

# The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA Reconciling in Christ, Rejoicing Spirits, and handicap friendly Congregation

3461 Cedar Crest Blvd.  
Emmaus, PA 18049-1599  
PHONE 610.967.2220  
FAX 610.966.3021

email [info@holyspirit-emmaus.org](mailto:info@holyspirit-emmaus.org)  
[www.lchsemmaus.org](http://www.lchsemmaus.org)  
[www.facebook.com/lchsemmaus](https://www.facebook.com/lchsemmaus)

For it is  
from within,  
from the  
human heart,  
that evil  
intentions come...

Mark 7:21, NRSV



15th Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, September 1, 2024  
10:30 am

## **The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life**

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey  
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ  
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

**We welcome all who worship with us today.**

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,  
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

**Children are welcome and celebrated!**

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship. Stop by to borrow a book, pick up some coloring sheets and crayons or take along a copy of this week’s children’s bulletin.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

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**HOLY COMMUNION**

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children may receive the sacrament if they have completed instruction with a pastor.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Gathering Music**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Walter L. Pelz

## **Welcome and Announcements**

*We rise in body or spirit.*

## **Gathering Dialog**

Here, our Beloved speaks to us;  
the voice of our Beloved sounds in our hearts:  
**calling us to generous acts, to share the gifts we have been given.**

Now, our Beloved speaks to us;  
the voice of our Beloved sounds in our land:  
**calling us to generous acts, to open our hearts to all in need.**

In every place, in every moment, our Beloved speaks to us;  
the voice of our Beloved sounds in all creation:  
**calling us to generous acts, to stand with God's people:  
the least, the lost, the little, the last.**



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

*Refrain*



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

## Greeting

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



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



① Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



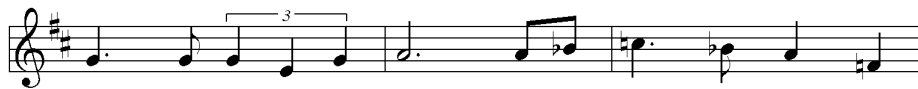
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



② Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

☩ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
 I  
 II For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly  
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.  
 ☩ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,  
 and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Holy One, your wisdom cries out in the street, calling us to seek your will.  
 Teach us, by your Spirit, to be doers of your word and not merely hearers,  
 that our faith may bear good fruit in works of service and love;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from Deuteronomy.

“So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you.

You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them and perform them, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!’

For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

“But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – James 1:17-27**

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave birth to us by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters:  
let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger,  
for human anger does not produce God's righteousness.  
Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness,  
and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.  
For if any are hearers of the word and not doers,  
they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror;  
for they look at themselves and, on going away,  
immediately forget what they were like.  
But those who look into the perfect law,  
the law of liberty, and persevere,  
being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts,  
their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father  
is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained  
by the world.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**



We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

## Gospel Acclamation

## Alleluia

WOV 5



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel – Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Translation: NRSV-UE

The Good News from Mark, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### Open our hearts, Lord.

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ “You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.” Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

This is the Good News!  
**Thanks be to God!**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Sermon**

Pastor Shari Duminy

*We rise in body or spirit.*

**Hymn of the Day**

Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil

ELW 512



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

## **Apostles' Creed**

Let us profess our faith in the words of the 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 power of 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 the People**

*Invitation to prayer:*

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*After each petition:*

God of every good gift,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Pastor's closing prayer:*

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God,  
in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen**

## **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,  
"Peace be with you."*

*The assembly is seated.*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **Response to God's gifts**

The assembly responds to the Word of God by gathering an offering for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please place your offering in the offering plates on the tables in the rear of the worship center.  
The table is set.

*We rise in body or spirit.*

### **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

We lift our voices in joy and hope,  
singing with the choirs of angels in heaven,  
and with all the faithful of every place and time,  
telling of your glory forever:

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

### Words of Institution

### Word in Meal

Generous God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon those who gather around your table, and upon the gifts of the bread and the cup.

As they are the body of your Servant and the Spirit of your compassion, may we become the healing and hope the world longs for in our time.

As you touch our lips with your life, may we be quick to speak of justice; as you pour grace into our hearts, may we be doers of your Word, those whose hands are marked by generous acts of kindness:

feeding the hungry,

clothing the naked,

lifting the fallen to their feet,

comforting all who are broken.

## **Lord's Prayer**

God in Community, Holy in One, our tongues are ready to sing your praises, even as we pray as you have taught us, saying:

**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 to the table**

Jesus welcomes you to this table.  
Come, here is your God.

*The assembly is seated.*

## **Distribution of communion**

The body of Christ given for you.  
The blood of Christ shed for you.



☪ 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

Come, Ye Disconsolate

ELW 607



1 Come, ye dis - con - so - late, wher - e'er ye lan - guish;  
 2 Joy of the des - o - late, light of the stray - ing,  
 3 Here see the Bread of life; see wa - ters flow - ing



come to the mer - cy - seat, fer - vent - ly kneel.  
 hope of the pen - i - tent, fade - less and pure;  
 forth from the throne of God, pure from a - bove.



Here bring your wound-ed hearts, here tell your an - guish;  
 here speaks the Com - fort - er, ten - der - ly say - ing,  
 Come to the feast of love; come, ev - er know - ing



earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not heal.  
 "Earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not cure."  
 earth has no sor - row but heav'n can re - move.





1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly  
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,  
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,  
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;  
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward  
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith  
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.  
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.  
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,  
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

*We rise in body or spirit.*

### Prayer after communion

Let us pray.  
 Holy God,  
 you have welcomed us to this meal  
 and fed us with dignity at your table.  
 Send us now to welcome others  
 and to be at peace with one another,  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Blessing

God all mighty,  
God most merciful † bless you, keep you,  
and give you peace.  
**Amen**

## Sending Hymn

Restore in Us, O God

ELW 328



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -  
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from  
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -  
4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.  
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

## Dismissal

God and be doers of the word, agents of God's work in the world.  
This is the calling of the gospel.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Sending Music

Prelude in C Major

J. S. Bach

**Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:**

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: [lhsemmaus.org](http://lhsemmaus.org).

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## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor  
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor  
Pastor Cindy Camp, Interim Associate Pastor  
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy  
Karin Kahler, Director, Faith Formation for Children  
Nancy Pfeffer, Interim Choir Director

## **WORSHIP HELPERS**

### **Assisting Minister**

Rick Doty

### **Reader**

Beth Fatzinger

### **Song Leaders**

Cindy Cicconi-Ernst, Vi Ballard

### **Communion Assistants**

Jackie Leipert, Vi Ballard

### **Greeter**

Marian Harrison

### **Usher**

Brenda Truhe

### **Production/Technology Team**

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross, Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman,  
Bill Keane, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach,  
John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

### **Altar Care**

Brenda Brookover, Cindy Clark, Robbie Flynn, Terri Hinderliter, Linda Letts,  
Carol Osenbach, Nancy Pfeffer, Jennifer Wetzel