

LITURGY OF HOLY EUCHARIST

The Twent- Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 2025

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 *“Son of God, Eternal Saviour”* Hymn #655

*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,

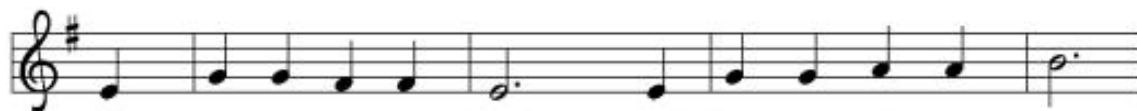
R: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus 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. Lord God, you call us to work in your vineyard and leave no one standing idle. Set us to our tasks in the work of your kingdom, and help us to order our lives by your wisdom; 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

Amos 8:4-7

A reading from Amos.

Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 113 *(sung responsively)*

Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants ¹ of the LORD;*
praise the name ¹ of the LORD.

**Let the name of the ¹ LORD be blessed,*
from this time forth for- ¹ evermore.**

From the rising of the sun to its ¹ going down*
let the name of the ¹ LORD be praised.

**The LORD is high a- ¹ bove all nations,*
and his glory a- ¹ bove the heavens.**

Who is like the LORD our God, who sits en- ¹ throned on high,*
but stoops to behold the heavens ¹ and the earth?

**He takes up the weak out ¹ of the dust*
and lifts up the poor ¹ from the ashes.**

He sets them ¹ with the princes,*
with the princes ¹ of his people.

**He makes the woman of a ¹ childless house*
to be a joyful moth- ¹ er of children.**

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

L: A reading from 1 Timothy.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

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



C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

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

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**

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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**

“There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy”

Hymn #588

***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: God entrusts us with gifts to use for his glory and the good of other people. As we bring our prayers to him, we know that we must learn to be more responsible and generous.

A brief silence.

A: For the Holy Church in her social ministry to the poor of this world, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those engaged in the Catechumenate Process here at Shells - Lexi, Emma, Evelyn, Julia, and Nora, Douglass, Anna, Lauren and Lucas, 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, John, Dominic, Blake, Keegan, Michael, Stephen, Chris, and John, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For the nations 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, Stephen & Jodi, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those nations where the poor cry out for bread and justice, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For people who are obsessed with the love of money, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For single-minded love of God and compassion for the needy on our community, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those who suffer in any way, especially – Diana B., Sam D., Betty E., Crist E. Cristin E., Nadine E., Mim F., Ed F., Herb F., Diane G., Peter H., Shirley H., Nancy I., Keira K., Iva R., Rena S., Lucas S., Tracy 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 and passed into life eternal,, especially - Sara, David, Kendra, Harry, Anna Mae, Michael, Edgar, Frieda, and Michael, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

C: Father, we intercede for people in many states of life. Receive these prayers in the name of your Son, the Lord of all, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

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

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, may these gifts which we now offer to show our belief and our love be pleasing to you. May they become for us the body and blood of Jesus Christ your Son, who is Lord forever and ever.

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



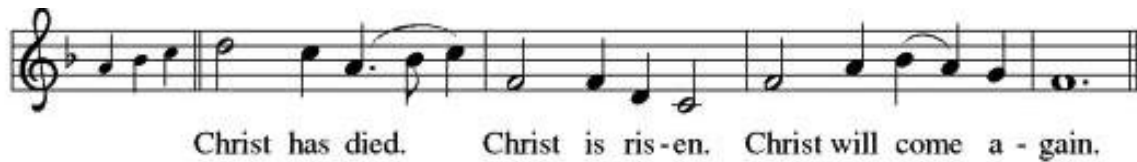
*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.



C: In memory of his death and resurrection,
we thank you, Father, for this life-giving bread and this saving cup.
We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.
May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ
be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.

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

Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest
in the hope of rising again, *especially: Sara, David, Kendra, Harry, Anna Mae, Michael,
Edgar, Frieda, and Michael.*
Bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence.

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.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours,
almighty Father, forever and ever.



*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 remain standing after sharing the Peace.

*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

"As the Grains of Wheat"

Hymn #465

"Be Thou My Vision"

Hymn #793

"Jesus, Remember Me"

Hymn #616

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

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

C: Let us pray. Lord, help us with your kindness. Make us strong though this eucharist. May we put into action the saving mystery we celebrate. 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**

"Let Justice Flow Like Streams"

Hymn #717

***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	Brenda Frye
Acolyte	Douglass Howard
Communion Assistant	Don Whitehaus
Greeters/Ushers	Tom & Sandy Mader
Organist	Janice Mills
Altar Guild	Diane Suhr & Terry Kamerzel

THOSE SERVING NEXT WEEK

Celebrant/Homilist	The Rev. Dr. David Williams
Assistant	Karen Gussler
Lector	Nadine Espenshade
Acolyte	Emma Jurell
Communion Assistant	Louise Murphy
Greeters/Ushers	Rich & Nadine Espenshade
Organist	Barbara Dupler
Altar Guild	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING *(August 31, 2025)*

2025 Approved Budget \$295,815

General Fund Income: \$179,001.95	Special Funds YTD Contributions
General Fund Expenses: \$198,288.40	Grantville Food Pantry: \$5,513.74
	Capital Improvement Fund: \$40,450
	Adult Forum: \$479
	ELCA World Hunger: \$2,555
	Lutheran Campus Ministry: \$1,025
	Lutheran Disaster Response \$2,870
	Central PA Food Bank \$1,000
	Kid to Kid (VBS): \$600
	Love of Family \$5,770
	Abiding Memorial Fund: \$51,325

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in honor of Tom & Connie Terry in celebration of John & Katie's 9th wedding anniversary and Tom & Connie's 44th wedding anniversary.

This month's special offering will go to benefit the Love of Family Fund. Please pick up an envelope in the narthex.

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 Jr., Edgar Plouse Sr., Frieda Terry.* To have a name added to this list please fill out one of the remembrance cards in the narthex and place it in the offering plate. Names are typically remembered around the loved one's birth date, death date, or baptismal anniversary.

Prayers for healing of body, mind, or spirit: *Diana Budd, Sam Dupler, 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, Iva Rodemaker, Rena Sattazahn, Lucas Smith, Tracy 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.

The racetrack project will be collecting items each month this year. September & October will be bar soap & combs and November & December will be tissues and lip balm. Thank you all for all of your help and continued support of this worthy cause.

We will be hosting a grief support group in the Social Hall on the following dates: October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, November 12, 19, December 3, 10, 17, January 7.

The Grantville CROP Walk will be October 12th at 1:30pm at Memorial Lake.

This week at Shells:

September 21 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

Brunch at Manda Hill

4-6pm Hymn Sing & Pies @ Cedar Grove

September 22 at 6:30pm – Bible Study @ Shells

September 26-28 – Women's Retreat @ Christ Lutheran

September 28 at 9am - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am Children/Youth Sunday School & Confirmation

Food and Fellowship after Worship

10:45am - Adult Forum

Brunch at Manda Hill

SAVE THE DATES:

September 21 from 4-6pm: 200th Anniversary Hymn Sing and Pie Social
September 26-28: Women's Retreat at Gretna Glen
September 29 @ 7pm - Feast of St. Michael and All Angels (*Blessing of First Responders*)
October 4 @ 3:30pm – Feast of St. Francis (*Blessing of the Animals*)
October 11 - National Acolyte Festival in Washington DC
October 12 – 1:30pm Grantville CROP Walk @ Memorial Lake
October 18 at 7pm – Feast of St. Luke with Healing Liturgy
October 25 from 5-8pm – Annual Fall Festival
November 11 @ 6:30pm - Feast of St. Martin of Tours (*Blessing of Veterans*)

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.”

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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), Sherry Ulsh (T),
Colin Blair, 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*)
