

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Psalm: Psalm 145:8-14

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)

⁸ The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ Lord, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.

¹⁰ All your works shall praise you, O Lord, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹ They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,

¹² that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- out all ages.
You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

*** 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: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter.

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

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶ “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸ “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁰ Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done because they did not repent. ²¹ “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²² But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ²³ And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades. “For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴ But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

Service Announcements – July 5, 2026

Book Club – re-scheduled for Sunday, July 12, 2026, at 10:30.

Community Dinner - Our next Community Dinner is Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. Bring your family, invite your neighbors, and come enjoy an evening of food and fellowship.

Thrift Store – An organizational meeting about the Thrift Store will be held Sunday, July 19, 2026, at 10:30. Join us!

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.

Mission Support – We are excited to announce that the Buckners (Steve & Debbie) will be joining St. Luke's in worship on July 26th. We would like to collect any of the following for them to take back to Honduras:

1. One yard lengths of material (Debbie has sewing classes and they make pillow cases, aprons, and quilts)
2. Kids socks - varying sizes (she suggested the funny ones at Dollar Tree)
3. Beanie Babies for Christmas stocking stuffers
4. Individual numbers candles for birthday cakes
5. Small puzzles or board games to be used for birthday presents

Thank you for your generosity and support! Please put donations in the office if brought in before the Flea market.

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 – July 5, 2026

Members Of Saint Luke's Church

Rosemarie Bliss, Joyce Brothers, Spencer Brothers, Lily Greer, Barry Isett, 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
Diane Davidheiser
Friend of Brenda Foose
Corey Delong, Heidi Delong
Friends of Jerry & Merlyn Jordan

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).