

LITURGY OF HOLY EUCHARIST

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 2023

C – Celebrant D - Deacon A - Assistant L – Lector R – Response

Please be aware that worship is being filmed, photographed, and live streamed on our Facebook/YouTube channel. Your likeness and/or voice may be captured by our equipment. It is best to sit in the balcony or in the last four pews to not be seen on camera. Holy Communion can be brought to you in your seat so that you are not filmed receiving the Sacrament. Please alert an usher at the entrance if you have any concerns. Selections from this live stream may be used on our website and in our public relations materials.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*GATHERING HYMN *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”* Hymn #834

*INVOCATION

We make the sign of the cross in remembrance of our Baptism.

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, † and of the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen.

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

C: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R: And also with you.

*PENITENTIAL RITE

C: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

C: Most merciful God,

R: We confess that we are in bondage 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.

C: God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, † and of the Holy Spirit.

We make the sign of the cross as God forgives us this day.

R: Amen.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

C: Lord, have mercy.
C: Christ, have mercy.
C: Lord, have mercy.

R: Lord, have mercy.
R: Christ, have mercy.
R: Lord, have mercy.

***GLORY TO GOD**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

C: Let us pray. O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace, that, pursuing what you have promised, we may share your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

R: Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

L: A reading from Genesis.

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:[1-7], 8-13 *(sung responsively)*

[Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name.
Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and forget not | all his benefits.
He forgives | all your sins*
and heals all | your infirmities;
he redeems your life | from the grave*
and crowns you with mercy and | lovingkindness;
he satisfies you | with good things,*
and your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.
The LORD ex- | ecutes righteousness*
and judgment for all who | are oppressed.
He made his ways | known to Moses*
and his works to the chil- | dren of Israel.]
The LORD is full of compas- | sion and mercy,*
slow to anger and | of great kindness.
He will not al- | ways accuse us,*
nor will he keep his an- | ger forever.
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.
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.

SECOND READING

Romans 14:1-12

L: A reading from Romans.

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. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

Please stand in honor of the Gospel.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

C: A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

R: Glory to you, O Lord.

We make the sign of the cross with our right thumb on our forehead, lips, and heart to symbolize the gospel being present in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. “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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

HOMILY

Please stand as you are able.

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *"Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak"*

Hymn #676

***NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven**

We bow our heads in honor of the mystery of the Incarnation.

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
of the Virgin Mary and was made man;**

Our heads are raised.

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

**And the third day he rose again
according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and Giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

C: Every day we pray that God will forgive us our sins as we are prepared to forgive our neighbor. In our intentions, let us seek the mercy of God who forgives.

A brief silence.

A: For the reconciling Church that brings healing to penitents, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those engaged in the Catechumenate Process here at Shells - Emily, Jordan, Gabe, Jacob, Mary, Anna, Lexi, and Nora, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For our law enforcement officers, first responders, and service women & men, especially Matt, Nikolas, Crist, Sam, James, Blake, Keegan, Michael and Chris, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For men and women skilled in the art of diplomacy to diffuse global tension, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those who cannot forgive, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For sincerity in the sign of peace we will give one another during worship, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those who suffer in any way, especially - Mim, Ed, Al, Angie, Alfred, Doug, Nancy, Keira, Kevin, Lincoln, Lisa, Iva, Lucas, Larry, Gen, Bev and Jack, our homebound members and those we name out loud or in the silence of our hearts (*a brief silence*), let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For the forgiveness of the sins of those who have died, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

C: Kind and merciful Father, slow to anger, and rich in compassion, grant our petitions, through Christ our Lord

R: Amen.

Please be seated while the bread and wine are brought forward for consecration and the offering is collected for the ministry of Christ's Church.

MEAL

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

“When We Are Living”

Senior Choir

Please stand as you are able.

***OFFERTORY HYMN**

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

Hymn #686

***OFFERING PRAYER**

C: Pray brothers and sisters that my sacrifice of praise and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

R: May the Lord accept our sacrifice of praise for the glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

C: Lord, hear the prayers of your people and receive our gifts. May the worship of each one here offer you praise. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.

***DIALOGUE**



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.

***PREFACE**



It is indeed right and sal - u - tary that we should at all times and in all
plac - es of - fer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through
Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his
glorious res - ur - rection o - pened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life. And so,
with the Church on earth and the hosts of heav - en, we praise your name
and join their un - end - ing hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second and third staves end with a double bar line. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

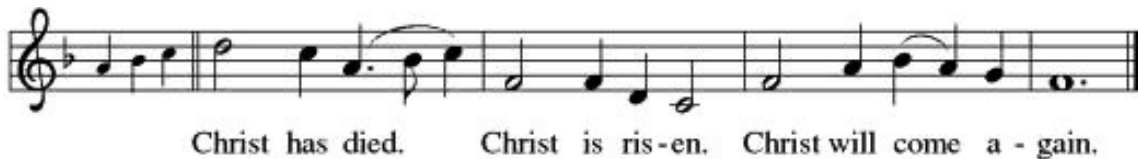
***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

C: Father, you are holy indeed,
and all creation rightly gives you praise.
All life, all holiness comes from you
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
by the working of the Holy Spirit.
From age to age you gather a people to yourself,
so that from east to west
a perfect offering may be made
to the glory of your name.
And so, Father, we bring you these gifts.
We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit.
that they may become the body and blood
of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
at whose command we celebrate this eucharist.

On the night he was betrayed,
he took bread and gave you thanks and praise.
He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take this, all of you, and eat it:
this is my body which will be given up for you.

When supper was ended, he took the cup.
 Again he gave you thanks and praise,
 gave the cup to his disciples, and said:
 Take this, all of you, and drink from it:
 this is the cup of my blood,
 the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.
 It will be shed for you and for many so that sins may be forgiven.
 Do this in memory of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.



C: Father, calling to mind the death your Son
 endured for our salvation,
 his glorious resurrection and ascension into heaven,
 and ready to greet him when he comes again,
 we offer you in thanksgiving our sacrifice of praise.

Look with favor on your Church,
 and see the Victim whose death has reconciled us to yourself.
 Grant that we, who are nourished by his body and blood,
 may be filled with his Holy Spirit,
 and become one body, one spirit in Christ.
 May he make us an everlasting gift to you
 and enable us to share in the inheritance of your saints,
 with Mary the virgin Mother of God;
 with the apostles, the martyrs, and all your saints.

Strengthen in faith and love your pilgrim Church on earth;
 your servant Elizabeth our Presiding Bishop,
 James our Bishop, and all the bishops,
 with the clergy and the entire people
 your Son has gained for you.
 Father, hear the prayers of the family you have gathered here before you.
 In mercy and love unite all your children wherever they may be.

Welcome into your kingdom our departed brothers and sisters,
 especially *Sarah, David, Kendra, Harry, Anna Mae, Michael, Edgar, Frieda, Michael*,
 and all who have left this world in your friendship.
 We hope to enjoy forever the vision of your glory,
 through Christ our Lord, from whom all good things come.

*LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*INVITATION

C: This the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

R: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Please be seated.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER *(for those viewing via live-stream)*

A: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All baptized Christians who acknowledge the Real Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Bread and Wine are welcome to receive the Sacrament. If you would prefer a blessing come forward and cross your arms over your chest. Beginning with the front pews, form one line and make your way down the center aisle. Please pick up a communion glass from the tray on your right. Receive our Lord Jesus' Body from the Celebrant and, according to where you are seated, receive his Precious Blood from the Assistant and consume both elements. Upon receiving our Lord's Body and Blood, respond **Amen**. Please place your used communion glass in the tray on the table and return to your seat by the side aisle. Taste and see that the Lord is good!*

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Change My Heart, O God"

Hymn #801

"Forgive Our Sins, As We Forgive"

Hymn #605

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

Hymn #359

Please stand at the direction of the Celebrant.

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** *“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”*

Service Music #204

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

C: Let us pray. Lord, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

R: Amen.

SENDING

***BLESSING**

C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

We make the sign of the cross as God blesses us this day.

C: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, † and the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Hymn #502

***DISMISSAL**

C: The Worship is ended, go in peace.

R: Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Celebrant	The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, <i>STS</i>
Homilist	The Rev. Dan Biles, <i>STS</i>
Assistant	Gen Whitehaus
Lector	Diana Budd
Acolyte	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Communion Assistant	Don Whitehaus
Greeters/Ushers	Joe & Diana Budd
Organist	Barbara Dupler
Altar Guild	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon

THOSE SERVING NEXT WEEK

Celebrant/Homilist	The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, <i>STS</i>
Assistant	Raelene Smith
Lector	Nadine Espenshade
Acolyte	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Communion Assistant	Louise Murphy
Greeters/Ushers	Rich & Nadine Espenshade
Organist	Barbara Dupler
Altar Guild	Raelene Smith & Janet Klos

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING *(August 31, 2023)*
2023 Approved Budget \$272,500

Income: \$179,582.68

Expenses: \$169,828.09

Love of Family Contributions: \$645
Local Food Pantry Contributions: \$3,382.90
Capital Improvement Contributions: \$31,260.00
Abiding Memorial Fund: \$1,425

This month's special offering will go to benefit Lutheran Disaster Response. Envelopes are in the Narthex.

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God Tom & Connie Terry in honor of their family.

With thanksgiving, we remember the lives of those who have gone before us in the faith. This month we remember *Sarah Fogelsonger, David Kirkpatrick, Kendra Kramer, Harry Mader, Anna Mae Metzger, Michael A. Nickle, Edgar Plouse, Sr., Edgar Plouse, Jr., Frieda Terry, and Michael Yancheff.*

Lower Dauphin band is having a designer bag bingo on September 24th at the Hummelstown Fire Company. Tickets can be purchased through the band Facebook page or at www.ticketstrip.com/LDBandPurseBingo

Club Scout Recruitment Day - September 23 from 9-11am

Join us on September 29 at 7pm to celebrate the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels at Shells. We will offer a blessing for First Responders.

Welcome Back Brunch will be held on October 1 after Worship. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for items to bring.

On October 7 we will be going to the National Cathedral in Washington DC for the National Acolyte Festival. All acolytes and confirmands are highly encouraged to attend. Everyone is welcome to join us for a day of worship and fun on the cathedral grounds. We will be renting vans for travel so please sign up in the Narthex!

Race Track Project: The Adult Sunday School class will be collecting soap and lip gloss for the months of August and September. We will be collecting combs and tissues for the month of October. Thank you all for your kind support of this cause.

The Girl Scouts are continuing their sneaker collection for the next few months. We are collecting any size or condition of sneakers. There is a box in the Narthex. Thank you, Anna and Nora.

This week at Shells:

September 17 at 9am - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am Children/Youth Sunday School & Confirmation

10:30am Hand Chime Choir

Food and Fellowship after Worship

September 18 at 5:30pm - Race Track Meal

September 18 at 6:30pm - Bible Study @ St. John

September 20-22 - Food Pantry

September 21 at 7pm - Choir Rehearsal

September 23 from 9-11am Cub Scout Recruitment

September 24 at 9am - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am Children/Youth Sunday School & Confirmation

Food and Fellowship after Worship

10:45am Adult Forum

DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 29 at 7pm - Feast of St. Michael and All Angels at Shells, blessing of First Responders.

October 1, 2023 we will have our first *Children in Worship* and a Welcome Back Brunch.

October 4, 2023 at 6:60pm - St. Francis Pet Blessing at Shells Pavilion.

October 7, 2023 we will be taking a trip to the National Cathedral in Washington DC for the National Acolyte Festival. Everyone is welcome to attend.

October 14, 2023 at 4pm - Chalk Art at St. John

October 15, 2023 at 1:30pm - Crop Walk

October 29 from 3-6pm - Fall Festival @ Shells

SHELLS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"We are a community of the Triune God, nourished by Word and Sacrament, sent forth by the Holy Spirit into the Grantville community and beyond to share the life-changing news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed."

287 Shells Church Rd.

Grantville, PA 17028

Office phone: 717-469-2586

Church website: www.shellschurch.org

The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, STS, Pastor

Cell: 717-870-4505

Email: fatherbarnes3@gmail.com

Barbara Dupler, Director of Music

Email: scdbjd@aol.com

Theresa Reidmiller, Administrative Assistant

Email: shellsadmin@shellschurch.org

Charles Schreiber, Treasurer

Email: charlieschreiber514@gmail.com

Parish Council: Colin Blair, Richard Espenshade, Steve Espenshade,
Brenda Frye (S), Sandy Mader, Raelene Smith (VP), Mark Stremmel (P), Sherry Ulsh (T)

Visit us on Facebook and "like" our church page:

Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church

We have WiFi!

Network Name: **ShellsLutheran**

Password: **GodIsAwesome** (*case-sensitive*)