

HOLY COMMUNION
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 19, 2017

10:30 am

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Martin Luther died around 3 a.m. on February 18, 1546. That night, Luther prayed Psalm 31:5 four times: “Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.” The piece of paper found in Luther’s pocket that night read: “This is true. We are all beggars.” Luther believed that God calls all sinners to repent, to forsake their wicked ways, and to return to the Lord. As a beggar before God, Luther confessed that he was a poor, miserable sinner in the arms of a compassionate God who pardons abundantly (Isaiah 55:1–11). Luther believed that he was saved solely by the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ. Luther believed that “if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:5–17). This Christ-centered faith and life gets to the heart of Luther’s understanding of justification and salvation through Christ alone. As Luther waited to enter the Church Triumphant, he believed that, from the time of his Baptism, he had been a living branch grafted into the true Vine, Jesus Christ, and had life eternal (John 15:1–11).

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE: *Jesus Loves Me*

Hobby

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

HYMN: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

504

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ABSOLUTION)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Stand

P Most merciful God,

**G we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,

in the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

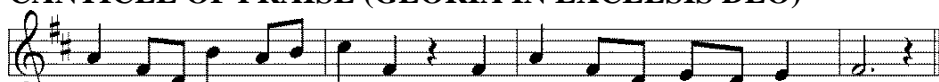
Stand

GREETING

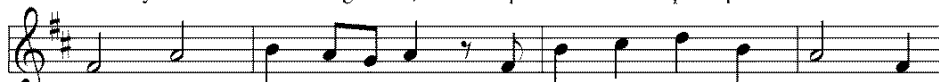
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO)



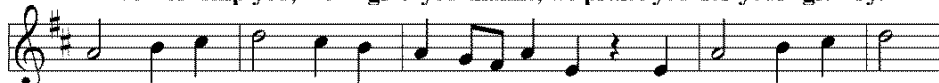
A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



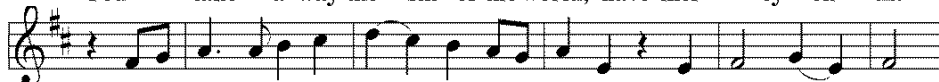
We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



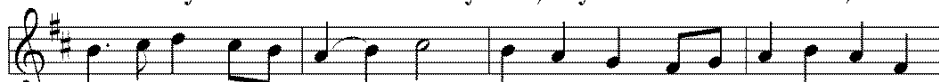
You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



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,



P Let us pray.

God of compassion, keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son, who prayed even for his enemies; in our words and deeds help us to be like him through whom we pray, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:6-11

A A reading from Isaiah.

6"Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the Lord,
that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts."

10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

A The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46 (*The choir sings the psalm.*)

- ¹ God is our ref- | uge and strength,*
a very present | help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,*
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths | of the sea;
- ³ though its waters | rage and foam,*
and though the mountains tremble | at its tumult.
- ⁴ The LORD of | hosts is with us;*,
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- ⁵ There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,*
the holy habitation of | the Most High.
- ⁶ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be | overthrown;*,
God shall help her at the | break of day.
- ⁷ The nations make much ado, and the king- | doms are shaken;*,
God has spoken, and the earth shall | melt away.
- ⁸ The LORD of | hosts is with us;*,
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- ⁹ Come now and look upon the works | of the LORD,*
what awesome things he has | done on earth.
- ¹⁰ It is he who makes war to cease in | all the world;*,
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the | shields with fire.
- ¹¹ “Be still, then, and know that | I am God;*,
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted | in the earth.”
- ¹² The LORD of | hosts is with us;*,
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

SECOND READING

Romans 10:5-17

A A reading from Romans.

⁵For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But

what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” ¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

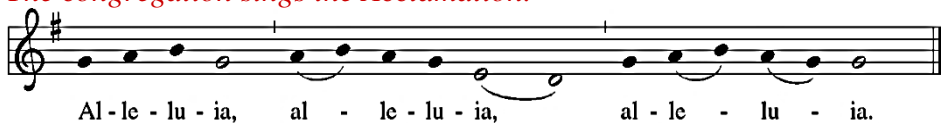
A The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The congregation sings the Acclamation.



The choir sings the Verse.



In those who obey the | word of Christ,
The love of God has | reached perfection.

The congregation repeats the Acclamation.

GOSPEL

John 15:1-11

P The holy gospel according to John.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Weleck

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Dear Christians One and All, Rejoice* # 594

The Nicene Creed is appropriate during Advent, Christmas, Easter, and on festival days; the Apostles' Creed during Lent and at other times.

APOSTLES CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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 into hell.
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

- A** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.
- A** Lord of love, we pray in thanksgiving for Martin Luther and for all
those whom you have raised up to recall your Church to the truth of
your Word. Bless all pastors, missionaries, church workers, and those
preparing for church work, and prosper your kingdom through their
faithfulness. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for the church, for its pastors and bishops, for the newly
baptized, for all the faithful, for this congregation here gathered, and
for our growth in grace. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for all nations, for all rulers, legislators, and judges, for an
increase of justice in our lands, and for all who work for peace
among nations and among peoples. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for
victims of war and injustice, for prisoners, for all who suffer in mind,
body, or spirit, for the sick and infirm, for all with incurable illness,

and for all who this day will die. We pray especially for those we name in the silence of our hearts... Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for the members of our armed forces wherever they serve, and especially when they serve in harm's way, that they might speedily complete their mission and be safely reunited with their loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

Sit

OFFERING

ANTHEM: *A New Commandment*

Anon.

Stand

OFFERTORY



C Let the vine- yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless- ing. Gath- er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be

fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray...Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:

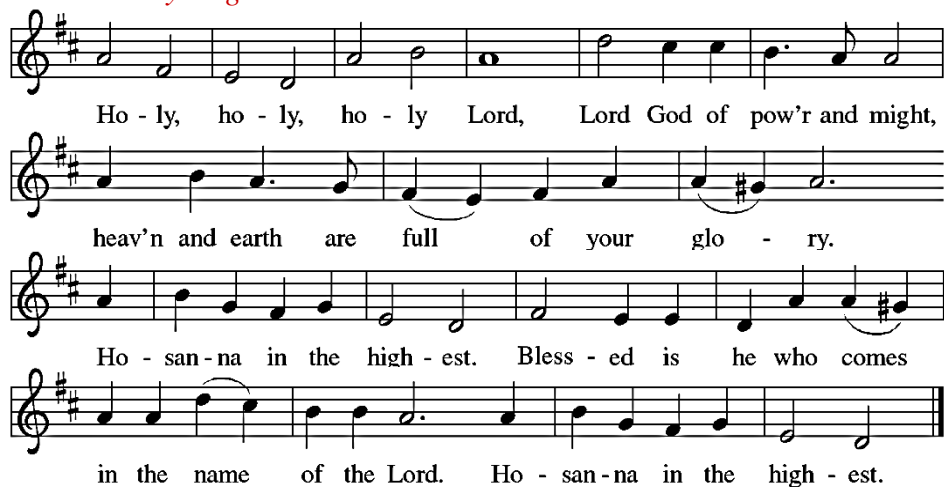
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* ...we praise your name and join

their unending hymn:

The assembly sings the SANCTUS:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

The minister continues with the WORDS OF INSTITUTION, usually included in a Eucharistic Prayer.

P 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.

P 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.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☐ Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
- ☑ Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

Sit

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond

☐ Amen.

We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are “truly and substantially” present “in, with, and under” the forms of bread and wine. We invite to the communion all who are baptized and communing in this or another Christian denomination. We welcome children and others who are not communing to kneel at the altar rail for a blessing. The Body of Christ is received in the palm of the hand. The Blood of Christ is poured into a small glass which should be picked up on the way to the altar rail.

Music during Communion:

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

HYMN: *O Lord, We Praise You*

499

Stand

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

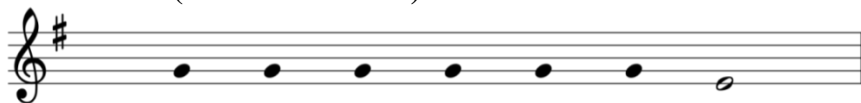
A Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you
and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

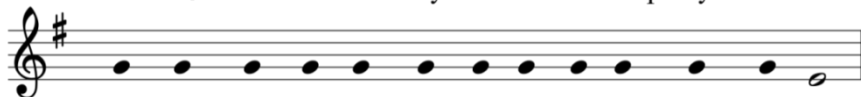
C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)



P The Lord bless you and keep you.



The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.



The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C A - men, A - men, A - men.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN: *Jesus Loves Me!*

595

POSTLUDE: *A Mighty Fortress*

Bach



The Christmas Cycle celebrates the events surrounding Christ's coming — the prophecies, his birth, his manifestation (epiphany) to the Gentiles, and his baptism — through the Advent season, the Christmas season, and the Epiphany season.

On Sundays for which the color is green, it is appropriate to omit either the Kyrie or the Hymn of Praise, reserving both together for festival seasons.

The liturgical color green, symbolic of growth, is used for the season after Epiphany and after Pentecost.

Assisting in the Service

Altar Servers: Owen Slack and Daniel Reiser

Ushers: 8:00 am: Members of the 8:00 am Usher Team

10:30 am: Pat O'Hara, Jim Lien, Karl Stefan, and Dick Allebach

Greeters: Members of the Sr. High Youth Group

Lectors: 8:00 am: Amy Sellman

10:30 am: Jean Funk and John Kochel

Communion Assistants: 8:00 am: Debra Augustine

10:30 am: Barbara Burch and Janice Reiff

Offering Tabulation: Janet Stokes, Jack Schatz, and Gary Wessner

Altar Guild: 8:00 am Sally Sweeney

10:30 am: Jim Lien and Linda Romano

Vestry Members	Special Area	Home Phone	E-mail Address
Gary Wessner	<i>President/Property</i>	610-454-0106	gtwess@comcast.net
Richard Allebach	<i>Vice President</i>	610-948-3488	dallebach@verizon.net
Brian O'Hara	<i>Secretary/Worship & Music</i>	610-489-0417	brian.ohara24@gmail.com
Cynthia Snyder	<i>Treasurer/Mutual Ministry</i>	610-409-8333	yosua@aol.com
Jeanne Funk	<i>Comm. & Tech.</i>	610-792-3830	jfunk@kpinterface.com
John Kochel	<i>Outreach/Mutual Min.</i>	484-945-0100	John.Kochel@thrivent.com
Janice Reiff	<i>Parish Life</i>	610-385-7493	janicetreiff@gmail.com
Janet Stokes	<i>Parish Life</i>	610-948-8554	sjastokes@aol.com
Deb Augustine	<i>Christian Education</i>	610-489-3869	Anniedwebb@verizon.net
Bob Rodenberger	<i>Trust Fund Treasurer</i>	610-489-3280	r.rodenberger7@gmail.com
Jack Schatz	<i>Old Church</i>	610-489-3176	
Karl Stefan	<i>Cemetery/Mutual Ministry</i>	610-454-0373	kssurf@verizon.net

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Gail, Buddy, and Joshua Martin in loving memory of father and grandfather, Robert Heist.

The Worship Bulletins are given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Dengler.

The Altar Flowers in the Upper Nave are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Dr. Ivan and Kay Hess from their family.

Bulletin Sponsors Needed: Donors are needed to sponsor our weekly bulletins. This is a great way to remember or honor someone special or to commemorate a life milestone! Contact Dot Opperman for more information at 610-489-4514.

Altar Guild Needs Your Assistance!! No experience necessary. We fill the candles with oil, the pitchers with wine, and put flowers in the vases. We work in partners and serve two or three times in a year. Please call Donna Beishl at 610-350-0238 if you have altar guild questions.

Soup Sale TODAY! Pints of soup will be available for purchase today after both services. These delicious soups are homemade by your church family! Proceeds from the sale benefit Sr. Youth Group Programs including their annual mission trip. A warm way to help our youth!

Prayer Partners: How many baptisms have you attended? Whenever a child is baptized, the Pastor asks the congregation to “promise to support that child and pray for them in their new life in Christ.” Our children at Augustus have wonderful parents and Sunday school teachers and are steadily growing in God’s love, but they and their parents and teachers need your help! You may not be a parent or able to teach, but you have a special opportunity every Lent to pray for our children. We are looking for prayer partners for each of our Sunday school classes. Please contact Sonya Sowards at education@augustustrappe.org or leave a message at 610-489-9625 if you can be a prayer partner.

Parents of children aged three through sixth grade: Please feel free to relax in the Fellowship Hall with coffee and other parents while your children are in Sunday school. Or, join the adult Bible study class that meets during the Sunday school hour. Take-home activity pages are available at the registration desk so that you can reinforce the story with your children at home, and the Spark Bible, with all our Sunday school stories, is available for purchase at <https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/8122/Spark-Story-Bible-Sunday-School-Edition>.

Girl’s Night Out is planned by WELCA: We are planning do go to Ursinus College’s Theater after an early 5 pm dinner at Da Vinci’s in Collegeville. The date is Thursday February 23rd. The show is a comedy called By The Way, Meet Vera Stark. The show starts at 7:30 if you do not go to dinner first. The tickets are \$8 for adult and \$5 for seniors and students. If you are interested, please call Ann Walker (610-287-2730) or Dale O’Hara (610-489-0417) by Monday Feb. 20th so tickets can be bought and reservations made. Da Vinci’s will give 10% off with ticket.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY UNDERWAY! 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation. **You are invited to join us for a Bible study on Martin Luther “A Man Named Martin: Part 1: The Man” 9:15AM in the library..** *Nearly 500 years ago, an unknown monk from a backwater town in Germany, set in motion a movement that would literally transform Western civilization.* But *how* did this unknown miner’s son change the world? From his humble beginnings in Germany to his indefatigable work to understand Scripture and share the truths of the Bible, Martin Luther inspired a Reformation that reverberates throughout Christendom to this day.

Seeking a Sewing Machine: The quilters at Augustus are requesting if anyone in the congregation wants to get rid of a working and reliable straight stitch sewing machine, we would be happy to hear from you. We do have working machines but we work them very hard and would like to have a back-up. We don’t need new just reliable. please call Mildred Stuffle (610-489-7461) or Ann Walker (610-287-2730).

Augustus Lutheran Church

Spring Turkey Dinner and Craft and Vendor Fair

Crafters and vendors have always added a unique touch to our spring turkey dinner fundraiser, making the afternoon an event rather than a mere dinner. The Craft and Vendor Fair will take place on Saturday, April 29th, outdoors along the sidewalks of our beautiful campus from 3:00pm until 7:00pm. If the weather does not cooperate, we will arrange to have tables and spaces inside the Parish House. We are interested in crafters and vendors who make and/or sell items such as skin care, jewelry, soap, candles, cakes, specialty candies and desserts, floral designs, furniture, quilts, or other unique objects. 8’ spaces are \$20 and 8’ tables are \$25 –All proceeds benefit Dr. and Mrs. Swanson (missionaries in Tanzania), The Irente Children’s Home in Tanzania and Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University in Tanzania. We will be advertising for public vendors, but wanted to invite our congregational family first, so please contact Trish Reiser at trishreiser@verizon.net to reserve your spot today! See a letter about the Swanson family at the end of the bulletin this week (ELCA Global Church Sponsorship). What a wonderful cause!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
Sunday	2/19	8:00 am	Holy Communion in the Chapel
		8:45 pm	Soup Sale
		9:00 am	Sunday School
		9:00 am	Sunday School Parent Fellowship
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Holy Communion in the Upper Nave
		11:30 am	Soup Sale
Monday	2/20	7:00 pm	Boy Scout District Meeting
		7:00 pm	Cub Scouts
		7:30 pm	Book Club
Tuesday	2/21	9:00 pm	MOPS Steering Committee
		7:00 pm	Boy Scout Committee Meeting
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	2/22	6:00 pm	3-in-1 Confirmation Classes
Thursday	2/23	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
		7:00 pm	Adult Choir
Friday	2/24		
Saturday	2/25		
Sunday	2/26	8:00 am	Holy Communion in the Chapel
		8:45 am	Soup sale
		9:00 am	Sunday School and Parent Fellowship
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Holy Communion in the Upper Nave
			Choir Swap!
			Sunday School Singing in Church
		3:00 pm	Cub Scout Blue & Gold Banquet

Book Club Meeting Monday! Join us for a friendly chat about books on Monday! Even if you haven't read this month's pick, we'd love to share our love of reading with you! Our next meeting is February 20th at 7:30 in the Vestry Lounge! Refreshments always served and all are welcome!

The **Tuesday, March 7th** SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA WOMEN OF THE ELCA, UPPER MONTGOMERY CONFERENCE, First Tuesday BIBLE STUDY will be held at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 81 N. Main St. in Pennsburg, at 10:00 a.m. (Coffee and treats at 9:30 a.m.) This will be **Session 3: Heirs of the promise**. This is a **Study of Galatians 3:24-4:31**. This study is taken from the **March 2017 issue** of the *Gather* magazine. This is about Christian faith and freedom. For Paul, Jesus Christ is both the cause and the center of the Christian family. In Christ we become daughters and sons of God. The Study Leader is Kitty Pell. Please bring your Bible and the March issue of your *Gather* magazine. Thank you for your faithful attendance.

Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, February 28th

4:30 – 6:00 pm



Free (your donation benefits youth ministry)

No reservations required!

Augustus Lutheran Church

717 W. Main Street, Trappe

All Welcome!



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*“How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!”
Psalm 133:1*

Dear Rev. Weleck and Augustus Lutheran Church,

There I was. I had never been in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) before, and I certainly never imagined having my first visit to the NICU be while I was visiting some of our ELCA missionaries at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center in Arusha, Tanzania. But it didn't take long for me to see God's work in action.



Dr. Swanson examining one of the triplets born prematurely the previous day

The buzz of activity in this rather small but technologically advanced room reminded me of hospital dramas on television. One moment, Dr. Swanson would go to check on one of the baby patients noticing something wasn't right, and order the correct treatment. The next moment he would examine a baby and call over the interns, residents and other students there learning to perfect their crafts to teach them about the treatment or illness that this baby had. I kept thinking to myself, “This guy is a hero. I'm witnessing him save lives right now.” And while Dr. Swanson would never accept such a title, I can honestly say that his work and vocation is making a significant impact on lives each and every day, and his call to this work is so very important to so many people.

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Jodi Swanson discussing the nutrition program with a friend

Later that day, I traveled a few miles down the road to Selian Lutheran Hospital, where Dr. Swanson spends most of his time. Selian is the public hospital in town, run in conjunction between the Tanzanian government and the Lutheran Church. The contrast between the fee-for-service Arusha Lutheran Medical Center, (where I was earlier that

day) and Selian Lutheran Hospital was stark. The government has been behind in sending the supplies the hospital needs, and there is only a limited capacity for patients. When I asked Dr. Swanson what he does during his breaks or days off, he replied “Go out and buy diapers or food for the patients.” Despite the challenges, the hospital is providing life-saving services to many people in need.

Earlier this past year, Jodi organized with some staff at Selian to begin a nutrition program for mothers and their children. Each Friday, children previously admitted to the hospital for severe malnutrition return for a follow-up of their weight and growth and are given supplemental therapeutic food. A model garden has been planted and the mothers receiving ongoing nutritional education.

There is an abundance of good happening in Arusha through the hands of Steve and Jodi. Their tireless work is making an impact on God’s children across Tanzania and across the world. It is only because of your generous gifts in support of their work that the church can be present in these ways.

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We are so thankful for your gifts of prayer, financial support and willingness to walk alongside Steve, Jodi and their family as they lend their hands to God's work. None of God's work being done would happen without your generous financial gifts. I ask that you continue to lift up Steve and Jodi in prayer and financial support this year, and even possibly increase your support so their work can continue.

Thank you for your gifts that make this life-saving, life-giving work possible.

In God's peace,

Andrew G. Steele
Director, ELCA Global Church Sponsorship

P.S. Did you see Dr. Steve was featured in a nationally televised Walgreens commercial? Check it out here:

www.walgreens.com/pharmacy/immunization/shot_at_life.jsp