



Of all three years of the lectionary cycle, this year's All Saints readings have the most tears. Isaiah and Revelation look forward to the day when God will wipe away all tears; in John's gospel, Jesus weeps along with Mary and all the gathered mourners before he demonstrates his power over death. On All Saints Day we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well,

knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah's feast to come.

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

All Saints Sunday – November 7th, 2021
Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-385-2657 * www.jerusalemchurch.com
FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

POLICIES ON MASKS AND DISTANCING

- Vaccinated people 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 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

All Saints Sunday – November 7th, 2021

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-385-2657 * www.jerusalemchurch.com
FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Jerusalem My Happy Home

arr. Richard Proulx

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.

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✠ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy on us, O God.

**We confess that we have sinned against you
and against our neighbor.**

**We have built walls instead of tables
and have turned away the stranger.**

**We have sought glory for ourselves
and have treasured that which does not satisfy.**

**Help us to love as you love,
to welcome those you send,
and to treasure mercy and justice.**

**Turn us from our ways to your ways,
and free us to serve those in need.**

Amen.

God, who makes all things new,
forgives your sins for † Jesus' sake
and remembers them no more.

Lift up your heads and your hearts.

Yours is the kingdom of God.

Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In

Purple Hymnal # 950

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

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

The assembly inside is seated.

- ⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
⁸he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 24

- ¹The earth is the LORD's and all ¹ that is in it,
the world and those who ¹ dwell therein.
²**For the LORD has founded it up- ¹ on the seas
and established it up- ¹ on the rivers.**
³Who may ascend the mountain ¹ of the LORD,
and who may stand in God's ¹ holy place?
⁴**Those of innocent hands and puri- ¹ ty of heart,
who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by ¹ what is false.**
⁵They shall receive blessing ¹ from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of ¹ their salvation.
⁶**Such is the generation of those who seek ¹ you, O LORD,
of those who seek your face, O ¹ God of Jacob.**
⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- ¹ lasting doors,
that the King of glory ¹ may come in.
⁸**Who is this ¹ King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, might- ¹ y in battle!**
⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- ¹ lasting doors,
that the King of glory ¹ may come in.
¹⁰**Who is this ¹ King of glory?
Truly, the LORD of hosts is the ¹ King of glory.**

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-6a

- ¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had
passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new

Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more;

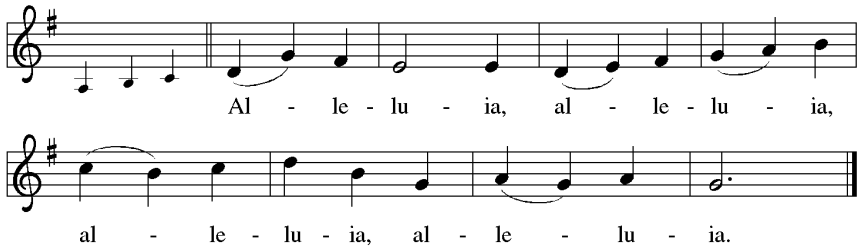
mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ^{6a}Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

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

John 11:32-44

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and

feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

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

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Audrey Christ

SERMON

Pastor David Rowe

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

Red Hymnal # 424

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 AND THANKFUL REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

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

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need. *A brief silence.*

Merciful God, we give thanks for all missionaries who have brought your message of hope to new communities and wiped tears away with the promise of forgiveness and life. Continue to raise up courageous missionaries to share your gospel of hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of baptismal life, we give thanks that through your promise joined to the waters of Holy Baptism, you continue to call forth and make a new generation of saints. We give thanks that despite our sin, you also call us to be saints. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of resurrection and life, we pray for your comfort and hope for all who grieve the deaths of friends and family since last all saints day, especially those who mourn Paul Donton, Seven Miller, Samuel Stramara, Jerry Stoudtland, Marion McGlinchey, Kenneth Noecker, Carole Gehrig, Glenn Sattizahn Jr, John Gradwell, Charotte Moyer, and Catherine and Russell McCready. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of inspiring Spirit, we give you thanks for the lives of people who have been witnesses in our lives who now rest from their labors, especially... [SEE LONG LIST]. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of justice and peace, we give you thanks for nations of justice that serve as a refuge for all whose homelands are afflicted with violence. Strengthen those who continue to work for peace and support all veterans who carry the scars of war. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of healing, we give you thanks for health care workers who labor around the clock to answer cries for help, especially during this time of pandemic. Bring wholeness to all who struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, addiction, and all who long for healing in any way, especially all whom we now raise in prayer before you.... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of justice, we praise you for the feeding ministries and for all meals that bring people together for nourishment and fellowship. Bless chefs, bakers, servers, dishwashers, communion assistants, and eucharistic servers. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of the ages, we give you thanks for the saints. Wipe away our tears and lead us by their example until we feast together on your holy mountain. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

*God our protection and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray.
Remain with us always, 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.

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 AT THE TABLE: ALL SAINTS

With all the saints of Africa and Asia, India and the islands, Europe and the Americas,

we praise you, O God, for you create the worlds.

With all the baptized, the old and the young, the weak and the strong, the famous and the forgotten,

we bless you, O God, for you provide us with water and food.

With all the faithful in cities and on farms, in mansions and huts, past and present,

we worship you, O God, for you shelter the generations.

With all your holy people, those who ministered in the church, those who served the poor,

and all who walked the way of the cross,

we glorify you, O God, for in Jesus you journeyed with us on earth.

With Paul and the evangelists, we remember the meal of your Son:

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With Peter and all the martyrs, we honor Christ's death.

With Mary Magdalene and all the apostles, we proclaim his resurrection.

With John and all the theologians and mystics, we look for his returning.

With the Virgin Mary and all who sang of your greatness,

we pray for the power of the Spirit.

Visit this gathering, this bread and this cup,

with the presence of the body and blood of Christ.

Form us into a communion of service,

and infuse your earth with the wholeness we seek.

With grandparents and godparents, with the church universal,

lead us to a future we cannot yet see,

and at the end draw all humanity to yourself.

Now with all of the family you saved by your love,

we shout blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving,

honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever.

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

A feast of love is offered here for you and for all the saints.

INSIDE WORSHIPERS: Ushers will dismiss you by pew, then please give people wearing masks a six-foot distance as you approach the altar by the center aisle. Please take an empty glass if you wish to receive wine, or a glass prefilled with grape juice. The pastor 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 HYMN

Rejoice in God's Saints

David Cherwein

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus,
at this table, you have been for us both host and meal.

Now send us forth to extend our tables
and to share your gifts
until that day when all feast together
at your heavenly banquet.

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly may be seated.

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

God, the beginning and the end,
who has written your name in the book of life,
✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace
from this time forth and forevermore.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

For All the Saints

Red Hymnal # 422

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Led on by the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.

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

For All the Saints

Arr. Wilbur Held

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.

PASTOR WEITZEL AND HIS WIFE, JAN, were unable to join us on Reformation Day for our 200th anniversary celebration of Lutheran witness in this area. First, they were vacationing in Florida when their Friday flight reservations were cancelled, and then three more flights that they booked were cancelled. Then not arriving home in Connecticut until late Saturday (they had intended to drive down on Saturday), he called and left three messages on a cell phone that he thought was mine (it wasn't). After our anniversary we were able to connect – they send their regards and are sad that they could not be here. We are relieved that they are okay, and give thanks for safe journey from Florida, and their ministry here years ago.

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, Diana Vasquez, Dorothy & Dan Ness

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

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Ministers	Mary Rowe	Beverly Kriner
Lectors	Connor Roeder	Philip Kriner
Children's Sermon	Audrey Christ	
Communion Assistants	Ellayna Boyer	Linda Covert
Ushers	Joy Heffner	Allen Greenawalt
	Donald Nettles	Donald Boyer
Video Recorder		Linda Covert
Sound Board	Melissa Boyer	Rick Heckrote
Counters	Lou Messina and Janet Sattizahn	

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Ministers	Lou Messina	James Covert
Lectors	Laurie Bedford	Rob Baessler
Children's Sermon		
Communion Assistants	Julie Coleman	Rebekah CdeBaca
Ushers	Bill Shay	Luke Hale
	Conner Roeder	Noah Hale
Video Recorder	Kyle Nettles	
Sound Board	Paul Boyer	Gary Reager
Counters	Linda Collins, Deb Reed, and Marie Shay	

THE FLOWERS IN THE ALTAR VASES are to the Glory of God, in loving memory of Shelia Brensinger and in honor of Kim by mom and dad Brensinger.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT is to the Glory of God, in loving memory of our father, Rev. Elmer H. Eiche, by Catherine, Madeleine, & Benjamin Eiche.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY IS TODAY. It 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS ON THIS ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, we remember the saints who rest from their labor. During the past year we give thanks for the lives of: Paul Donton, Steven Miller, Samuel Stramara, Jerry Stoutland, Marion McGlinchey, Kenneth Noecker, Carole Gehrig, Glenn Stattizahn, Jr., John Gradwell, Charlotte Moyer, and Catherine McCready.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY GIFTS! Your offerings provided \$290 for Seminary Students, \$460 for the Tanzania Water Project, \$840 for the Digital Sign and \$630 for our Capital Appeal. There is still time to make a special gift to these worthy causes!

GODS BARNYARD SALE will begin next Sunday, November 14th. Gifts available will range from animals to malaria vaccinations. We encourage you to purchase a Christmas gift in someone's honor or memory that will also make a world of difference for a family in need.

WINTER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND! Attention Jerusalem members, if you wish to submit an article for the next Newsletter please email it to: mail@jerusalem.lutheran.com or place it in the "Administrator Inbox" in the office – No later than Monday, NOVEMBER 22ND! Thank you.

SOCIAL MINISTRY WILL BE SELLING DIVINE CHOCOLATE BARS after worship services starting November 28th. Serrv's collection of delicious Divine Chocolate comes from the Kuapa Kokoo Cocoa Cooperative in Ghana--- the first farmer-owned chocolate company in the world. The large 3.5 oz bars are \$3.00 each. Buy for yourself to enjoy, or for a sweet gift this Christmas!

EXPOSURE TO COVID AND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE – if you are exposed to someone with Covid (within 6 feet, for over 10 minutes), please stay away from church activities until you either have a negative Covid test taken 3-5 days after exposure, or you have gone for 10 days without symptoms. Although you have been vaccinated and are both much less likely to contract Covid and have a much lower risk of a severe or dangerous illness, you still can get it and spread it (we have had four fully vaccinated members of the choir get Covid). Thank you for showing loving one another and caring for yourself as a child of God.

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

CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON VETERANS DAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021. Veterans Day occurs on November 11 every year in the United States in honor of the “eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month” of 1918 that signaled the end of World War I, known as Armistice Day. Veterans Day is different from Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May. Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans, while Memorial Day honors those who had *died* while in military service. Jerusalem extends a “Thank you,” to all our service men and women who have served and who continue to serve in the U.S. military service.

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
10:30am Worship
3:00pm Gabriel Chamber Ensemble

TUESDAY 6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting
7:00pm Church Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY 6:15pm Bell Rehearsal
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY **Veterans Day Church Office Closed**



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.