

Seventh Sunday of Easter



Sacrament of Holy Communion

May 17, 2026

8:15 a.m.

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

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. Please stand as you are able for parts of the service noted with an asterisk (*). Thank you for silencing your electronic devices.

In this bulletin, ELW# refers to hymns in the back half of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (cranberry color). ACS# refers to hymns in the back half of *All Creation Sings* (purple color). Both books are found in the chair rack in front of you. Other symbols used throughout this bulletin:

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. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with a member of the staff.

The Paschal Candle was lit for the first time on Easter Eve and remains lit during the Easter Season to show the presence of the risen Christ among his people. Thereafter, it is lit at baptisms and funerals as a sign of dying and rising with Christ, of our death and his life.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C **Amen.**

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

P Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*). Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN: *You Servants of God*

ELW 825

*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.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

All sing the refrain; the choir sings the verses.

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

Cantor

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. *Refrain*

2 Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L *Let us pray:* O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF ASCENSION

Hyfrydol

Alleluia! Not as orphans
 Are we left in sorrow now;
 Alleluia! He is near us;
 Faith believes, nor questions how.
 Though the cloud from sight received
 him
 When the forty days were o’er,
 Shall our hearts forget his promise:
 “I am with you evermore”?

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
 His the scepter, his the throne;
 Alleluia! His the triumph,
 His the victory alone.
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
 Thunder like a mighty flood:
 “Jesus out of ev’ry nation
 Has redeemed us by his blood.”

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all

the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated. The Holy Gospel will be read as part of the Sermon this morning.

SERMON, FOLLOWED BY SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

John 17:1-11

¹After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *Son of God, Eternal Savior*

ELW 655

*APOSTLES' CREED

C 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: *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

setting, Robert J. Powell

*OFFERTORY

Lasst uns erfreuen

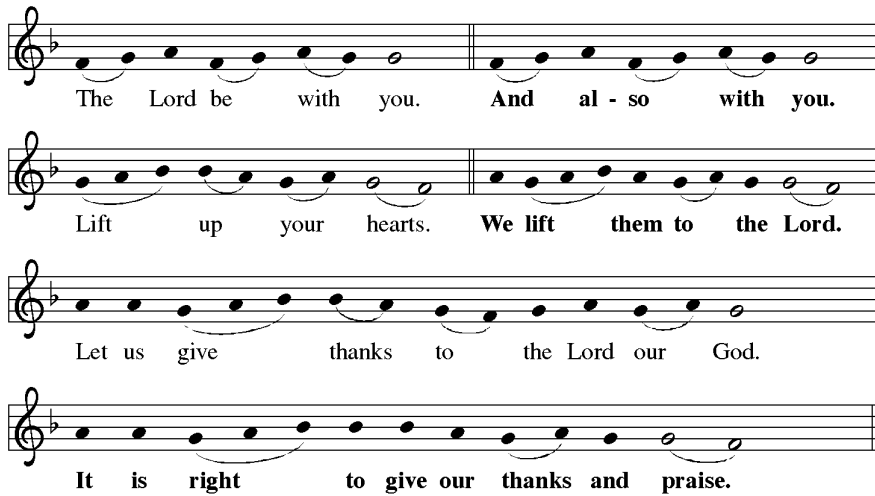
Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

*DIALOGUE



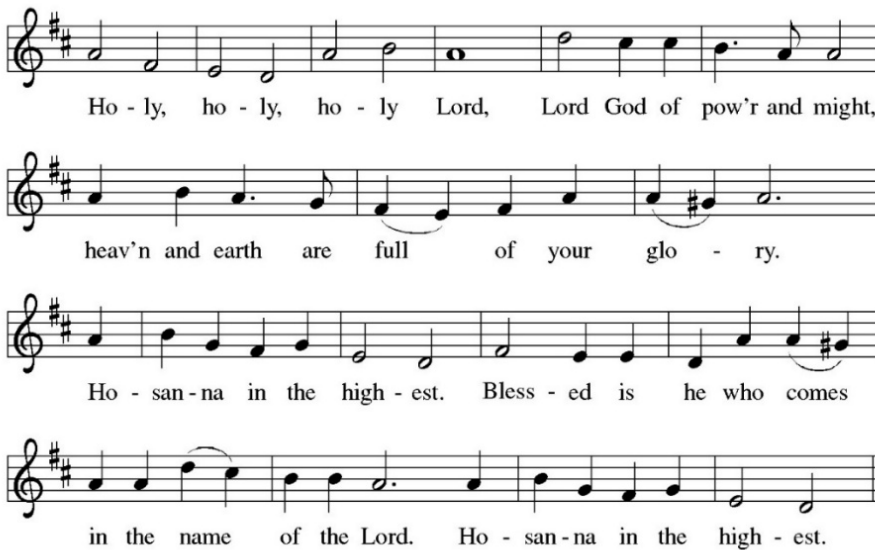
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

*PREFACE AND CANTICLE



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 AND 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

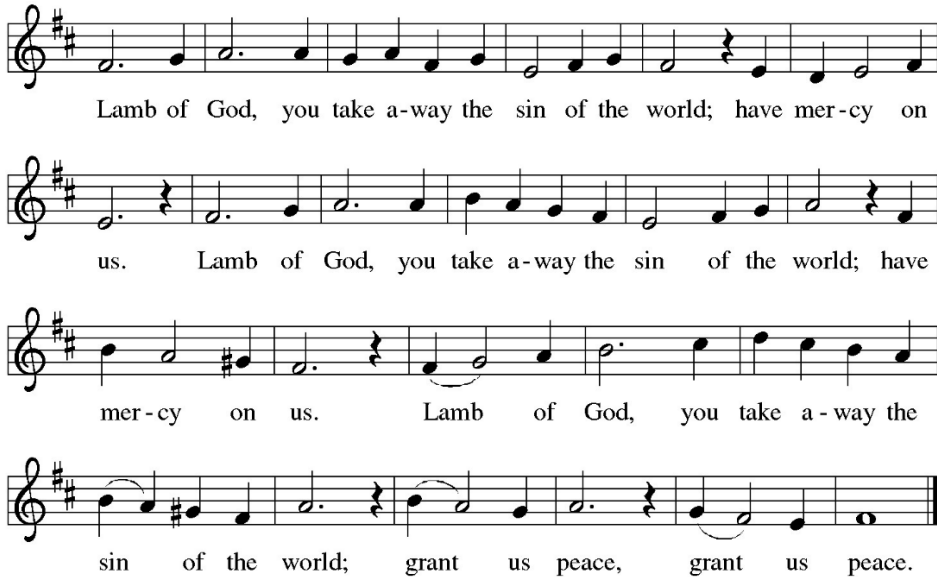
P Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

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.

LAMB OF GOD



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 HYMN: *Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed*

ELW 463

*TABLE BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A *Let us pray:* Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C **Amen.**

*BLESSING FOR TRAVELERS TO EGYPT AND JORDAN

*BLESSING

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

*SENDING HYMN: *Praise the Lord! O Heavens*

ELW 823

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: *Fugue in G Major*

J.S. Bach

Lift Up in Prayer

Taylor Balderas	Patricia Gallian	Charlie	Daniel
Helen Bardell	Ruth Hess	Raffensperger	Dennis
George Bielen	Karen Holtzworth	Anne Rost	Jake
Jim Bixler	Allison Hutchison	Selene Scavitto	Jane
Barbara Braband	Paulette Izydorski	Lisa Sites	Josh & Lindsey
Rick Buck	Diann James	Lou Shuba	Leslie
Jim Caler	Dave Kloster	John Steinberger	Sean
David Chapman	Sam & Ed Main	Michelle	Sue
Judy Coup	Chelli McGlaughlin	Steinberger	Tiffany
Rhea Crowell	Jen Mickelson	Mary Stevenson	Wayne
Joanne Fisher	Becky Nelson	Cheryl Weaver	Wesley
Tim Fleming	Harold & Mindy	Avery	Will
Erin Freeman	Plank	Beverly	
Caleb Freeman		Bill	

We pray for the members of the St. James community who are departing to Egypt & Jordan on Tuesday May 19. May they stay safe in their travels, make memories that last a lifetime, and allow their faith in You to continue to grow.

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of our daughter, Blake Marie Kehr from Matt, Heather, Oliver and Carson Kehr.

Announcements



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.





Save-the-Date for VBS - June 8-12 from 9AM - 11:45AM, at St. James Lutheran Church in partnership with Christ Lutheran. Use the QR codes to register your youth for VBS today, or to sign up as a volunteer!



Council Elections –This weekend, May 16 & May 17, at all worship services.

End of Year Youth Updates –The last dates for youth group this year are Sun. May 17 (Middle & High), Mon. May 18 (Gr. 4 & 5), and Wed. May 20 (Gr. K-3). Sunday May 24 is the last date for Youth Sunday School.

Gettysburg PRIDE Festival - St. James will be participating in Gettysburg PRIDE - Friday 5/29 & Saturday 5/30. We will have a group in the PRIDE Walk on Friday evening and a booth at the Gettysburg Rec Park on Saturday. Volunteers are needed on Saturday 5/30 to set up, welcome festival visitors, share info. with visitors about St. James, and tear down. Use the QR code to sign up to volunteer!



Weekly Bible Study Updates – Thurs. at 10:00 a.m. in the Gathering Area. We are covering “The Separation of Church & Hate” by John Fugelsang. **There will be no study on 5/21 or 5/28, as Pr. Andrew will be away. Folks are still invited to meet for fellowship during this time.**

Common Ground Recovery Ministry – All are welcome to join us @ 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room on the 1st Monday of each month. Our next service is Monday 6/1/26!

Camp Nawakwa Sign Ups – It’s once again time to sign-up for camp. Many St. James youth participate in camps at Nawakwa (or Kirkenwald). Tiered registration fees and financial discounts are available! Please reach out to Mr. Adam or the staff at Nawakwa with any questions about camp.

Serving in Worship

Preacher

Rev. Andrew Geib

8:15 am Worship Service

Acolyte

Presider

Rev. Libby Baker-Mikesell

Bell Ringer

Minister of Music

Jonathan Noel

Prayer of the Day

Cantor

Mike Guise

Lay Readers

Sherri Alms, Glenn Munsee

Assisting Minister

Ruth Topper

Communion Assistants

Dee Wells

Lucinda Bringman

Daniel Bringman

Michael Guise

Ushers

Catharine Senft-Geib

Shirley Sanders

Brad Smith

Greeters

Betsy Keefer

Barbara Nicks

Bread Baker

Sue Roberts

Sacristy

Dee Wells

Debby Luquette

Coffee Host

Christina Moore

AV Operator

Denise Wood