

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



Sacrament of Holy Communion

October 11, 2026

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

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

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.

Narrative Bulletin

The Worship and Music Committee recommends occasional use of a narrative bulletin. This sidebar provides helpful information about the service to deepen our understanding of worship.

We acknowledge our sinfulness and receive God's word of forgiveness, giving thanks that God makes us alive together with Christ. (Ephesians 2:5)

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: *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

ELW 873

*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:* Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

(8:15) *As We Gather at Your Table*

K. Lee Scott

¹As we gather at your table, as we listen to your Word, help us know, O God, your presence: let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it for our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known. ²Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive and you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save. ³Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more

Singing is a natural expression of our thanks and praise to God as we begin worship together as a community.

The minister and assembly greet each other in the name of the Triune God.

A thematic prayer concludes the Gathering.

The anthem reflects upon themes of the day and helps to prepare us to hear the scripture readings.

will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy. (Carl P. Daw, Jr.)

(10:45) *Come, Share this Feast of Love* Lloyd Larson

Here is my body that's broken for you, come share this feast of love. Here is the blood that I shed for you, come, share this feast of love. Here is the life that I lived for you, come share this feast of love. Here is the life that I gave for you, come share this feast of love. Come in prayer: bring your pain, bring your care. Come, my child, and share. Here is the peace that your soul has sought, come share the feast of love. Here is the peace that my dying bought, come share this feast of love. (Mary Kay Beall)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

¹ O Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

² For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.

³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶ On 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.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,

The Old Testament
reading recalls
God's work among
us from days of old.

and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all
the earth,

for the Lord has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,

“See, 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.”

P The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

tune, Forest Green

As faithful shepherds tend their flocks,

So God will care for me;

And from God's store of grace my needs

Are met abundantly.

In pastures green, by waters still,

My soul new life doth take;

And in the paths of righteousness

I follow, for God's sake.

When death surrounds I will not fear,

God's strength dispels my dread;

I hold God's blessing in my heart

And face my fear instead.

For as a lamb, my comfort rests

Upon the Shepherd's rod,

To bring me home, where'er I stray

Into the fold of God.

A bounteous feast for me is placed

In presence of my foes;

My head with oil the LORD anoints,

My cup with grace o'erflows.

The loving-kindness of the LORD

Is mine for all my days;

And in God's house for evermore

I'll join the songs of praise.

A selection from the
song book of
ancient Israel is sung
in response to the
Old Testament
reading.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

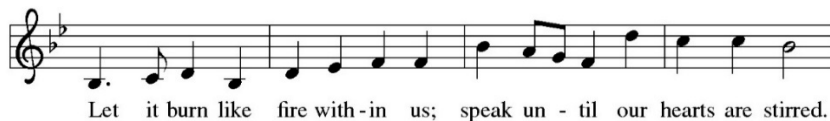
⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The New Testament reading bears the witness of the early church.

We acclaim the presence of Christ as he comes to us in the reading of the Holy Gospel.

*HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON, FOLLOWED BY SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *Now We Join in Celebration*

ELW 462

The four Gospels contain the life and teachings of Jesus.

The Gospel reading leads directly to preaching which brings the good news into our time and place to awaken and nourish our faith.

The people sing their response to the reading and preaching of God’s Word.

*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: *Hold Me, Jesus*

Rich Mullins

*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.

An ancient trinitarian statement of faith is professed by the whole church.

Supplications, intercessions, and thanksgiving are to be made for everyone (1 Tim. 2:1)

The words by which Jesus greets his disciples are a sign of God's reconciliation with us and with one another.

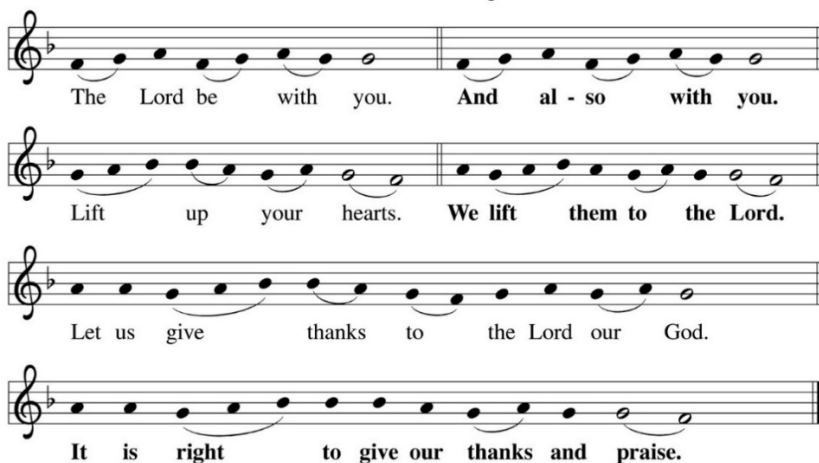
With thanksgiving, we offer ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Bread and wine for the feast are also brought to the table.

*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



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

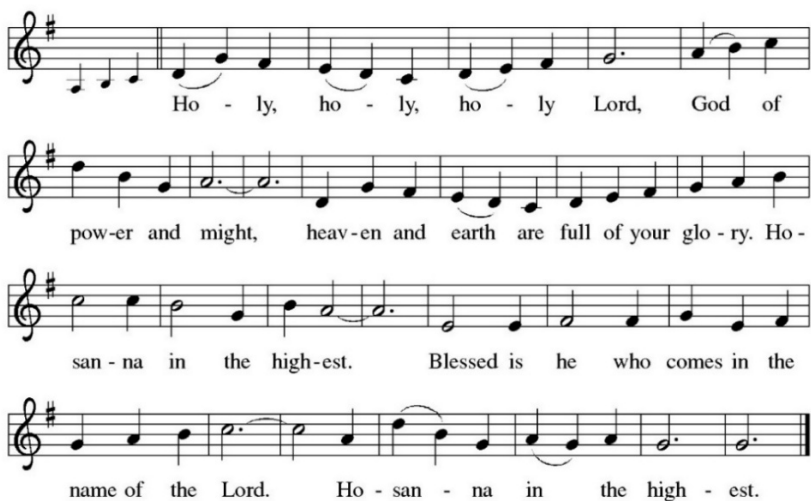
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

*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.

Before the Lord's Supper is shared, we give thanks for the gifts of creation and redemption.

We join our voices with all of creation and sing the angels' song. (Isaiah 6:3)

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

***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.

MUSIC: *Song without Words (Op. 19, No. 1)* Felix Mendelssohn

***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.

We hear the words Jesus spoke at the Last Supper.

We praise God for acts of creation and faithfulness, for the saving work of Jesus Christ, and for the presence of the Holy Spirit in this meal.

We conclude with the prayer that Jesus taught us.

In this meal we are forgiven and given new life.

We recognize the presence of the risen Christ who is made known in the breaking of bread (Luke 24:30).

We are united with one another in the body of Christ.

We receive the body of Christ to live as the body of Christ in the world.

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: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

ELW 547

*DISMISSAL

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

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Dialog for the Juhkentaals*

Russell Shulz-Widmar

Receiving God's blessing, we are sent from the table into daily baptismal living, proclaiming the good news, living in service to others, caring for all in need, and continuing our participation in God's mission.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Portions of the liturgy are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. "As We Gather at Your Table" text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, music © 1993,2005 Augsburg Fortress. "Come, Share this Feast of Love" © 1995 Beckenhorst Press. 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

Cathy Aker	Nancy Horniak	Tom Smith	Dennis
Helen Bardell	Allison Hutchison	John Steinberger	Gary
Hope Bixler	Diann James	Michelle	Jake
Jim Caler	Sam & Ed Main	Steinberger	Jane
David Chapman	Jen Mickelson	John Stevenson	Josh & Lindsey
Judy Coup	Jerry Neth	Mary Stevenson	Joyce
Gary & Sue	Mindy Plank	Charles	Pete
Currens	Dave Olsen	Strathmeyer	Sally
Marty Crabill	Charlie	Wendy Sykes	Sean
Wally Crum	Raffensperger	Dottie Thompson	Sue
Joanne Fisher	Sam Roop	Cheryl Weaver	Tiffany
Tim Fleming	Anne Rost	Avery	Tom
Erin Freeman	Selene Scavitto	Beverly	Wayne
Caleb Freeman	Lisa Sites	Bill	Wesley
Travis & Juanita	Lou Shuba	Carol	Will
Gardner	Deborah Smith	Daniel	

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

In loving memory of Margaret Thomas Nutter, given by Jane Nutter.

In loving memory of Marty Young, given by Anne Young.

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 11/2/26!**

Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Andrew –Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Gathering Area. All are welcome !

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

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. RSVP: StJamesGettysburg.org/events

New Members Class - Interested in becoming a member of St. James? Come to a new member class today at noon in the gathering area. Lunch will be provided! New members will be welcomed into the congregation during services on October 25th. If interested in membership at St. James, please reach out to Pastor Andrew or Pastor Libby.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Christian Nationalism Series – Led by Amy Duncan and Tom Vossler, this 4 part series will take place on Wednesdays: 10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4, from 6-7:30 PM, in the Gathering Area. Contact Amy with any questions: duncan744@verizon.net

VisiTeam Info Session - We are organizing a new Visitation Team, VisiTeam, to provide visitation to homebound or hospitalized members of the St. James community. Find out more at the information session today at 9:30 AM. See Paula Shoemaker or Debra Baker with additional questions.

Winter Clothing Drive for Int'l Students at Gettysburg College - The World Outreach Committee, in partnership with the Int'l Student Services at Gettysburg College, is collecting winter clothing items for economically challenged international students. We are collecting gloves, hats, scarves, vests, coats, sweatshirts, etc. for young male (M, L & XL) and female (S, M, L) students. New and nearly new clean items can be accepted until Oct. 11. Collection bins are located in the church office and outside the worship space. Interested in hosting a student or two for a Thanksgiving meal? Contact Debra Baker, or Daniel or Mary Folkemer.

Clothing Drive for Rainbow Rose – The Rainbow Rose center is seeking clothing donations. They can accept new and gently used clothes (no stains or holes), shoes, and accessories. The clothing is helping those in transition, so larger women's clothing (especially footwear) and more petite sizes in men's clothing is ideal. Place any donations in the bin outside the church office.

United Lutheran Seminary Luther Bowl Referee -The ULS Luther Bowl Committee is looking for at least 3 volunteers to referee for our annual flag football game on Saturday, October 24 at 10:30AM! Volunteers are welcome to join us for breakfast (free of charge) that morning at 7:45AM and for our ecumenical worship service at 9:00AM (optional). Volunteers may receive a small stipend for their time and contribution to this event. Interested or have questions? Please contact Victoria Jesswein, at vjesswein@uls.edu

Serving in Worship

Preacher

Rev. Libby Baker-Mikesell

Presider

Rev. Andrew R. Geib

Minister of Music

Jonathan Noel

Musical Offering

Ernie Kranias

Assisting Minister

James Dunlop

8:15 Worship

Acolyte

Emma Schneider

Bell Ringer

Emerson Kimble

Prayer of the Day

Findley Waybright

Lay Readers

Holly Musselman

Tom Vossler

Communion Assistants

Colleen Smith, Julie Aha

Judy Seilhamer, Peggy Green

Ushers

Cindy Zepp, Alan Zepp

Eric Smith, Jim Flanagan

Greeters

Charlie Gomer, Anne Gomer

Bread Baker

Barbara Vossler

Sacristy

Brie Smith, Peggy Green

Coffee Host

Amy Duncan

AV Operator

Katy Clowney

10:45 Worship

Acolyte

Sophia Schade

Bell Ringer

Connor Clowney

Prayer of the Day

Noah Rospigliosi

Lay Readers

Anne Young, Debra Baker

Communion Assistants

Sharon Kaya, Anne Young

Gloria Unger

Sherry Waybright

Ushers

Mark Clowney, Liam Clowney

Gabbi Scavitto

Mark Withrow

Greeters

Becky Brown, Ann Ketterman

Bread Baker

Ann Ketterman

Sacristy

Alma Sujeski, Anne Young

Flower Deliverer

Pete Bender

AV Operator

Katy Clowney