

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Sacrament of Holy Communion

September 6, 2026

8:15 a.m. 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. 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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN: *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun*

ELW 557

*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

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

Robert A. 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)

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Teach me, O LORD, Your holy Law;
The will to follow so impart
That I with understanding may
Observe it with a faithful heart.

Let your right path be ever mine,
For in Your precepts I delight;
May selfish gain and empty pride
Be turned away and put to flight.

Grant us the passion to embrace
Your constant will amid all strife;
For faith unfalt'ring, grant us grace;
For righteousness, eternal life.

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The 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, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*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 your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But 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. ¹⁷ If that person 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. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, 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. ²⁰ For 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 SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *In All Our Grief*

ELW 615

*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: "Hear us, O God." Our response: **"Your mercy is great."**

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING: *Basse et Dessus de Trompette*

Louis-Nicolas Clérambeau

*OFFERTORY

In_ grat - i - tude and hum - ble trust we_ bring our best to - day
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.
O_ God, who gave your - self to us in_ Je - sus Christ your Son,
teach us to give our selves each day un - til life's work is done.

*OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

*DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

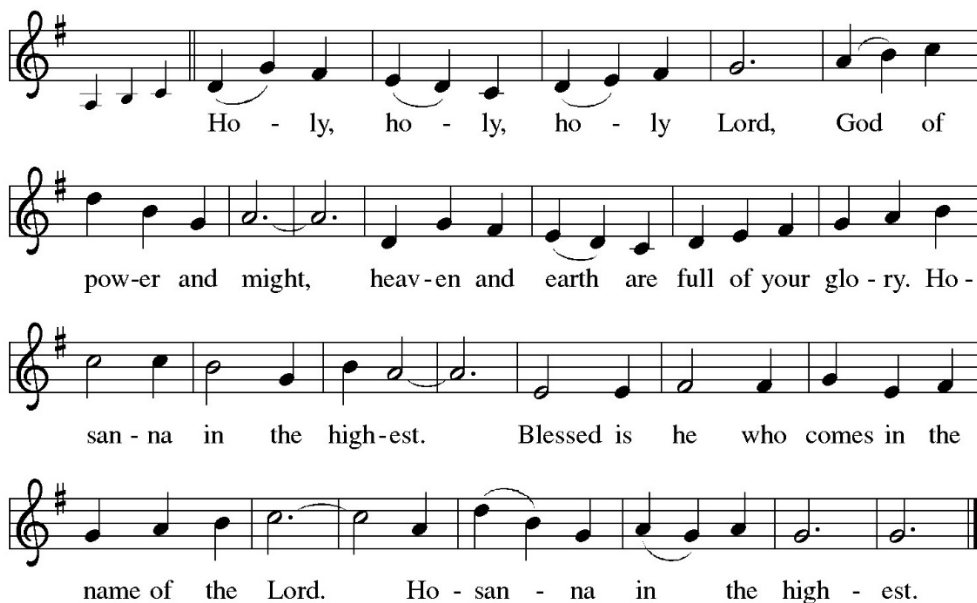
P Lift up your hearts.

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



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.

*EUCHARISTIC 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 Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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: *When We Are Living*

ELW 639

*TABLE BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A *Let us pray:* Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us in mission to the world

*BLESSING

P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

P The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN: *Faith Begins by Letting Go*

ACS 1004

*DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *Point d'Orgue*

Nicolas DeGrigny

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Lift Up in Prayer

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

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

In loving memory of V. Carole Flanagan, by James Flanagan and Chad Sujeski.

In loving memory of my husband Marty, by Anne Young and family.

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.

Register for 2026-2027 Youth Group - Middle & High School Youth Group meets on Sunday evenings, grades 4 & 5 meets on Monday afternoons, and grades K-3 meets on Wednesday afternoons. You can still sign up here: stjamesgettysburg.org/youth/youth-group

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.

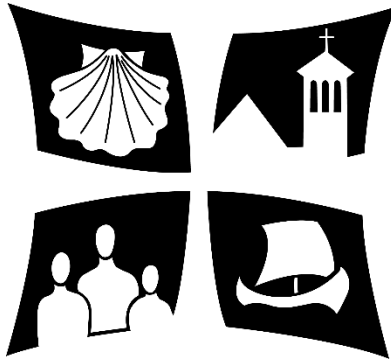
Bring a Friend Sunday – the Evangelism & Fellowship Committee is encouraging everyone to Bring a Friend to Church on September 13.

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 “GADS.” Place your gift in the offering plate.

Fall Book Club - Fall Book Club with Pastor Libby will begin on Monday, October 12 at 3PM in the church library. We will be reading and discussing The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd. Stay tuned for details!

Just War Series Slides & Notes -Tom Vossler hosted this series in July and his presentation slides and notes are now available on the St. James website. They are 34 & 42 pages so think twice before you hit “print!”

Fall Festival & Blessing of the Animals - Sunday, October 18 at the Vossler Farm. Worship at 10AM, Pot-luck lunch immediately following worship. No worship or Sunday School at church on this date. More details & RSVP to follow.



***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

Rev. Andrew R. Geib

Presider

Rev. Libby Baker – Mikesell

Minister of Music

Jonathan Noel

Choir Anthem

(10:45) Summer Choir

Assisting Minister

Lucinda Bringman

8:15 am Worship Service

Acolyte

Caden Miller

Bell Ringer

Karen Smith

Prayer of the Day

Lay Readers

Daniel Bringman

Dwight Michael

Communion Assistants

Peggy Green, Colleen Smith

Dee Wells, Daniel Bringman

Ushers

Eric Smith, Cindy Zepp

Alan Zepp, Dave Williams

Greeters

Kim McGlaughlin

Peggy Green

Bread Baker

Peggy Green

Sacristy

Diane Miles

Dee Wells

Coffee Host

Shirley Sanders

AV Operator

Denise Wood

10:45 am Worship Service

Acolyte

Briah Russo

Bell Ringer

Sam Dunlop

Prayer of the Day

Burke Waybright

Lay Readers

James Dunlop, Jan Keefer

Communion Assistants

Sherry Waybright

Sharon Kaya, Carol Cook

Gloria Unger

Ushers

Catherine Senft-Geib

Katy Clowney, Liam Clowney

Greeters

John Alwine, Brenda Alwine

Bread Baker

Julie Dunlop

Sacristy

Alma Sujeski, Carol

Widerman

Flower Deliverer

John Alwine

AV Operator

Hunter Kauffman