



Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 17, 8:45 & 11:15 AM

**Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School**

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

*In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

Praeludium in D minor, BWV 140

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,  
confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen.**



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;  
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart  
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:  
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!  
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.  
 Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844  
 Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

**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.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Continued on the next page.*

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and  
 strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of  
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,  
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord.

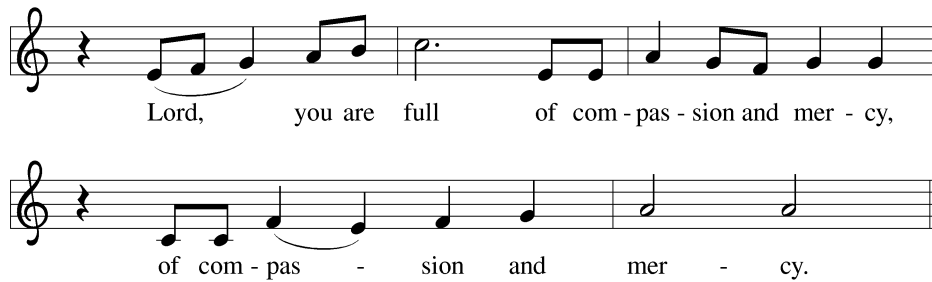
**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 103:8-13 (11:15)

*Please sing the refrain after the organ introduction. Recite the verses in alternation. Pulpit side reads regular typeface. Lectern side reads the bold typeface. Please sing the refrain where indicated.*

Lord, you are full of com - pas - sion and mer - cy,  
of com - pas - sion and mer - cy.

- <sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
- <sup>2</sup>**Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits—**
- <sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;
- <sup>4</sup>**who redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy; R**



- <sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- <sup>6</sup>**O LORD, you provide vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
- <sup>7</sup>You made known your ways to Moses  
and your works to the children of Israel.
- <sup>8</sup>**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love; R**
- <sup>9</sup>you will not always accuse us,  
nor will you keep your anger forever.
- <sup>10</sup>**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**
- <sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
- <sup>12</sup>**As far as the east is from the west,  
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**
- <sup>13</sup>As a father has compassion for his children,  
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD. **R**

**SECOND READING**

Romans 14:1-12

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**



“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Miller

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY—ELW 359**

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.  
 Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842  
 Text © 1960 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All Rights Reserved.

## APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## MEAL

### OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at [saintlukegive.us](http://saintlukegive.us)

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church  
9100 Colesville Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20910



## CHORAL ANTHEM (8:45)

*Christus Factus Est*

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem autem crucis. Propter quod Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen quod est super omne nomen.

*Christ became for us, obedient even unto death on the cross. Wherefore God has exalted him and given him a name which is above all names.*

Text: Philippians 2: 8-9

Music: Roland Martin (b. 1955)

## MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING (11:15)

When We Are Living

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

*Please stand as you are able.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

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. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. 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.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

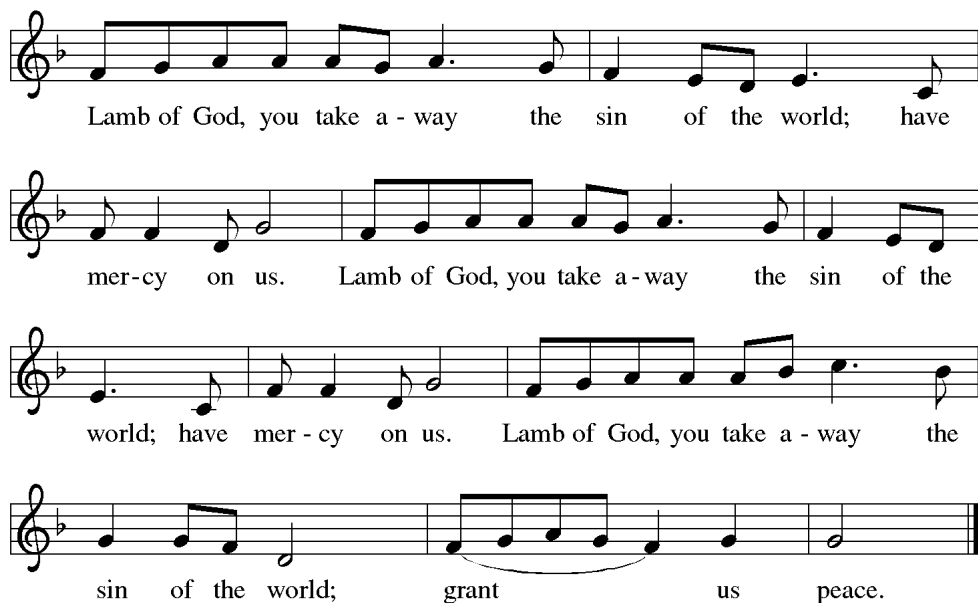
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.



## LAMB OF GOD



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.

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION (8:45)

*Sung by the choir*

Psalm 103: 8-13—Anglican Chant by John Camidge

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
He will not always accuse us,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.

As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our sins from us.  
As a father cares for his children,  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.  
For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.



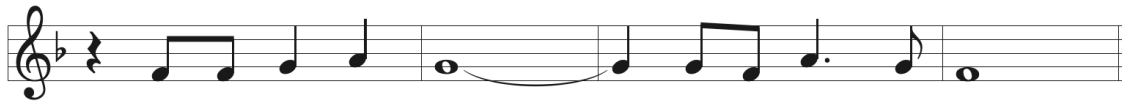
*Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,*  
 1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,  
 2 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain, . . . .  
 3 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find . . . .



*y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.*  
 and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord. . . .  
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace, . . .  
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind; . . .



*Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,*  
 Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,  
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,  
 and when we help them, or when we feed them,



*so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.*  
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.  
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.  
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

2 En la tristeza y en el dolor,  
 en la belleza y en el amor,  
 sea que suframos o que gocemos,  
 somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

3 En este mundo por doquier habrá  
 gente que lloray sin consolar.  
 Sea que ayudemos o alimentemos,  
 somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942  
 st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946  
 Music: SOMOS DEL SEÑOR, Spanish traditional  
 Spanish text, sts. 2-3 © 1983 Abingdon Press and tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company

*Please stand as you are able.*

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## POST- COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The God of glory,

✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**



1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my  
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the  
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou  
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly  
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are  
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,  
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!  
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace.  
God is at work in you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

In Dir Ist Freude, BWV 615

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

## WORSHIP LEADERS

### PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

### ASSISTING MINISTER

Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries*

### READERS

8:45 Blake Danser, *Council Member*

11:15 Rob Ahlberg

### MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

Schola Cantorum & Choristers (8:45)

THE FLOWERS ABOUT THE ALTAR are given to the glory in memory of Dr. Richard C. Ahlberg, Sr., on the 100th anniversary of his birth, September 19.

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## This week at Saint Luke Lutheran Church

### SUNDAY, Sept. 17—16th Sunday after Pentecost

**8:45 AM**      **Worship**  
10:00 AM      Welcome Gathering  
10:00 AM      Sunday School  
10:00 AM      SLSHY  
10:00 AM      Affirmation of Baptism Class  
10:15 AM      Up For Discussion (Hybrid)  
**11:15 AM**      **Worship/**  
11:15 AM      Novices Rehearsal  
1:00 PM      Genesis Bells Rehearsal

### MONDAY, September 18

8:00 AM      CDS Classes  
6:00 PM      Yoga

### TUESDAY, September 19

8:00 AM      CDS Classes  
10:00 AM      Fire Drill  
3:30 PM      Riderwood Service  
4:30 PM      Piano Lessons  
7:00 PM      Reformation Bells  
7:00 PM      Girl Scouts

### WEDNESDAY, September 20

7:00 AM      Faith Connections (Zoom)  
8:00 AM      CDS Classes  
10:00 AM      Women in Community  
5:00 PM      Choristers RSCM Program  
:30 PM      Zoom Sara/Lydia Circle  
7:30 PM      AA  
7:30 PM      Schola Cantorum Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, September 21

8:00 AM      CDS Classes  
7:30 PM      Centering Prayer (Zoom)

### FRIDAY, September 22

8:00 AM      CDS Classes

### SATURDAY, September 23

8:00 AM      SLSHY: Sweep the creek  
9:00 AM      Sweep the Creek  
9:30 AM      AA  
11:00 AM      Al-Anon

### SUNDAY, Sept. 24—17th Sunday after Pentecost

**8:45 AM**      **Worship**  
10:00 AM      Reception  
10:00 AM      Sunday School  
10:00 AM      SLSHY  
10:00 AM      Affirmation of Baptism Class  
10:15 AM      Up For Discussion (Hybrid)  
**11:15 AM**      **Worship**  
11:15 AM      Novices Rehearsal  
1:00 PM      Genesis Bells Rehearsal  
**5:00 PM**      **San Lucas Misa Español**  
6:00 PM      Reception

*NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed*

## Upcoming Commemorations

### Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, died 1179

*Sunday, September 17, 2023*

A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reproved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.

### Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, died 1961

*Monday, September 18, 2023*

A Swedish diplomat, Hammarskjöld served as the second Secretary General of the United Nations until his death in a plane crash while trying to negotiate peace in present-day Zambia. His journal, published as *Markings*, revealed the depth of his Christian faith.

### Nelson Wesley Trout, bishop, died 1996 (TFF)

*Wednesday, September 20, 2023*

A native of Ohio, Trout served parishes in several parts of the United States before being elected bishop of the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church, the first African American Lutheran to serve in such a capacity.

### Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

*Thursday, September 21, 2023*

Matthew (or Levi) was a tax collector in Capernaum for the Roman government. Tax collectors were frequently despised for dishonesty and for assisting the occupiers. Jesus nevertheless showed love for them, and chose Matthew to be a disciple.

## Saint Luke Update 9/17/2023 Edition

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS are now on the screen before the worship service (for those in person) and following the livestream (for those online).

### WELCOME BISHOP GRAHAM: PASTOR IN RESIDENCE



This past week the Congregation Council voted unanimously to appoint our Bishop Emeritus as our Saint Luke Pastor in Residence for this program year, 2023-24.

How honored we are to welcome our Bishop Graham in this capacity this year.

Bishop Richard Graham served as bishop in our Metro DC Synod of the ELCA for 12 years. Before that he served as pastor of Hope Lutheran, College Park, assistant pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Hagerstown, and associate pastor of St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Annapolis, Maryland.

Bishop has been a friend of Saint Luke for many years and we are looking forward to his pastoral presence and theological scholarship. With children and grandchildren around the globe, he and his wife, Nancy Ann, make family a priority and find themselves traveling much to see them and stay in touch.

Throughout the year, though, Bishop will be at Saint Luke, helping, regularly serving as preacher, leading adult Faith Formation classes and so forth.

We will welcome him next Sunday, September 24, when he will also serve as our preacher.

How exciting! We are blessed to welcome Bishop Graham!

## Today's Music

In his free organ works titled prelude, praeambulum, or toccata, **Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)** combined a variety of styles and textures, consisting mainly of an extremely free style idiomatic to the keyboard and more highly structured styles, such as fugue, which maintain a fixed number of voices in contrapuntal texture. The unpredictability of the manner in which Buxtehude combined these elements was a hallmark of the *stylus phantasticus*, a term coined by Athanasius Kircher in 1650 to denote "the most free and unrestrained method of composing."

**The Praeludium in D minor, BuxWV 140** is one of the finest examples of Buxtehude's use of the *stylus phantasticus*, an unrestrained multi-sectional form born in early 17th-century Italy. It alternates three toccata-like sections with two fugues. The first fugue, with its octave leaps, rests, and repeated notes, is in triple counterpoint, the two countersubjects covering the rests. It dissolves, in a flurry of notes, into an improvisatory sequence that concludes with a fughetta from which emerges the second fugue with a theme related to the first. - Andrew Benson-Wilson

There are few hymns which deal with forgiveness. The author, **Rosamund Herklots (1905-1987)**, has written, "The idea of writing the 'Forgiveness' hymn came to me some years ago when I was digging up docks in a long-neglected garden. Realizing how these deeply-rooted weeds were choking the life out of the flowers in the garden, I came to feel that deeply-rooted resentments in our lives could destroy every Christian virtue and all joy and peace unless, by God's grace, we learned to forgive." *Forgive our sins as we forgive* inspires us to be reconciled with each other so that "Our lives will spread your peace." - Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

*Where Charity and Love Prevail* is a hymn about the love which Christ showed for us, and the love which we are expected to show to each other. In the pre-Vatican II rite it is the last and indispensable song to be sung during the washing of feet in the Maundy Thursday communion service. The translator is a native of Cincinnati who has composed over 35 hymns and has compiled four Catholic hymnals, culminating in the *People's Mass Book*. - Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

This choral setting of the text from Philippians 2:8-9 has rich chromatic harmonies in the organ which undergird a chantlike choral line. **Christus factus est** ("Christ became obedient") is taken from Saint Paul's Epistle to the Philippians. It is a gradual in the Catholic liturgy of the Mass. In pre-Vatican II Roman Rite practice, it was sung as the gradual at Mass on Maundy Thursday, however since the promulgation of the post-Vatican II Mass by Pope Paul VI in 1969 it has been employed instead as the gradual on Palm Sunday. Up until 1970 it was also sung daily at the conclusion of Tenebrae (Matins and Lauds) on the last days of Holy Week. It appeared first at Tenebrae of Maundy Thursday, but was not recited in full, ending with ...'usque ad mortem'. The following day at Tenebrae of Good Friday it was sung from the beginning until ...'mortem autem crucis' and at Tenebrae of Holy Saturday it was sung in full. Up until the reform of the Holy Week liturgy promulgated by Pius XII in 1955 these Tenebrae services were sung in the late afternoon and evening of the previous day, and were well attended by the laity. Thus Tenebrae of Maundy Thursday was sung during the evening of Spy Wednesday; Tenebrae of Good Friday in the evening Maundy Thursday etc. For this reason *Christus factus est* (along with the famous Tenebrae responsories) was set by many composers of church music. From 1956-1969, and in the liturgical books of 1962 which are currently in use as the extraordinary form of the Roman Rite, these services have been placed back in early mornings of the last three days of Holy Week, with the effect that complex musical settings of this text are rarely heard in their liturgical context. - Wikipedia

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In February 1980, after a meeting at La Trinidad United Methodist Church in Los Angeles, Gertrude Suppe saw a woman standing to the side. She talked to her and discovered she was visiting from Mexico. She asked her if she remembered the songs she sang in Mexico. She did, and with her sister, Ana Maria Domingues, she sang a number of them. Suppe taped them, One was “Pues si vivimos.” Suppe took it to the committee that was working on *Celebremos II* (1983). **Roberto Escamilla (b. 1931)** added three stanzas, **Elise Eslinger (b. 1942)** translated the anonymous first one, and **George Lockwood (b. 1946)** translated the rest. The whole thing was published in *Celebremos II*, a Spanish and English supplement to *The Book of Hymns* (1964) of the United Methodist Church. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* uses the first stanza and the last two. The first one is built on Romans 14:7-8, where Paul says we do not live or die to ourselves but to the Lord. – ELW Hymnal Companion

**Johann Lindemann (1549-1631)** included *In Thee Is Gladness* in two stanzas in his *Amorum Filii Dei Decades Duae* (Erfurt, 1598) with this tune. It has not been clear if he wrote it or not. Catherine Winkworth translated both stanzas in *Lyra Germanica*, second series (1858) and with some alterations in her *Chorale Book for England* (1863). *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, with modifications, follows the second version, which fits the meter. – ELW Hymnal Companion

During his time as court organist at Weimar (1708-1714), **J.S. Bach (1685-1750)** already started compiling his first collection of chorale arrangements and chorale preludes (compositions based on Lutheran hymns). They were intended to be used in church services, and the preludes were an introduction to congregational singing. According to the list of contents in Bach’s manuscript, it was supposed to have been a collection of 164 compositions, but in the end it did not exceed 46 (BWV 599-644). The order, combined with the limited length of the pieces, indicates that Bach was planning to compile a complete cycle of chorale arrangements. Later, in his period at Köthen, he gave the collection a title page, which reads: ‘Orgel-Büchlein, Worinne einem anfehenden Organisten Anleitung gegeben wird, auff allerhand Arth einen Choral durchzuführen...’ (‘Little organ book, in which a beginner organist is taught to arrange a chorale in all sorts of ways...’). So at the time, he intended the collection just as a teaching manual, maybe to present on his application in 1722 for the post of cantor at the Thomasschule in Leipzig, which was an important teaching position. The pupils must have had a hard time of it, as the preludes contain the complete range of baroque keyboard techniques in a nutshell.

Short-short-short-long is the rhythm of the ultra short melodic fragment around which **In Dir Ist Freude, BWV 615** is constructed. They are the four opening notes of an extremely cheerful New Year’s carol, which in turn is based on a sixteenth-century balletto by Gastoldi in triple time. This explains both the dance-like character of the piece and its tempo. The rhythmical motif keeps recurring on other notes in the hymn, which is why the words, too, keep almost completely to the rather breathless structure. But Bach sticks teasingly to these four opening notes, of which two are even the same note. It is only by degrees that we get to hear the whole melody, but even then the little motif keeps popping up. It is a joke that is well suited to the irrepressibly cheerful festoons that decorate the notes. It is supported in the bass by an ostinato with features reminiscent of a carillon. This, too, endorses the jubilant words – a hymn of praise to the coming of Christ.- <https://www.bachvereniging.nl/en/bwv/bwv-615>