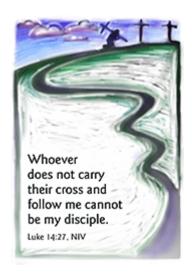
# The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

3461 Cedar Crest Blvd. Emmaus, PA 18049-1599 PHONE 610.967.2220 FAX 610.966.3021 email info@holyspirit-emmaus.org www.lchsemmaus.org www.facebook.com/lchsemmaus



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 7, 2025 8:30 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 or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

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 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** 

I Will Follow
Shannon Diaz, soloist
Glenn Hinderliter, percussion

Tomlin, Ingram & Morgan

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Mission Moment

We rise in body or spirit.

#### Confession

Creator God, you have made us in your image and created us for greatness as we share your love, justice and compassion. Strengthen us as we answer your call. When we go astray, guide us back to your ways. When we fall apart, put us back together again. When we shrink in fear, lift our heads that we may see your love and grace that welcome us home.

God, you know us when we are at our very best and when we are at our very worst. We are a confusing mixture of our best and worst parts.

Thank you for inviting us here. Thank you for always welcoming us home.

Breathe your Spirit into our lives as we worship you today.

Be with us, now and always.

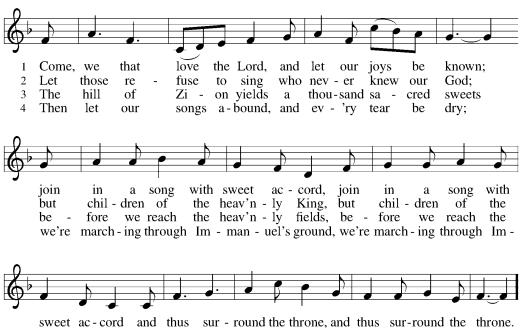
Amen

Marvelously set apart, we are created in God's image.

Marvelously saved by grace, we are re-created in Christ's love.

Marvelously sustained in faith, we are new creations in the Spirit.

Thanks be to God!



sweet ac-cord and thus sur-round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne. heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad. heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold-en streets, or walk the gold-en streets. man-uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.





## Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.** 

We pray.

Holy God, through Jesus you call us to embark on a new way of life — leaving former things behind and making way for the new thing you are doing in the world. Give us wisdom and courage to take bold steps in faith. Make us ready to take up the cross and follow as disciples of Christ our Lord.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

## WORD

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

Translation: NRSV-UE

Reading Philemon 1-21

A reading from Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. One thing more: prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you. Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my coworkers. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Luke 14:25-33

The Good News from Luke, the 14th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Courageous Christ, help us to carry the cross.

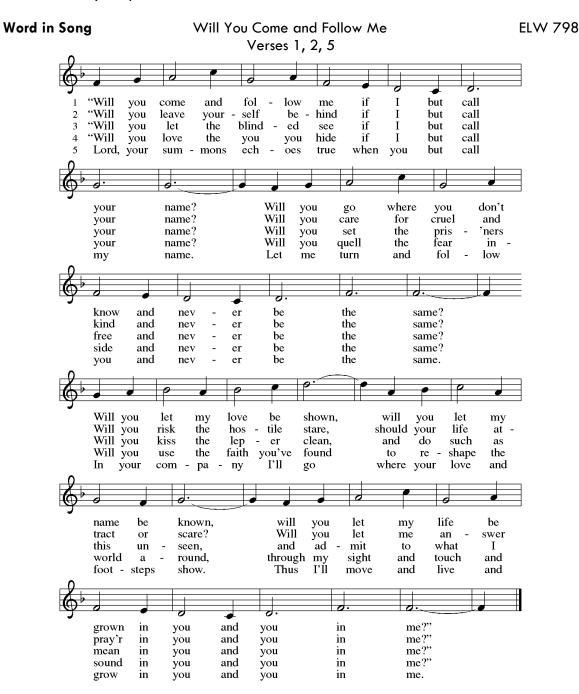
Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Kyle David, Council President

Translation: NRSVue



The assembly is seated.

## **Commissioning and Blessing of Teachers**

We rise in body or spirit.

## **Prayers of the People**

Invitation to prayer:

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each petition: Loving God, we offer our prayers, and give thanks for your love.

Pastor's closing prayer:
We entrust these prayers to you, O God,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
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.

During the Offering Song, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated. If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.



## **Offering Prayer**

We pray.

Gracious God, you have blessed us with things both great and small; you have trusted us as partners to care for your world. Bless these gifts and our lives. Transform everything we are in this life into offerings that bring your love to the world.

Amen

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.

#### Words of Institution

#### Word in Meal

Creating and re-creating God, you are the potter and we are the clay.

Renew your church today in the touch of your hands.

Search and know the places that are broken and the hearts that long to be mended.

Form your people in faithfulness to Jesus.

Shape us to be his disciples, to take up our cross and follow him.

Have your own way, Lord:

mold and make us, search us and try us, touch us and heal us, until all will see Christ only, always, living in us.

Bring us at last to the blessed day when we are one with the family of saints, in the company of the Holy Spirit, in union with Christ, now and always.

#### Amen

## **Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

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

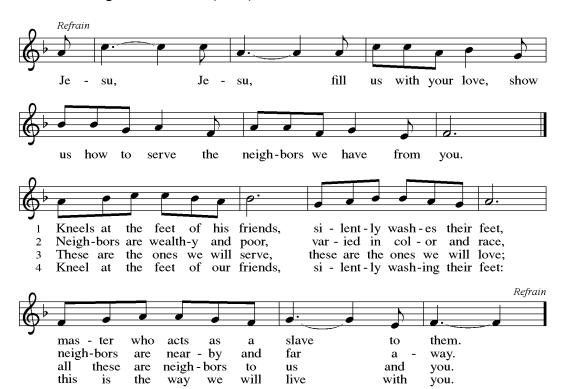
### Invitation to the table

God, who knows the intimate parts of our being, invites all of us to this table of grace.

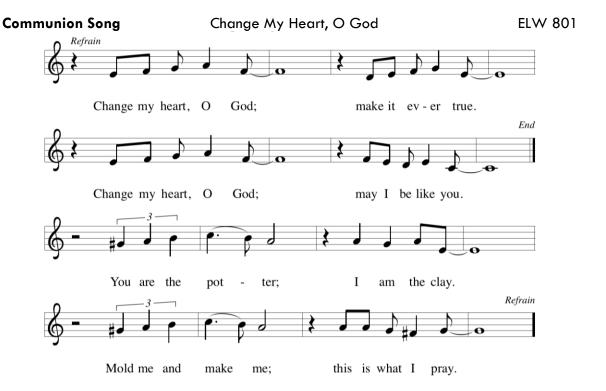
Come, all are welcome to Christ's meal of love.

The assembly is seated.

## Distribution of Communion







We rise in body or spirit.

## Prayer after communion

We pray.

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and chosen us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

### Amen

## **SENDING**

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

## **Blessing**

The God of equality, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

Amen

Sending Song Please see next page.

## Dismissal

Let us go and live in the love of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



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



uenma

- 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: lchsemmaus.org.

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Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

#### WORSHIP HELPERS

## **Assisting Minister**

Eric Kahler

### <u>Reader</u>

Diane Evans

### **Communion Assistants**

Beth Fatzinger, Dave Fatzinger

## Greeter

Irv Keister

#### Usher

Gerry Masteller

## **Production/Technology Team**

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Max H., Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross, Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

#### **Altar Care**

Deb Stevens, Bob and Carolyn Rice, Carol Osenbach, Brenda Brookover,
Jennifer Wetzel, Julie Timmcke, Terri Hinderliter,
Barb Roba, Donna Bhagat, Cindy Clark