

**St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church
August 4, 2019
8th Sunday after
Pentecost
Communion**

**Worship every Sunday
10:45 AM**

Welcome

***We welcome all visitors who come to worship with us today.
We are delighted that you have come to share in the prayer
and praise of our Lord and invite you to return and add your
voice to ours in holy celebration. If you have a special need or
prayer write it on the prayer card in the pew rack and place it
in the offering plate. Before you leave us today, we ask that
you please sign our guest book.***

**Pastor: REVS. SCOTT & CAROL CUSTEAD
Church Organist/Choir Director: PATRICIA McCONNELL
Administrative Assistant: Tim Surkovich**

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St. James Mission Statement: To make disciples of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament by the Holy Spirit.

Announcements: If you cannot read the hymns, you can turn to the hymn in the red ELW hymnal in the pew racks.

Prelude: O Living Bread From Heaven arr. D. Busarow
(*We take this time to silently prepare our hearts and minds for worship*)

PLEASE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

An extended silence may be kept.

Merciful God,

We confess that we are captive 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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We Gather

Praise and Thanksgiving

1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things
2 God, bless the la-lor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's
4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh-ber we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work
guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-
fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.
with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.
joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.
hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
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Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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***GREETING:**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Let us pray.

**Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen**

We Listen to the Word

First Reading:

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

A reading from Ecclesiastes.

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

49:1-12

¹Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

²**you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.**

³My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴**I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

- ⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
- ⁶**the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?**
- ⁷One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;
- ⁸**for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,**
- ⁹in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.
- ¹⁰**For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they Perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**
- ¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.
- ¹²**Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish**

Second Reading:

Colossians 3:1-11

A reading from Colossians.

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

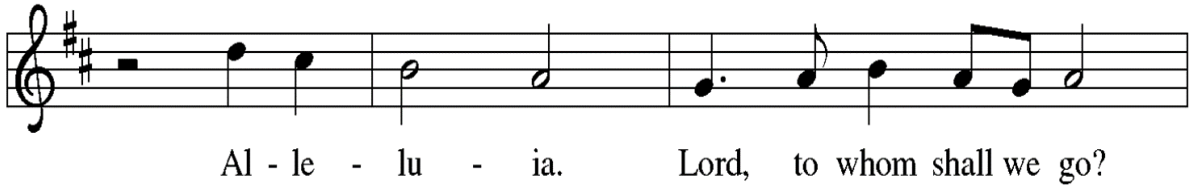
⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.

⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

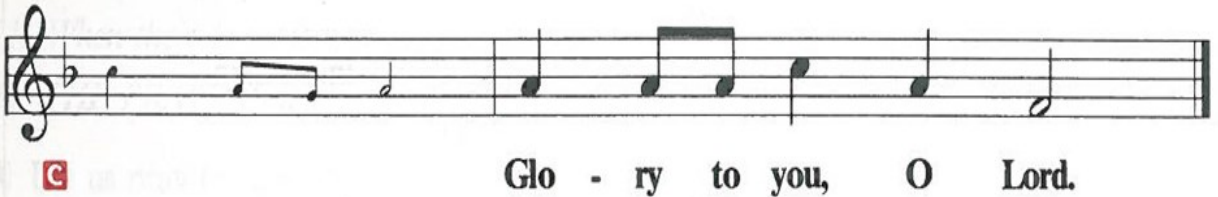
Gospel Acclamation



*GOSPEL:

Luke 12:13-21

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.



¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



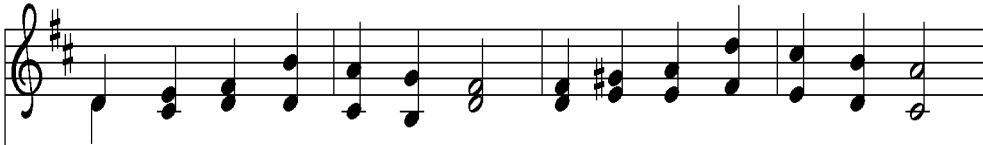
Sermon

We Respond to the Word

*Hymn of the Day: Take My Life, That I May Be
NEXT PAGE

ELW 685

Take My Life, That I May Be



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.



***Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

***Offering Prayer:**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

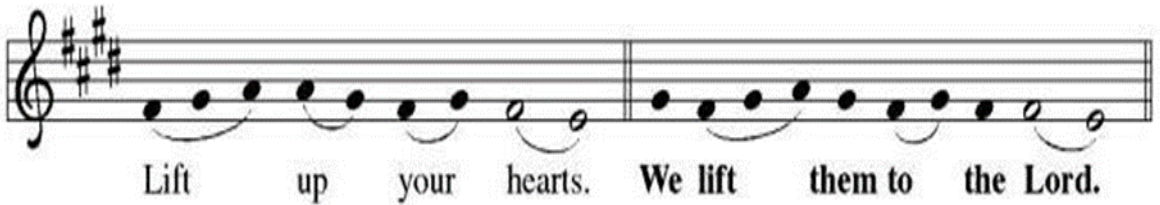
A: Amen.

We Share the Feast

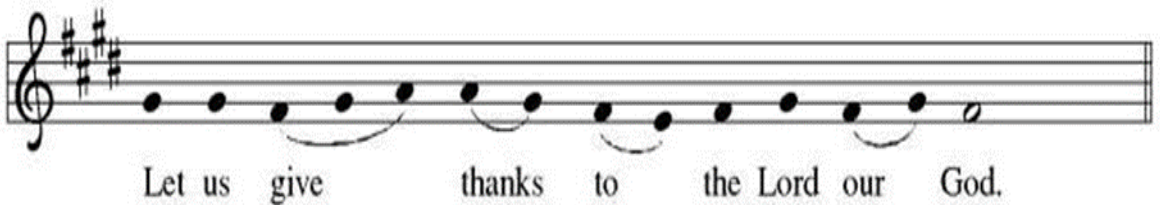
***Holy Communion**



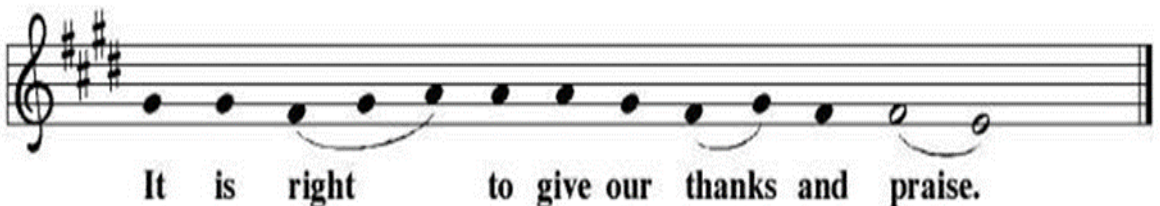
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Thanksgiving at the Table

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we might receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

For it is our Lord Jesus, who in the night in which he was betrayed took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after the supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me".

Lord remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

*The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*Invitation to Communion

P: Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you once revealed yourself to your disciples.

*Distribution of Communion

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***Prayer after Communion**

P: O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

We Are Sent

***Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*Sending Song: O Day of Rest and Gladness ELW 521
(*next page*)

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

*Postlude: Allegro Vivace F. Mendelssohn

O Day of Rest and Gladness

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O Day of Rest and Gladness'. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,

O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;

sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une.
and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three - fold light was giv'n.
and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.
the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

Announcements

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,

**In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastors Scott & Carol Custead
Phone: 814-254-3072 Email: scustead@atlanticbb.net or ccustead@atlanticbb.net**

The pastors will be away from August 11-26. During this period pastoral coverage is being provided by Pastor Drew McCaffery of Bethany Lutheran Church. He can be reached at Bethany's office (944-7560) or his personal phone (814-538-9036).

The church office email is stjamesaltoona@gmail.com The church's website is www.stjamesaltoona.org
On Facebook—St. James Lutheran Church—Altoona, PA

REMINDER AND IMPORTANT

BULLETIN ADDITIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN TUESDAY AT 10:30 AM.

For corrections, please contact the church office secretary Tim Surkovich, I'm in the office Monday-Thursday 9-1.

******IF AN ARTICLE FOR THE KIRCHENBLATT CANNOT BE SUBMITTED BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH, PLEASE CALL AND RESERVE A SPACE FOR YOUR ARTICLE SO THAT THE KIRCHENBLATT CAN BE FORMATTED AHEAD OF TIME TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR ALL THE CONGREGATIONAL NEWS.******




LIVE A LIFE WORTHY OF LEGACY

"Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands. Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed." —Psalm 112:1-2

In the book of Genesis, God made a covenant with Abraham that included the promise of many descendants. Because of Abraham's faithfulness, God made him the source of a great nation, and he was well-known and respected throughout the land. Abraham was a recipient of divine blessings, and through this, became an avenue of blessing to others.

Just as God promised, Abraham's legacy continued with his children. Both his son Isaac and his grandson Jacob benefited from Abraham's covenant with God. These blessings are still continuing through the people of God, generations later.

God's blessings are for today and for generations to come. How can we live to be a blessing today and into the future? Consider these three things:

-  **Assess what you value.** We learn from those who came before us and we instill values in those who come after us. What values do you hold dear? What would you like carried into future generations?
-  **Live a life of service.** How can you share your talents and abilities with others? Consider taking a spiritual gifts inventory to discover more of your spiritual gifting so you can share it with others.
-  **Bless future generations.** What great needs of the world are nearest and dearest to your heart? Think of ways you can respond with action and compassion. And remember, what may be considered a small action might one day make a huge difference in the lives of others.

We all dream of and want the world to become a better place. We can make a difference in bringing more of God's goodness into the world by leaving a legacy of a well-lived, generous and joy-filled life.

Provided by:



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SWEETS AND TREATS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS
WILL BE
SEPTEMBER 1

* We are always looking for volunteers to sponsor Sweets and Treats. If you're interested there is a sign up sheet in the Sunday School Room. Your support is appreciated!

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, November 17, 2019 the Allegheny Synod will be holding a worship service to kick off our year of celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Women's ordination in the Lutheran Church in America. The service will be at 4pm and hosted at Evangelical Lutheran in Duncansville. All are welcome and clergy will be invited to vest and process.

I wanted to share with you that we are honored to have **Pastor Elizabeth Platz** joining us to preside at the service. Pastor Platz was the first woman ordained a Lutheran Pastor in the United States. She was ordained by the Delaware/Maryland Synod and spent much of her career as campus minister at the University of Maryland. There will be a reception after the service and Pastor Platz has been gracious enough to join us for a question and answer time about her ministry.

Additionally, we will welcome **Bishop Barbara Collins** of the Upper Susquehanna Synod as our guest preacher for the service. We are thankful that Bishop Collins can join us for this day of celebration.

I hope you will mark your calendar and plan on joining us for this special service as we begin our year of celebration. As we proceed through the year, our 50th Anniversary Committee will be sharing information on events and services we will be hosting throughout the year. I also ask you to please help us by sharing this announcement with your congregations.

Thank you and God bless you,

Bishop Michael

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