

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Sacrament of Holy Communion

August 30, 2026

8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

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.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ELW 834

*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 God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Word

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

CHOIR ANTHEM (10:45): *Sing to the Lord a New Song* Melody by Joseph Haydn, arr. Hal H. Hopson
Sing to the Lord a new song; all the earth rejoice and sing. Tell forth God's glory, tell it forth from day to day. We are God's people, the sheep of God's own pasture. Come and kneel before the Lord our God; bow down in awe, the Lord is in this holy place. Be joyful, sing a new song. All earth rejoice and sing praise forevermore. (based on Psalm 95:6-7 and 96:1-2)

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,

for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 26

tune, Walton

**Be now my judge, O LORD, my God,
For I have walked among the just;
With confidence, I shall not fall,
For always you have been my trust.**

**Test me, O LORD, before your sight;
The secrets of my heart reveal;
And for the wrongs which mar my cause,
To your great mercy, I appeal.**

**I flee from empty boasts of pride,
And shun the dismal haunts of woe;
Their evil threats, my path would spurn;
Thy truth, my light, where' er I go.**

**O God, I love your holy house,
Where justice clothed in love resides;
The lure of earth cannot corrupt
The soul which in your grace abides.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON, FOLLOWED BY SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *Will You Come and Follow Me*

ELW 798

*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

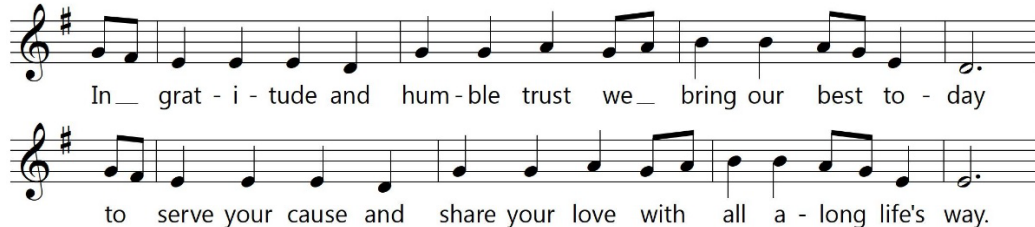
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

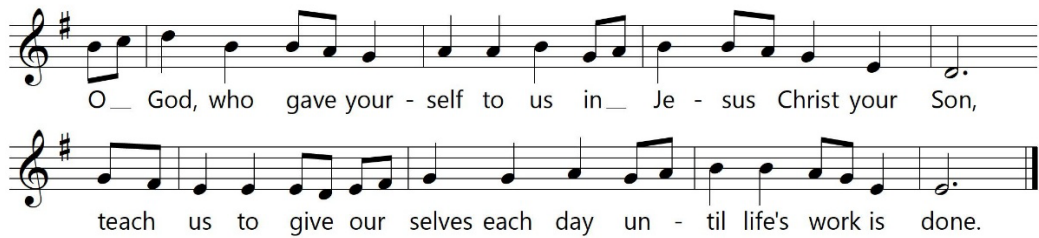
TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING: *Air from Orchestral Suite in D*

Johann Sebastian Bach

*OFFERTORY





*OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

*DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

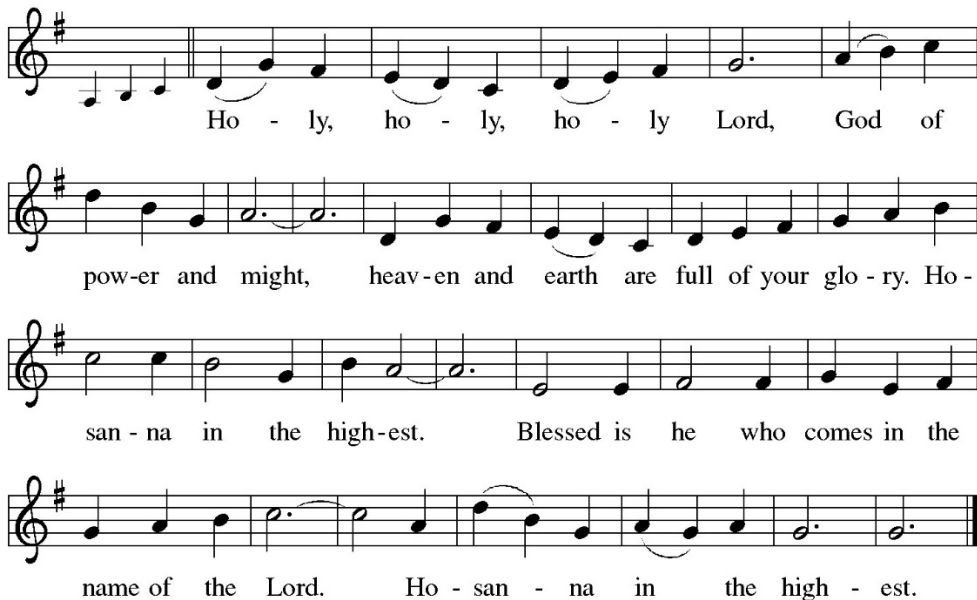
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE AND CANTICLE



*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

C 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 Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

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.

*COMMUNION HYMN: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

ELW 656

*TABLE BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C Amen.

Sending

God blesses us in mission to the world

*BLESSING

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C Amen.

*SENDING HYMN: *Jesus, Still Lead On*

ELW 624

*DISMISSAL

A Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Praeludium in A*

Johann Krieger

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Portions of the liturgy are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Anthem © 2003 Choristers Guild. Psalm from The Psalter for Christian Worship © 2010 Michael Morgan. Used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press. Offertory text © 1969, ren. 1981 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company. Print and streaming permissions granted by Augsburg Fortress License #SAS024997, CCLI License #2678434, and OneLicense.net #A-707473.

Lift Up in Prayer

Helen Bardell	Janet Landon	Tom Smith	Carol
Hope Bixler	Sam & Ed Main	John Steinberger	Daniel
Jim Caler	Chelli McGlaughlin	Michelle	Dennis
David Chapman	Jen Mickelson	Steinberger	Jake
Judy Coup	Glenn Munsee	Mary Stevenson	Jane
Marty Crabill	Jerry Neth	Wendy Sykes	Josh & Lindsey
Rhea Crowell	Mindy Plank	Dottie Thompson	Sally
Joanne Fisher	Dave Olsen	Cheryl Weaver	Sean
Tim Fleming	Charlie	Deana Wolf	Sue
Erin Freeman	Raffensperger	Anne Young	Tiffany
Caleb Freeman	Anne Rost	Scott Zimmerer	Tom
Andy Heaton	Selene Scavitto	Alli	Wayne
Ruth Hess	Lisa Sites	Avery	Wesley
Allison Hutchison	Lou Shuba	Beverly	Will
Diann James	Cynthia Smith	Bill	

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

In loving memory of my parents Eugene & Earnestine Strobert, by their son Nelson.

In loving memory of Kyle and Chris Biser, by Gareth and Shirley Biser.

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.



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 9/7/26!**

Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Andrew – Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Gathering Area. We are watching a variety of movies over the summer. Currently showing: *A Man Called Otto*

Register for 2026-2027 Youth Group – Middle & High School youth group starts on 8/30, grades 4 & 5 start on 8/31, and grades K-3 begin on 9/2.

Sign up here: stjamesgettysburg.org/youth/youth-group

Recruiting Scouts – Cub pack 79 is recruiting new scouts for the fall. The pack serves boys and girls kindergarten through 5th grade. Join us for an information night on Thursday, September 3 at 7PM at the church (use the East entrance to the lower level, next to the Youth Yard).

5th Sunday Servant Event – During the month of August we are collecting school supplies to benefit the United Way's Back-to-School Drive.

Save The Date : September 13

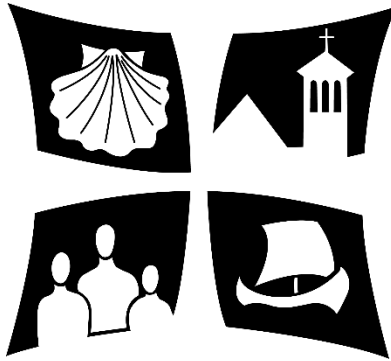
Rally Day – Youth Sunday School and Confirmation classes resume on this date.

God's Work. Our Hands Sunday – Join members of the St. James community to serve in various community service tasks in the Gettysburg / Adams County area.

Volunteer Appreciation – Council is hosting Fellowship between services to recognize all our volunteers at St. James.

Bring a Friend Sunday – the Evangelism & Fellowship Committee is encouraging everyone to Bring a Friend to Church on September 13.

Gettysburg Area Dollars for Scholars (GADS) Access Scholarship Program – During the month of September, we will be collecting funds for The Access Scholarship, which financially supports low-income students who take "College in the Classroom" courses while in high school. These students can simultaneously earn high school and college credits. Please consider supporting The Access Scholarship, organized by GADS. Checks can be made payable to St. James Lutheran Church, memo line "scholarship." Place your gift in the offering plate.



***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.

Serving in Worship

Preacher & Presider

Rev. Libby Baker – Mikesell

Minister of Music

Jonathan Noel

Choir Anthem

(10:45) Summer Choir

Assisting Minister

James Dunlop

8:15 am Worship Service

Acolyte

Caden Miller

Bell Ringer

Carter Waybright

Prayer of the Day

Findley Waybright

Lay Readers

Judy Seilhamer

Savannah Munsee

Communion Assistants

Dee Wells, Shirley Sanders

Daniel Bringman

Ushers

Heather Kehr, Oliver Kehr

Emma Schneider

Ron Sollenberger

Greeters

Brie Smith

Kim McGlaughlin

Bread Baker

Heather Kehr

Sacristy

Shirley Sanders

Debby Luquette

Coffee Host

John Alwine

AV Operator

Denise Wood

10:45 am Worship Service

Acolyte

Thomas Urai-Thang

Bell Ringer

Sam Dunlop

Prayer of the Day

Sophia Schade

Lay Readers

Carol Widerman

Jeremiah Sawmtheen

Communion Assistants

Carol Widerman, Sharon

Kaya, Jan Keefer, Carol Cook

Ushers

Catherine Senft-Geib

Bob Cook, John Fisher

Mark Withrow

Greeters

Ann Ketterman, Becky Brown

Bread Baker

Sue Currens

Sacristy

Dan Kessel, Carol Widerman

Flower Deliverer

Pete Bender

AV Operator

Gary Smith