

### ***First Reading: Acts 7:55-60***

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

<sup>55</sup> Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

### ***Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16***

*Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

<sup>1</sup> In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be I put to shame;  
deliver me I in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> **Incline your I ear to me;  
make haste to de- I liver me.**

<sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag I and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead I me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup> **Take me out of the net that they have secretly I set for me,  
for you are my tow- I er of strength.**

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I com- I mend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, I God of truth.

<sup>15</sup> **My times are I in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who I persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup> Let your face shine up- I on your servant;  
save me in your I steadfast love."

### ***Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10***

*Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup> This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,"

<sup>8</sup> and

“A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”  
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people;  
once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**\* 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 14:1-14**

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through who God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

**P:** The holy gospel according to John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C:** Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Service Announcements – May 3, 2026

**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 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. 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 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Hours for both days will be 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The trailer has arrived. Please let Eve Gehringer 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 9<sup>th</sup>. 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow – stay tuned.

**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 13<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00. Invite a friend.

**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.

## PRAYER REQUESTS – May 3, 2026

### Members Of Saint Luke's Church

Rosemarie Bliss, Joyce Brothers, Spencer Brothers, Lily Greer, Barry Isett, 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*

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*

### 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).