

LITURGY OF HOLY EUCHARIST

The Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026

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

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

Hymn #689

*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,

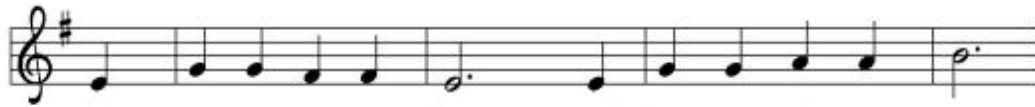
R: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus 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



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*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 Lord, pour out upon us the spirit to think and do what is right, that we, who cannot even exist without you, may have the strength to live according to your will; 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

Isaiah 44:6-8

L: A reading from Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first, and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it; let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 86:11-17 *(sung responsively)*

Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk | in your truth;*
knit my heart to you that I may | fear your name.

**I will thank you, O LORD my God, with | all my heart,*
and glorify your name for- | evermore.**

For great is your | love toward me;*
you have delivered me from the neth- | ermost pit.

**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men | seeks my life;*
they have not set you be- | fore their eyes.**

But you, O LORD, are gracious and full | of compassion,*
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.

**Turn to me and have mer- | cy upon me;*
give your strength to your servant; and save the child | of your handmaid.**

Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and | be ashamed;*
because you, O LORD, have helped me and com- | forted me.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

L: A reading from Romans.

So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able in honor of the Gospel.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

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 13:24-30, 36-43

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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**

"Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"

Hymn #516

***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: Jesus Christ has taught us how to enter the kingdom of heaven. Let us pray for the coming of that kingdom, knowing that the Holy Spirit is within us, teaching us to pray.

Silence for reflection.

A: That our bishops, pastors, and deacons may follow God's will and seek the good of those they serve, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those engaged in the Catechumenate Process here at Shells – Douglass, Anna, Lauren, Lucas, Lexi, Emma, Evelyn, and Julia, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For our law enforcement officers, first responders, and service women and men, especially Matt, Nikolas, Sam, Dominic, Blake, Keegan, Michael, Stephen, Chris, Ryan, John S., and John T., let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For the nations and places where Christ is not known, that the Holy Spirit may bring them to trust the Good News of Jesus Christ. We pray especially for our missionaries: Richard, Emily, Ben & Courtney, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: That those entrusted with dispensing justice and interpreting the law may look to Christ as the source of wisdom, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: That we may wait for God's harvest time and not pass judgement on others, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: That the aged in our community may be sustained by our thoughtfulness and friendship, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those who suffer in any way, especially – Mildred B., Bobbie B., Diana B., Linda D., Sam D., Edward E., Betty E., Crist E., Cristin E., Nadine E., Mim F., Ed F., Herb F., Diane G., Peter H., Shirley H., Nancy I., Keira K., Tregan L., Blaine M., Lucas S., Larry S., Don W., Bev U. and Jack U., 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: That those who have died may be gathered into the harvest of the kingdom, especially Robert B., Ray L., Helen L., Patricia O., Charlie R., Norma S., Arlene S., Thomas T., Wally T., Adeline T., and George U, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

C: Lord of heaven and earth, hear and grant our petitions, the pleas of your people, expressed by the Holy Spirit. We ask this, 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

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Please stand as you are able.

"Come, Let Us Eat"

Hymn #491

*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, bring us closer to the reality of your love. Through these gifts which we bring in your honor, grace us with your presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.

*DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

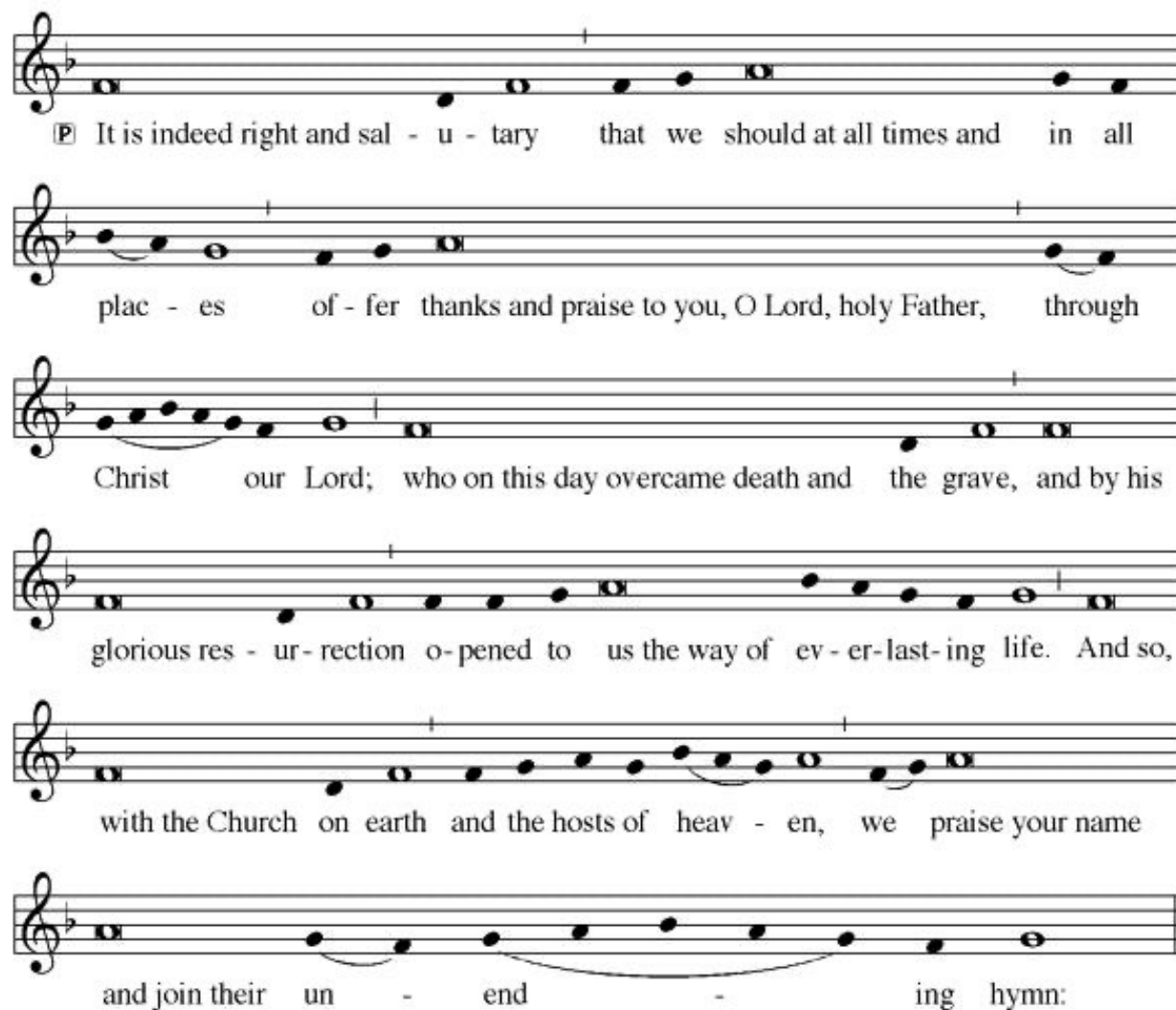
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

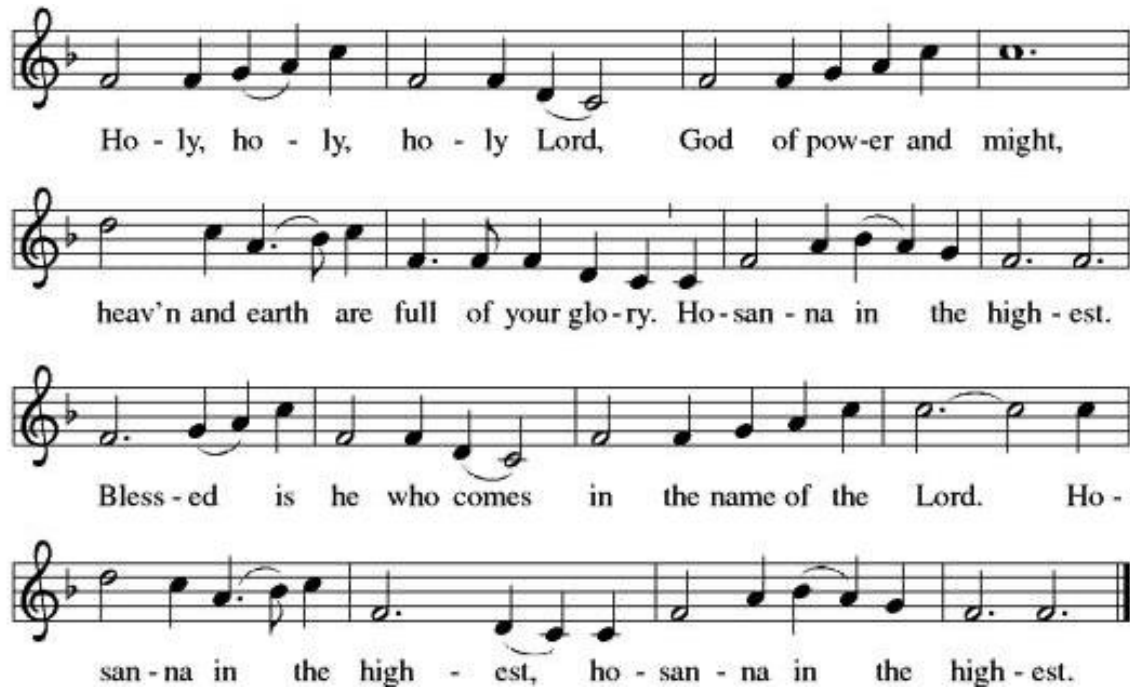
The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,', and '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



*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

C: Lord, you are holy indeed, the fountain of all holiness.
Let your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy,
so that they may become for us the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Before he was given up to death, a death he freely accepted,
he took bread and gave you thanks.
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.



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

Lord, remember your Church throughout the world;
make us grow in love, together with Yehiel Presiding Bishop,
Stephen our Bishop, and all the clergy.

Have mercy on us all;
make us worthy to share eternal life
with Mary, the virgin Mother of God,
with the apostles, and with all the saints
who have done your will throughout the ages.
May we praise you in union with them,
and give you glory through your Son, Jesus Christ.

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

*LORD'S PRAYER

C: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

**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.**

*PEACE

C: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R: And also with you.

C: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*Please greet those who are seated near you with
the sign of peace using the words, "Peace be with you."*

*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. Low-Gluten Hosts are available for those who wish to receive the Lord this way – simply inform the Celebrant. Mustum (sacramental non-alcoholic wine that was not left to ferment) is available for those who wish to receive the Lord this way – simply inform one of the Assistants distributing the chalice. 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

"As the Grains of Wheat"

Hymn #465

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

Hymn #623

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

Hymn #697

Please stand as you are able at the direction of the Celebrant.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

C: Let us pray. Merciful Father, may these mysteries give us new purpose and bring us to a new life in you. 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**

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

Hymn #693

***DISMISSAL**

C: The Worship is ended, go in peace.

R: Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Celebrant/Homilist	The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, <i>STS</i>
Assistant	Gen Whitehaus
Lector	Erica Strang
Acolyte	Julia O'Brien
Communion Assistant	Don Whitehaus
Greeters/Ushers	Amber Jaggan & Karen Lingle
Organist	Barbara Dupler
Altar Guild	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade

THOSE SERVING NEXT WEEK

Celebrant/Homilist	The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, <i>STS</i>
Assistant	Raelene Smith
Lector	Gen Whitehaus
Acolyte	Lucas Terry
Communion Assistant	Don Whitehaus
Greeters/Ushers	Rick & Linda Blair
Organist	Janice Mills
Altar Guild	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING (*June 30, 2026*)

2026 Approved Budget \$306,815

General Fund Income: \$200,727.84	Special Funds YTD Contributions
General Fund Expenses: \$151,524.48	Grantville Food Pantry: \$3,210.06
	Capital Improvement Fund: \$22,940
	Downtown Daily Bread: \$1,590
	ELCA Good Gifts: \$120
	Love of Family: \$42,163
	Lutheran World Relief: \$1,930.76
	Adult Forum: \$105
	ELCA World Hunger: \$90
	Abiding Memorial Fund: \$125
	Central Penn Food Bank: \$1,000
	Sarker/Lingle Missionaries: \$2,770

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Mike & Vicki Hilbert in honor of Don & Betty Espenshade's 64th wedding anniversary.

With thanksgiving, we remember the lives of those who have gone before us in the faith. This month we remember *Robert Bostdorf Sr., Helen Lingle, Ray Linge, Patricia O'Brien, Charlie Reddinger, Norma Shelahamer, Arlene Spangler, Thomas J. Terry, Adeline Tloczynski, Wally Tloczynski, George Ulsh.*

This month's special offering will go to benefit VBS: Kid 2 Kid. Please pick up an envelope in the narthex.

Prayers for healing of body, mind, or spirit: *Mildred Bower, Bobbie Boyer, Diana Budd, Linda DeMario, Sam Dupler, Edward Elliott, Betty Espenshade, Crist Espenshade, Cristin Espenshade, Nadine Espenshade, Mim Fake, Ed Fake, Herb Fisher, Diane Gotshall, The Rev. Peter Helmers, Shirley Huber, Nancy Iachini, Keira K, Tregan Layton, Blaine Moreland, Lucas Smith, Larry Suhr, Bev Ulsh, Jack Ulsh and Don Whitehaus.* To have a name added or removed to this Sunday Prayer List please contact the Church Office.

SAVE THE DATES:

Hymn Sing at St. John Lutheran Church Hoernerstown on July 26 at 3pm. An ice cream social will follow in the social hall.

First Holy Communion Classes will be held in the Social Hall on July 27, August 3, and August 10 at 2pm. Please contact the church office to sign your children up for classes. We will celebrate First Holy Communion on August 15 at 7pm.

St. John Lutheran Church Hoernerstown will be hosting another hog maw dinner on September 13 at 5pm. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the narthex closer to the date.

Youth Retreat at Gretna Glen: 5pm on October 9 – 1pm on October 11. Please sign up in the Narthex.

This week at Shells:

July 19 at 9am - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Brunch at Manada Hill Diner

July 20 at 5pm – Race Track Meal

July 22-24 – Food Pantry

July 26 at 9am - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Brunch at Manada Hill Diner

3pm Hymn Sing & Ice Cream Social @ St. John Hoernerstown

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: Sandy Mader (P), Brenda Frye (VP), Christina Frye (S), Ryan Jaggan (T),
Diana Budd, Tom Terry, Steve Espenshade, Mark Stremmel

Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram and "like/subscribe" to our church page!

We have WiFi!

Network Name: **ShellsLutheran**

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