano and Dr. Annie Rose Tindall-Gibson on Piano.

WE INVITE YOU TO PRAY...

Please pray for Jerusalem's Call Committee Members as we continue to navigate our way through our Pastoral Transition. Thank you to Bill Shay, Beverly Kriner, Greg Gross, Joy Heffner, Mark Conville, and Deborah Reed.

ALTAR VASE FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE. Would you like to have the altar flowers in memory of or in honor of a special loved one? Sunday, March 13th and Sunday, March 27th are open dates. You would call Forget-Me-Not Florist at 570-366-2619 to order the flowers and then contact the church office at 570-385-2657 to let the administrator know what you would like to say in the bulletin for that Sunday. Thanks!

DID YOU KNOW that Jerusalem has a calendar that has all events that take place at Jerusalem on it? This includes all ministry meetings, day care and preschool staff meetings and events, concerts, worship services, education events, social ministry activities, community ministries, Schuylkill Mission District Council meetings and activities, and any other special events that take place in our building. YOU can access this calendar! Just go to www.jerusalem.lutheran.com and click on 'events' (the top right side). When you see the drop down box click on 'calendar'. The whole month will come up on your screen. This is especially important if you want to schedule a meeting so there are no conflicts. Once your committee sets the meeting date and time, let our parish administrator, Rachel, know as soon as possible so she can put it on the calendar. Of course, this works in reverse if you need to cancel something that is on the calendar, let Rachel know that too! Only Rachel can add and remove items on the calendar! It is important to keep the calendar current as we grow in ministries and the number of people participating!

WEATHER CANCELLATION OF SERVICES! If there is no electricity during the winter, services will automatically be cancelled. *With snow and ice, please use your best judgment about your travel, because conditions do vary by neighborhood.* If services are cancelled they will be announced by 6:30 am on:

- **The church answering machine message.** Call the church office at 570-385-2657.
- **Facebook and the church web page** will announce Sunday closings if the administrator can get internet access from home.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

TODAY 8:00am Worship
9:15am Sunday school
9:15am Acoylte Training
10:30am Worship

MONDAY **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR PRESIDENTS DAY**

TUESDAY 5:30pm JCCC Staff Meeting in the Library

WEDNESDAY 6:15pm Bell Rehearsal
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm Property Committee Meeting

STAFF AND LEADERS

Pastor Mike Petresky (717) 649-3532 (C)

Audrey Christ, *Music Director*

musicdirector@jerusalemmlutheran.com

Tanya Cartwright, *Director of Faith & Families Ministries*

faithandfamilies@jerusalemmlutheran.com

Rachel Kramer, *Parish Administrator*

mail@jerusalemmlutheran.com

Jill McCloy, *Treasurer*

treasurer@jerusalemmlutheran.com

Karen Ochenrider, *Financial Secretary*

karenochenrider@comcast.net

Gina Cappel, *Child Care Director*

jccckids@jerusalemmlutheran.com

Mike Sausser, *Sexton*

linknomad@hotmail.com

INTRODUCING PASTOR LARRY LAINE

“The Middling Years”

Starting Sunday, March 6th, Jerusalem will share an interim minister with St. John’s Lutheran in Friendsburg. Over the next three weeks, Pastor Laine will share some information about himself.

So, I was born backward. I left my crib. I went to school – elementary, high school and then by God’s divine grace, I matriculated to California Lutheran College to study philosophy and religion, to find purpose, meaning, knowledge, and vocational direction. Well, I am not certain of the later lofty goals. Nevertheless, I went. What I found was that there were not a lot of recess classes in college because everything was recess – sports, movies, swimming, basketball, and my favorite thing - dating. I just walked with girls until they would talk with me – which did not happen often. Finally, I began asking for dates. Often, the response was, “What! Who are you?” It did not go well. Finally, a beautiful young woman, Diane, who wanted to save a floundering dufas like me, picked me as a target. The rest is history. We dated for a year, got married, and had three girls.

Following my stellar achievements in college and finding the love of my life, I set out to be the next Rev. Billy Graham. I enrolled in seminary only to discover that the Rev. Billy Graham was not Lutheran. Seminary was a serious affair. While in seminary I taught at Wittenberg University and Hamma School of Theology as an adjunct professor of religion. Hamma was an experimental seminary at the time – everything centered on creating relationships that were deep and lasting. This has had a profound impact on my ministry for I have grown to appreciate the reality that the core of Christian faith and life revolves around relationships. The better, healthier, and more vibrant relationships are, the healthier and more significant is the church in our lives. To this day, 50 years later, I continue to cherish the relationships that I established in seminary and to use my God given skills to enhance community and fellowship in the churches I have served. I call this creating ‘a culture of care.’ Nothing is more central to our faith and life as a God worshipping church in a culture of care.

I have had a strange journey in my ministry that began in 1972 at a small rural Lutheran Church in Templeton, California. I have journeyed through a couple of vocational directions, moved across country and been the minister at small rural, large suburban, and dual parishes. All the stops in my ministry have been exciting and filled with joy. And now I get to meet, greet, and live with you folks for a while. It is a challenging time in our history – challenging to find, maintain and build a community of believers in this post pandemic world. However, with the love of God and the fellowship of our hands, eyes and ears we will persevere and become stronger, more vibrant, and more alive in the spirit of God’s Kingdom.

Next week I will share with you more of my over-arching approach to ministry and what I hope to bring to our life together. I look forward to being present with you and sharing the joy of the good news of the Kingdom of God – soon!

~Peace and blessings, Pastor Laine