

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Psalm: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹ The Lord | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

² **The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³ You restore my | soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 19-25

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardship, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² "He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you

have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*** Gospel Acclamation (all singing...)**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*** Gospel: John 10:1-10**

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

P: The holy gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Service Announcements – April 26, 2026

Thrift Store Meeting - There will be a Thrift Store meeting this morning, at 10:15 in the Gathering Room. Join us!

Book Club - Join us for Book Club! We've started a new book - When Crickets Cry by Charles Martin. We will be meeting to discuss this book, and choose the next, on Wednesday, May 13th @ 11:00. Invite a friend.

Community Dinner - Our next Community Dinner is Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 5:30 PM. The May Community Dinner is cancelled because the Fellowship Hall is needed for the annual Flea Market, which will be held May 29th and 30th. Bring your family, invite your neighbors, and come enjoy an evening of food and fellowship.

Welcome Center – Thank you to those of you who volunteered to help with the Welcome Center. The calendar is filled with volunteers until July. If you would like to help, you may sign the volunteer sheet that is on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center.

Flea Market - This year's Flea Market is scheduled for Friday, May 29th and Saturday, May 30th. Hours for both days will be 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The trailer has arrived. Please let Eve Gehring know if there is a Saturday you can cover to unlock the trailer, be there for two hours, and lock the trailer back up. We need help May 2nd and May 9th. You are not required to help people move their stuff if you are unable to help. Audrey is also available during her working hours (Mon. - Thu. 8 a.m. to 12 noon) to unlock the trailer.

Mother's Day Collection for the Pottstown Branch of Birthright – We will be collecting diapers, sizes 2 and 3, along with baby wipes for Birthright of Pottstown. If you are able to donate, please bring your donations prior to May 10th and place them at the foot of the wooden cross in the Sanctuary. If you would prefer to donate via a gift card, please feel free to place it in my mailbox or give to me. Gift cards are used by the staff to purchase the items needed. Thank you in advance for your donations. – Judy Hunsberger for the Mission/Discipleship Committee

Mission Support – We are excited to announce that the Buckners (Steve & Debbie) will be joining St. Luke's in worship on July 26th. More details to follow – stay tuned.

Redner's Tapes - Do you grocery shop at Redner's? Using your "save-a-tape" card and turning in your receipt at St Luke's earns us 1% of receipt totals. It also earns you gas/food discounts. This is an easy way to help yourself and St. Luke's missions. All receipts must be originals, not reprints or copies. Contact Doug Killough at 610-390-7127 with questions and concerns.

Vacation - Pastor Amy is on vacation from April 25, 2026 - May 9, 2026. We will have Pastors providing pulpit supply for Sunday worship; should you need pastoral care, reach out to the office or Council President Bob Gehring, and they will arrange coverage.

PRAYER REQUESTS – April 26, 2026

Members Of Saint Luke's Church

Rosemarie Bliss, Joyce Brothers, Spencer Brothers, Lily Greer, Barry Isett, Karen Kluk, Barry Mertz, Merrill Mest, Judy Moyer, Dan Pulcher, Robert Pulcher, Chris Quigg, Roger Rhoads, Nancy Schodle, Ron Sekellick, David Semmens, Jeff & Julene Steigelmann, Henry Stetler, Mike Way, Carol Welch, Stewart Young

Friends Of Saint Luke's Church

Aaron, Brandon

Sons of Chris Quigg

Gen Adams

Great-grandson of Judy

Hunsberger

Glenn Argue

Friend of Doug & Sharon

Killough

Chris Bean, & mother, Barbara

Friends of St. Luke's

Beth & family

Friend of Carol & Joe Langton

Angela Boyer

Daughter of Audrey Reinhart

Rose Brendlinger

Friend of Merlyn Jordan

Chris Campbell

Friend of Rob Bickelman

Chris & Shaina & daughter,

Charlotte

Friends of Brendan Greer

Garrett Coyne

Friend of Ian Kratz

Geri & Ramona

Friends of Christ Quigg

Dawn Curran

Friend of Kristin Bauer

Mary Doughty

Sister of Peggy Brendlinger

Brian & Diane Eyes

Friends of Barry Mertz

Jackie

Sister of Kay Badman

Joan

Friend of Pat & Dick

Stonerook

Dan Hogan

Friend of Rob Bickelman

Ken & Marie Hunsberger

Stepson & his wife of Judy

Hunsberger

Grant & Nancy Karsner

Friends of Dennis & Gail Faust

Kimberly (Krupp) Keim

Step-sister of Brenda Foose

Sandi Kelly

Friend of St. Luke's

Sue Labbe & family

Aunt of Nicole Greer

Lila Lundborg

Sister of Jerry Jordan

Linda McLaughlin

Friend of Carol Langton

Jim Miller & family

Nephew of Carol Welch

Michael & Rita Natalini

Friends of Rob & Paula Bickelman

Tim Overholtzer

Brother-in-law of Pat

Stonerook

Jim & Holly Parmer

Sister & brother-in-law of

Gwen Semmens

Wayne Rachel & little Dax

Nephew of Barry Mertz

Scott Randolph

Friend of Rob Bickelman

David Renninger

Sexton at St. Luke's

Dennis Ritchie

Requested by Doug & Sharon

Killough

Calvin Dietrich Savage

Grandson of Dennis & Gail

Faust

Chris Slater

Friend of Rob & Paula

Bickelman

Wendy Speilman

Friend of Deneen Kratz

Lauren Weaver

Daughter-in-law of Barry Mertz

Experiencing Grief

Family and friends of Herb Seddon, who died April 16, 2026

Family and friends of Jean Roshong (sister of Fern Richard), who died April 21, 2026

Persons In Military Service

Joseph P. Breidor, John P Carmelo, IV, Lt. Darby Driscoll, Capt. Ian Driscoll, Ens. Leah Duff, Jared Kirk, JD & his Unit, Greg Kunkle, Andrew Matsko, Guy Row, Kevin Row, Preston Schoenly, Corey Stonerook, Philip Washington

Prayer Ministry: Gwen Semmens is the Prayer Ministry Coordinator. Please call Gwen (215-872-1046) or send an email (hawksmer@comcast).