

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Psalm: Psalm 103:1-13

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

- ¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.
- ² Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- ⁵ who satisfies you with good as long as you live [a]
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
- ⁸ The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- ¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- ¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
- ¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable

* Gospel Acclamation (all singing...)



* Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Service Announcements – September 13, 2026

The Neighborhood Thrift Shop - Important Updates -

Volunteer Training - September 13, 2026, 10:15 a.m.

Soft Opening - September 16, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

September 17, 2026, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Community Dinner)

September 19, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Grand Opening - September 26, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Adult Ed Class - Jerry Jordan will begin an Adult Ed opportunity every Sunday after worship beginning on September 13, 2026. The discussion will revolve around a Rick Warren book. See Jerry or Pastor Amy for more information

Mission & Discipleship Committee will be sending volunteers to the Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack in Pottstown on September 24-26. Packing sessions are available during the day and evening each day. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Marty Jordan by phone or text at 610-547-3104 for more details.

Yoga Class– - We're starting a new ministry at St. Luke's. On September 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. we will offer our first one-hour yoga class. Classes will be offered every 4th Thursday of the month at \$15 per person, per class.

Vaccine Clinic – On September 26, 2026, Skippack Pharmacy will be at St. Luke's offering flu and COVID vaccines for the public. They will be here during the opening of the Thrift Shop and Community Days.

PRAYER REQUESTS – September 13, 2026

Members Of Saint Luke's Church

Rosemarie Bliss, Spencer Brothers, Barry Isett, Dan Pulcher, Robert Pulcher, Chris Quigg, Roger Rhoads, Nancy Schodle, Ron Sekellick, David Semmens, Henry Stetler, Carol Welch, Stewart Young

Friends Of Saint Luke's Church

Morris, Harvey
Cousins of Chris Quigg
Gen Adams
Great-grandson of Judy Hunsberger
Glenn Argue
Friend of Doug & Sharon Killough
Beth & family
Friend of Carol & Joe Langton
Angela Boyer
Daughter of Audrey Reinhart
Rose Brendlinger
Friend of Merlyn Jordan
Steve & Debbie Buckner
Friends of St. Luke's
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

Joan
Friend of Pat & Dick Stonerook
Dan Hogan
Friend of Rob Bickelman
Ken & Marie Hunsberger
Stepson & his wife of Judy Hunsberger
Andy Hunter and Hallie
Koenig
Friends of Dennis Faust
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
Will Marks
Grandson Of Judy Moyer
Linda McLaughlin
Friend of Carol Langton
Jim Miller & family
Nephew of Carol Welch
Michael & Rita Natalini
Friends of Rob & Paula Bickelman

Jackie
Sister of Kay Badman
Tim Overholtzer
Brother-in-law of Pat Stonerook
Jim & Holly Parmer
Sister & brother-in-law of Gwen Semmens
Scott Randolph
Friend of Rob Bickelman
Marily King
Mother of Brenda Foose
Dennis Ritchie
Requested by Doug & Sharon Killough
Calvin Dietrich Savage
Grandson of Dennis & Gail Faust
JoEllen Shaub
Cousin of Joyce Brothers and Spencer Brothers
Chris Slater
Friend of Rob & Paula Bickelman
Wendy Speilman
Friend of Deneen Kratz
Amy Sheppard
Aunt of Brenda Foose

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