

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sunday, September 10, 2023
8:15 and 10:45 a.m.

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.

St. James Lutheran Church

109 York Street, Gettysburg, PA
www.StJamesGettysburg.org

Welcome to St. James. Here are some tips for worshipping with us.

Large print bulletins and hearing-assist devices can be found on the welcome table in the main hall. Hymns are found in the back half of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* located in the chair rack in front of you and are referenced in this bulletin as ELW#. Please stand as you are able for parts of the service noted with an asterisk (*). Thank you for silencing your electronic devices. Masking is optional. Masking is recommended while singing.

P Presider **C** Congregation **A** Assisting Minister **L** Lay Reader

The 8:15 worship service will be livestreamed to our YouTube Channel and made available for public viewing. Please note that you may be recorded during worship. You can visit our YouTube Channel at [StJamesGettysburg.org/YouTube](https://www.StJamesGettysburg.org/YouTube). If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with a member of the staff.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *God, When Human Bonds Are Broken*

setting, Malcolm Archer

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C Amen.

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Steadfast and faithful God,

C you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN: *Earth and All Stars!*

ELW 731

*PASTORAL GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L *Let us pray:* 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.

C **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO FOURTH GRADE STUDENTS

CHOIR ANTHEM (10:45): *Beloved, God's Chosen*

Robert Hobby

¹Beloved, God's chosen, put on as a garment compassion, forgiveness, and goodness of heart. Above all, before all, let love be your raiment that binds into one every dissonant part. ²Within, call forth Wisdom, to dwell in you richly; let peace rule your hearts, and that peace be of Christ. And from the heart's chamber, beloved and holy, let singing thanksgiving to God ever rise. ³Beloved, God's chosen, put on as a garment compassion, forgiveness, and goodness of heart. Above all, before all, let love be your raiment that binds into one every dissonant part. (Susan Palo Cherwien)

READING: Romans 13:8-14

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **C** **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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON, FOLLOWED BY TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *God, When Human Bonds Are Broken*

ELW 603

*APOSTLES' CREED

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

Petitions conclude: “Merciful God,” Our response: **“Receive our prayer.”**

*SHARING GOD’S PEACE

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

TITHES AND OFFERINGS


MUSICAL OFFERING: *Goodness of God*

Jenn Johnson

All may join in singing the chorus.

All my life you have been faithful.
All my life you have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the Goodness of God.

*OFFERTORY



C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.


C God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING


*PREFACE DIALOG



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.




C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*PROPER PREFACE

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*INVITATION

P Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

C Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

All are welcome at Christ's table. Come one, come all, the feast is spread! An usher will give you a cup and guide you toward the platform. During the continuous flow, please fill in spaces starting at the front of the platform completing the circle. We offer a chalice with grape juice first, followed by a chalice of wine. Please indicate your preference by extending your glass at the appropriate time. Rice crackers are available for those with gluten allergies. If you are unable to come forward, please alert an usher and you will receive the sacrament while seated.



C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MEDITATION: *Prayer of St Francis*

setting, Sally Drennan Mossing

*TABLE BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

***BLESSING OF BACKPACKS**

A blessing is offered for all students, school staff, and educators as they begin a new school year.

***BLESSING**

P The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

***SENDING HYMN:** *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

ELW 836

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Earth and All Stars!*

setting, Keith Kolander

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Flowers are Given to the Glory of God and

In honor of the staff of St. James: Pastor Andrew, Vicar Libby, Adam, Jonathan, Katy, Tom, and Karen.

In honor of St. James’ Rally Day & its Sunday School Teachers.

Lift Up in Prayer

Karen Arentz	Billy Jones	Zach, Sarah, Baby	Herb
Helen Bardell	Hilda Koontz	Colter Snyder	Jane
Janet Bretzman	Paige Kriel	Matt Teeter	Jim
Dr. Douglas Eyer	Sam Main	Ken Unger	John
Joanne Fisher	Margie McGlaughlin	Sean Vora	Mary B.
Tim Fleming	Jen Mickelson	Barbara Williams	Taylor
Nita Gross	Peggy Reecher	Angie	Wayne
Marc Hirsh	Carolyn Scott	Beverly	

Serving in Worship

Presider

The Rev. Andrew R. Geib

Preacher

Vicar Libby Baker-Mikesell

Minister of Music

Jonathan Noel

Assisting Minister

Jim Dunlop

Musical Offering

Ernie Kranias &
Jason Howe

8:15 a.m. Worship Service

Acolyte

Bell Ringer

Aiden Dutrow

Prayer of the Day

Aiden Dutrow

Lay Reader

Shirley Sanders

Communion Assistants

Julie Aha

Judy Seilhamer

Kim McGlaughlin

Shirley Sanders

Ushers

Cathy Haynes

Ron Sollenberger

John Doerfler

Alan Haynes

Sacristy

Anne Gomer

Brie Smith

AV Operator

Katy Clowney

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

Acolyte

David Langman

Bell Ringer

Sam Dunlop

Prayer of the Day

Gabbi Geib

Lay Reader

Addy Dunlop

Communion Assistants

Carol Widerman

Adam Michael

Anne Young

Peggy Green

Ushers

Gabbi Scavitto

Jan Keefer

Emily Green

Jayden Cramer

Sacristy

Megan Eppleman

Kathy Platzer

Flower Deliverer

Sue Currens

St James Choir

Announcements



God's work. Our hands. Sunday. September 10. Share your helpful hands with our community & volunteer. Learn more and sign up to volunteer:

StJamesGettysburg.org/GWOH

Sunday, September 10 is also the start of Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.! Visit StJamesGettysburg.org/SundaySchool to explore our Sunday School options.

PreK-5th grade Sunday School classes will be located in the dining room on the lower level, as

their regular classrooms are currently under construction. We will have a Blessing of the Backpacks at worship on 9/9 & 9/10.

Worship Assistant Training.

Wednesday, September 13. Pizza at 5:15 p.m. in the gathering area. Two training sessions in the worship space at 6:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP in advance. **Our worship services are when we are all together and are our most meaningful opportunities of fellowship and faith!** Use the QR code to RSVP or visit StJamesgGettysburg.org/Events.



Dinner Groups Resume this Fall. Enjoy great food and fellowship; Dinner Group is a great way to get to know folks in the congregation! Sign-Up in the Gathering Area or see Anne Gomer for details.

Choir Rehearsals will resume in September.

St. James Choir: Weekly Rehearsal Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.; Sing Sundays at 10:45 a.m. service.

Martin Luther Choir: Monthly Rehearsal on Sunday evening, and sing the following Sunday at the 8:15 a.m. worship service. First rehearsal TODAY, 9/10 at 5:00 p.m.

Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. partnership with St. James: St. James and Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. are considering a partnership where the C.A.R.E.S. program will hold its overnights exclusively at St. James during the 6 month winter program (October—March). We hope that this proposed partnership will be more convenient and safer for the C.A.R.E.S. guests, while still depending on volunteers from all of the churches.

Congregational Vote: Sunday, September 17 immediately following the 10:45 a.m. service on whether to continue with exclusive partnership and plans between Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. & St. James.

Gettysburg Community Concert Association features Ching-Yun, pianist, 9/19 at 7:30 p.m. in the worship space. See StJamesgGettysburg.org/events for more details.

Bible Study with Pastor Andrew. Each Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the Gathering Area. All are Welcome! We are currently studying Luther.

Monthly Grief Ministry Resumes. Gather for lunch & fellowship the 3rd Wednesday of the month with Pastor Andrew at noon at Federal Pointe Grill (formerly Dunlap's Restaurant located at 90 Buford Ave, Gettysburg). Starts September 20.

Cork Recycling Effort. Keep those corks coming in! So far St. James has sent over 29 pounds of corks to CorkClub.com. They then send on the corks to be recycled into all sorts of fantastic things: shoe soles, flooring, bulletin boards, little boxes, coasters, and pushpin insulation. Look for the collection basket by the Creation Care bulletin board across from the church office. *Can we reach 100 pounds?*

Come join & prepare the Fall Quilts. September 11, 18, 25 and October 9, 9:30 a.m. – noon, in the Quilt Room, 303.

Donation Opportunities: We are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child (September Donation items) – items need to be small, as multiple items should fit in a shoebox. Please provide new items; not previously-loved items. Thank you for your understanding and generosity!

- Drawstring bags
- Small towels (size: 24"x44")
- Combs
- Individually wrapped bars of Dove soap
- Flip-flops
- Hats & Mittens
- Kick Balls (deflated and include a pump)
- Scissors (blunt safety tips)
- Glue sticks
- Yo-yos, Slinkies, Tennis Balls
- Small Etch-a-Sketch
- Hacky Sacks
- PlayDoh
- Toy trucks, Trains, Boats
- Small dolls, Plush Animals
- Small musical instruments (recorder/harmonica)
- Plastic dinosaurs

Weekly Youth Group Schedule

MS & HS Breakfast: Wednesdays, 6:45 a.m. in the Gathering Area (not the Youth House)

K-5 Youth Group: Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Middle School Youth Group: Sundays, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., Gathering Area.

High School Youth Group: Sundays, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Gathering Area.



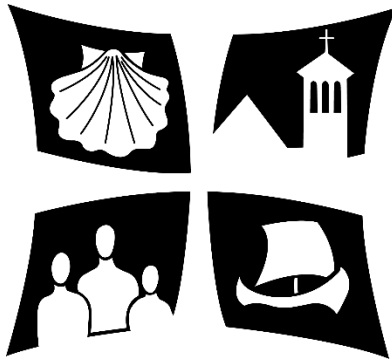
Sign-up for our weekly eBlast to always know what's happening at St. James!

StJamesGettysburg.org/eBlastSignUp

Giving to St. James. Your financial gift allows St. James to do *great* things! Our mission is to *live & love like Jesus*. We serve and support our community – both locally & globally. Your gift and support make a difference in our community & world. Thank you!!

Scan the QR code or visit StJamesGettysburg.org/give.





***We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's house with its doors wide open.
If you are passing through, Godspeed.
If you are looking for a worship home, stay with us.
We invite guests to join us, but most of all, to return often.***

Welcome to long-time Lutherans, Christians from every tradition, and people new to faith.

Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe.

Welcome to new visitors and old friends.

Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socio-economic status, marital status, ability, and challenge.

Welcome to believers and questioners, and to questioning believers.

This is a place where you are welcome to
celebrate and sorrow, rejoice, and recover.

This is a place where lives are made new.

Come and listen for the Holy Spirit calling you
to love your neighbor wholeheartedly,
seek justice, create peace,
and practice compassion.

As members of the body of Christ, we are called to be ministers of reconciliation both in the church and in the world. Through our baptism we are reconciled to God through the saving grace of Christ Jesus and challenged by the Gospel to be agents of healing and love within our church and society. As a community of faith, we proclaim this statement of welcome.