

The 13th Sunday After Pentecost

August 23, 2026

11:00 a.m. Worship at Kreider Farm

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.

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.**

*OPENING HYMN

Morning Has Broken

ELW #556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



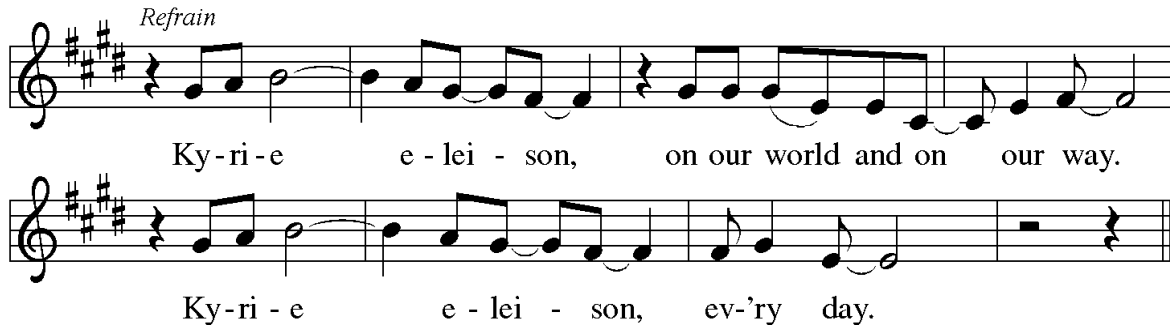
Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

*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.**

*KYRIE

S184



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ... O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,

for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

L: The word of the Lord. *C:* Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138 (*read responsively*)

¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of
your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.

⁶ **The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand
shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;**

**O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of
your hands.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to
present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is
your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be
transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the
will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of
yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment,
each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one
body we have many members and not all the members have the same
function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are
members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given
to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in
teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader,
in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

L: The word of the Lord. *C:* **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his
disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some
say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the
prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter
answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus
answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has
not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter,
and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail
against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you
bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be

loosed in heaven.”²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

Pastor Traci

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Here I Am, Lord

ELW #769



1 “I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 “I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple’s pain.
3 “I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?”
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?”



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the 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 THE CHURCH**

A: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A: God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

***THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting
that is comfortable for both you and them.*

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A: Let us pray ... 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. **C: Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

***PROPER PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our LORD Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **C: Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

***THE AGNUS DEI**

O Lamb of God, To Earth You Came

OLS #7



1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to
2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly Son, to



save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -
us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from



on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

***INVITATION**

P: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast! **C: Thanks be to God.**

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
 gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
 all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
 2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres-ence of your love.
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

***BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

***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.**

***BENEDICTION**

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

***SENDING SONG**

Let All Things Now Living

ELW # 881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



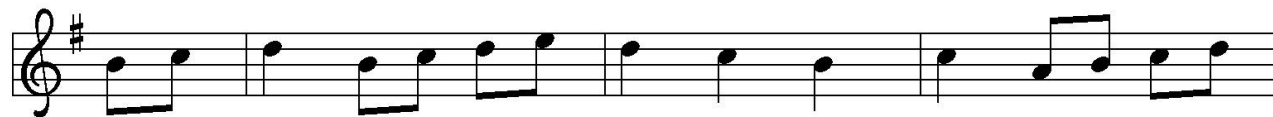
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

***DISMISSAL**

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

C: Thanks be to God.

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Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and
that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Pianists – Ben Decker, Sheila Bumbarger

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Assisting Minister – Jane Hoenstine

Our Lector – Linda Smith

Our Usher – Martie Gilbert

Our Altar Guild – Tina Harclerode

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Third Quarter Ventures in Faith to “*OEW and Missionaries*”

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. – 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Jen – Tues. – Thurs. – 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today – *13th Sunday after Pentecost*

Church Picnic at Kreider Farm

11:00 a.m. Worship with Lunch to Follow

Monday – Social Ministry Meeting 6:30 p.m., Zoom

Tuesday – Knotty Ladies 12:30-3:00 p.m., Quilting Room

Talk-O Tuesday 6:00 p.m., La Fiesta, Airport

Sunday – *14th Sunday after Pentecost*

9:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

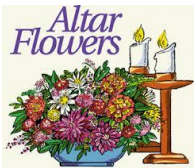
Prayers are needed for our homebound: Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Dan Kensinger, Ruth Marshall.

So we can give special attention to those with pressing needs, names were removed at the end of the month. Please let the office know if a name should be added to the prayer list for an extended period of time.

Prayer Concerns: Greta Buchar, Doug Bush, Bill Davis, Julie Dick, Mary Farabaugh, Marilyn Horton, Kathy Keith, Dwight and Bethany Kensinger and their newborn son, Rachel Kensinger, Kristen Malloy, Pat Mellot, Randy McGraw, John Murphy, Dan Ross, John Russell, Dan Sinal, Joshua Sollenberger, Kaleb Sollenberger, Bill Stahl, Dr. Darwin Stapleton, Peggy Steinfurth, Jim Stewart, Jennifer Winston, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

Away at School: Mace Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jay Hoenstine, Jeff Hoenstine, Camden Kuster, Lacey Ripka.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchar, Melody Estep.



Please welcome Elaine Smith as the new flower chairwoman, replacing Margie Smith who is stepping aside after years of dedication. If there are any questions regarding altar flowers, please contact Elaine at 434-981-0560.

The 2026 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price - \$40.00



Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from the Martinsburg Mennonite Church will be supplying the helpers to distribute food. We will meet on Thursdays, August 6 and August 20 from 9:00 - 11:00a.m.



If anyone harvests more vegetables or fruit than can be used, we will welcome it on the days the pantry is open. Appreciate fresh produce!

Items most needed for August: Juice, Mashed Potatoes (packages}, Green Beans, Ravioli and Pasta Sauce

Many thanks for all your donations!

Linda Smith

The Food Pantry is supplying packets of school supplies during August for school students.

The following items are needed:

Crayola Crayons (24 colors)
12 packs of #2 pencils and large erasers
Crayola washable markers (10 colors)
Crayola colored pencils (24 color set)
Highlighters (yellow, pink, green)
Elmers large glue sticks (.77oz}
Spiral notebooks (3 hole punched)
Elmer's washable school glue (4oz bottle)

Many Thanks,

Linda Smith

Talk-O Tuesday



Fellowship, Food, & Faith Conversation
Tuesday, August 25th at 6PM
La Fiesta at the Airport
RSVP to the office by Noon

Save the Date: God's work. Our hands. Sunday--September 13th

For this year's *GWOH* Sunday, together with the members of the other Blair-Huntingdon Conference churches, we will join the residents of the Lutheran Home in Hollidaysburg for worship and an ice cream sundae social.

Worship will be at 2PM at the Lutheran Home, outside if weather permits

Up to & including Sunday the 13th, we will collect prizes for Resident Bingo: candy, hand lotion, puzzle books, writing materials, small seasonal decorations

Join us and/or contribute to the collection



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Save the Date...

The Weekend.

Allegheny Synod Youth Event

December 11-13, 2026

St. James Lutheran Church & Comfort Inn

Huntingdon, PA



Allegheny Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

How has God gifted YOU with skills
& passion for our shared ministry?
We want to know!

Please complete the Allegheny Synod's Life Together Survey to help Bishop Kevin and his staff connect members of our synod with each other and the committees and teams working to spread God's love & light in the world. Access the survey with this QR code or on the Synod website. Contact your church office or the synod office for a paper copy.

