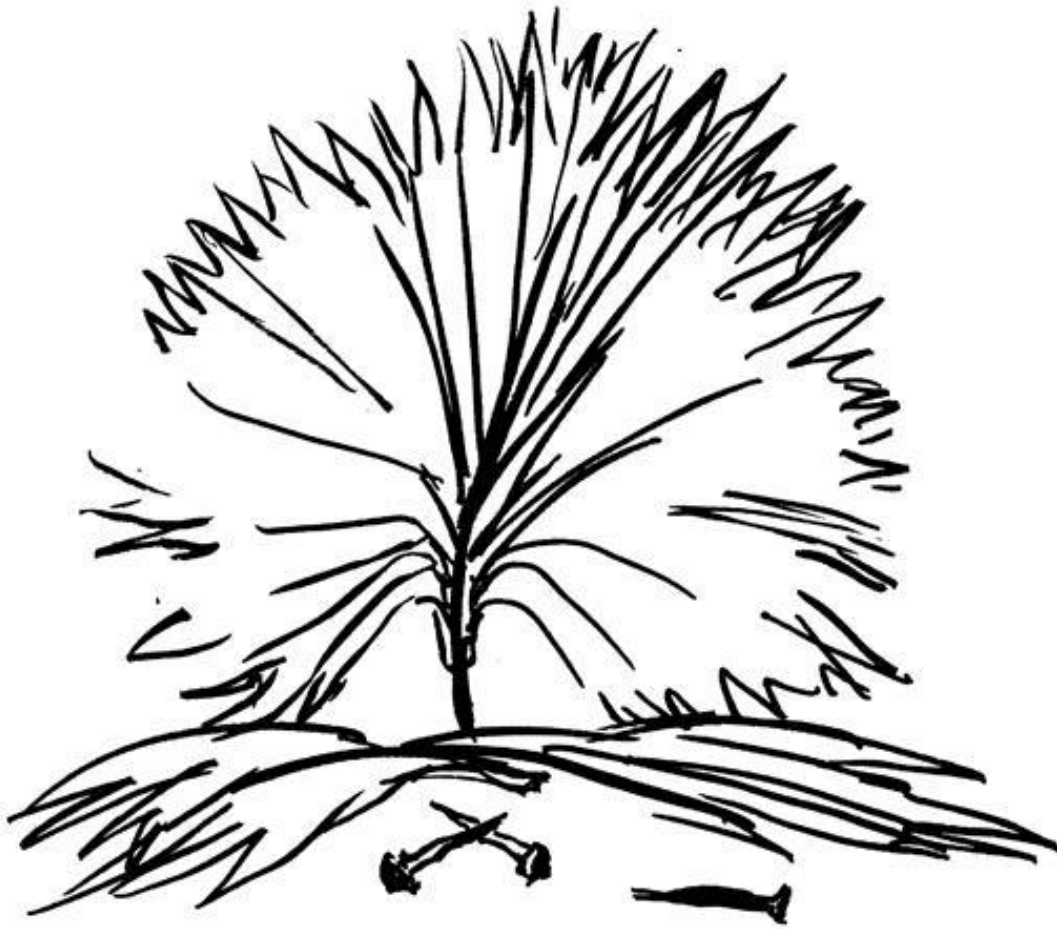


FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 30, 2026



MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH
80 GOCKLEY ROAD
STEVENS, PA 17578
717-336-8800

MELLINGERS STAFF

Pastor's Contact Information

Rev. Timothy L. Craven

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Director of Music

Vickie Kissinger (717) 354-6575

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Diane Adair (717) 715-3124

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the following people:

Gil Hulshizer, Theda Raffauf, Bob Getz, Lori Oberholtzer, Jerry Petery, Deb Emberger, Tom Parrish Sr., Kelly Parrish, Wren Dillon, Jay Weaver, Jay Stoltzfus, Dave Haldeman, Ruth Hollinger, Barb Moyer, Fay Weitzel, Shannon Brown, Shirley Sweigart, Molly Brown, Carl Mohler Jr., Elaine Haldeman, Clair Miller, Mary Weidman, and Marty Leed & Family.

Clifton Center for Medical Breakthroughs in Philadelphia: Mike Sawyer

Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Shirl Tobias and Pauline Sawyer

Faithful Living, Denver: Vivian Gehr

Gardens at Stevens: Pat & Nevin McQuate

Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine & Janet Hirneisen

Luther Acres Health Care: Judy Meckley

Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin

Penn State Hospital: Ashley Leed

Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla

Please pray for those in the Armed Forces: Chris Weidman

Please pray for friends and family at home:

Carl Nincke, Dave & Wendy Bentz, Nancy Good, Kevin Gavin, Brenda Reed, Doris McNally, Amanda Stuck, Tyler Herr, Brandi Erhart, Marine Jhabvala, Emily Martin, John Robertson, Deb Correa, Bud Kneisley, Everett Kimball, Jason Mertz, Robert Evans, Martha Miller, Brooke Stewart, Mary Lou Crum, Jimmy Vincent, Mary Stewart, Lorna Buohl, Richard Sockriter, Helen Blank, William Sockriter, Doug Cody, Mary Morton, Brenda Sweigart, Nancy Bolotine, Karen Leonhard, Mary Sanger, Brian Kerns, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Robyn Redcay and Margaret Weller.

Pray also for the grieving families of:

Mike Leed, Nicole Bibbus, Rob French, Donna Kennedy, Robert Hackman, Marion Briere, Fred Griffith, Chris Castellano, Carl Usner, Peggy French, Marion Gideon, Bishop Guy Edmiston, Pastor Marty Sheaffer, George Wolf, Glenn Eidemiller, Sally Wealand, Bob Farr, Cheryl Nixon, Bea Hassler, Mary Moore, Orvilla Oberholtzer, Lowell Haws, Mary Jane Goshert, Ed Sieber, Darrell Buchter, Joyce Pannebecker, Barb Mertz, Beverly Sweigart, Maggie Kiralfy, Dale Firestone and Larry Rabold

† WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP †

*Please stand if you are able

Pastor Glenn Beard is preaching this morning

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude: *“Beautiful Savior”*

-Silesion Melody

Arr. Don Hustad

Piano and Organ duet with Jay Hertzog, Pianist

†GATHERING†

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***GATHERING HYMN: #660** *“Lift High the Cross”*

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: 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 holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(a brief silence is observed)

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

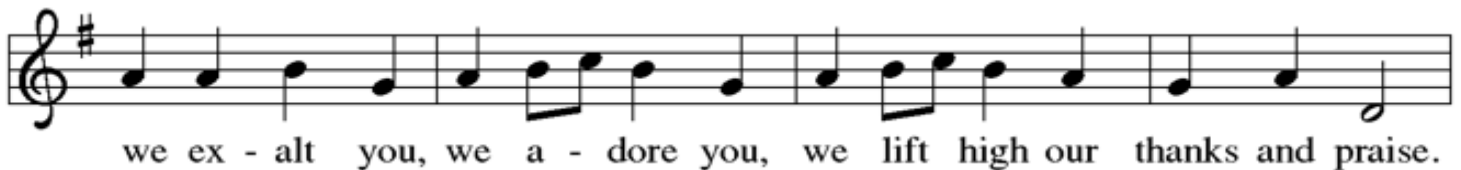
C: Amen

***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.

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE**



***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

† GOD’S WORD †

FIRST READING

ROMANS 12:9-21

Lay Reader (Melanie Brubaker): Reading from Romans the 12th chapter.

L: Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord.

¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.

¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.”

²⁰ Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning

coals on their heads.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALMODY

PSALM 26:1-8



Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.
(Ps. 26:3)

¹ Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived | with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.

² **Test me, O | Lord, and try me;**
examine my heart | and my mind.

³ For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

⁴ **I have not sat | with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with | the deceitful. R

⁵ I have hated the company of | evildoers;
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O Lord,**
that I may go in procession | round your altar,

⁷ singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

⁸ **Lord, I love the house in | which you dwell**
and the place where your glo- | ry abides. R

CHILDRENS SERMON

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





*THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 16:21-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: *After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”*

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.

²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE:

-Pastor Beard

SPECAIL MUSIC: “God of Our Fathers”

-Daniel C. Roberts & George Warren Arr. Don Hustad
Piano and Organ duet with Jay Hertzog, Pianist

***THE APOSTLE’S CREED**

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

† Prayers of Intercession †

***P:** With bold trust in God’s unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

A brief silence.

P: For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

***THE PEACE**

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

***OFFERING HYMN: “Open Our Eyes Lord”**

Open our eyes Lord
we want to see Jesus
to reach out and touch Him
and say that we love Him
open our ears Lord
and help us to listen
open our eyes Lord
we want to see Jesus

***OFFERING PRAYER**

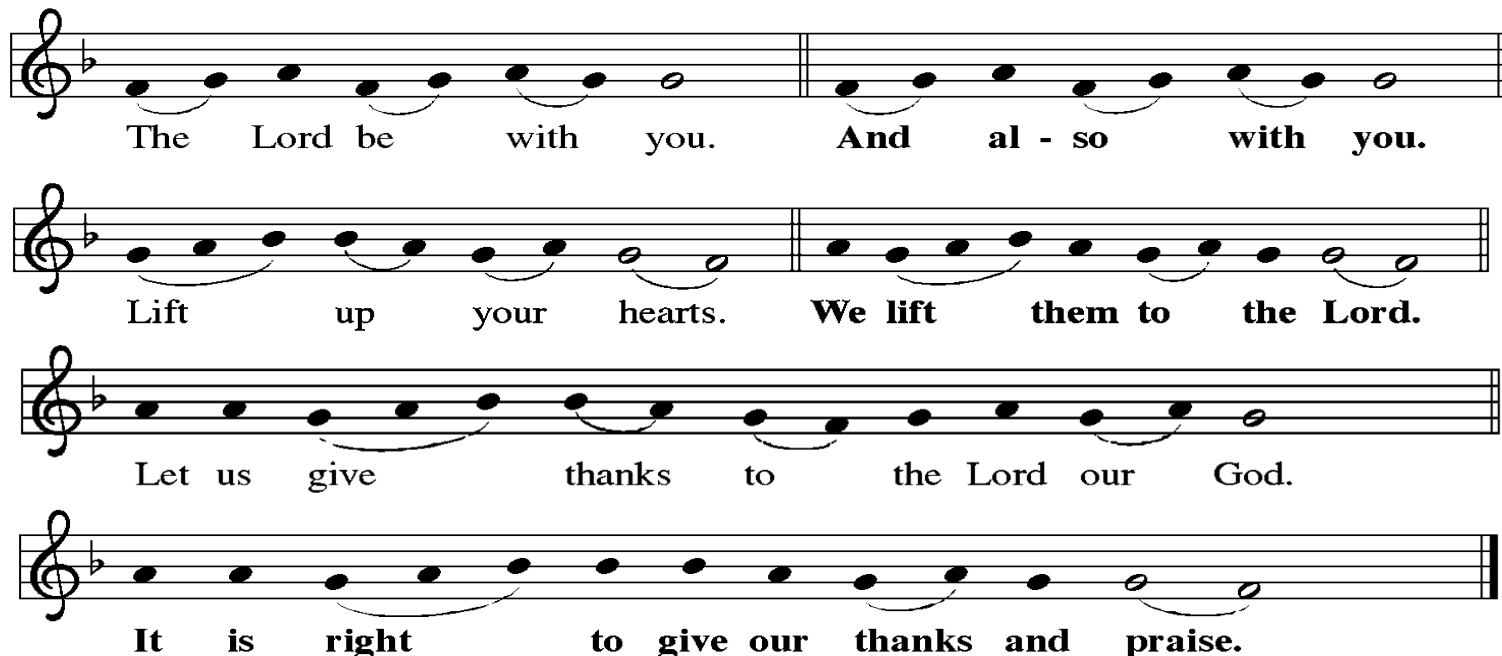
P: Blessed are you,

C: 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.

Amen

† WE CELEBRATE THE LORD’S SUPPER †

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous melody. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words aligned under specific notes and others under groups of notes.

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

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

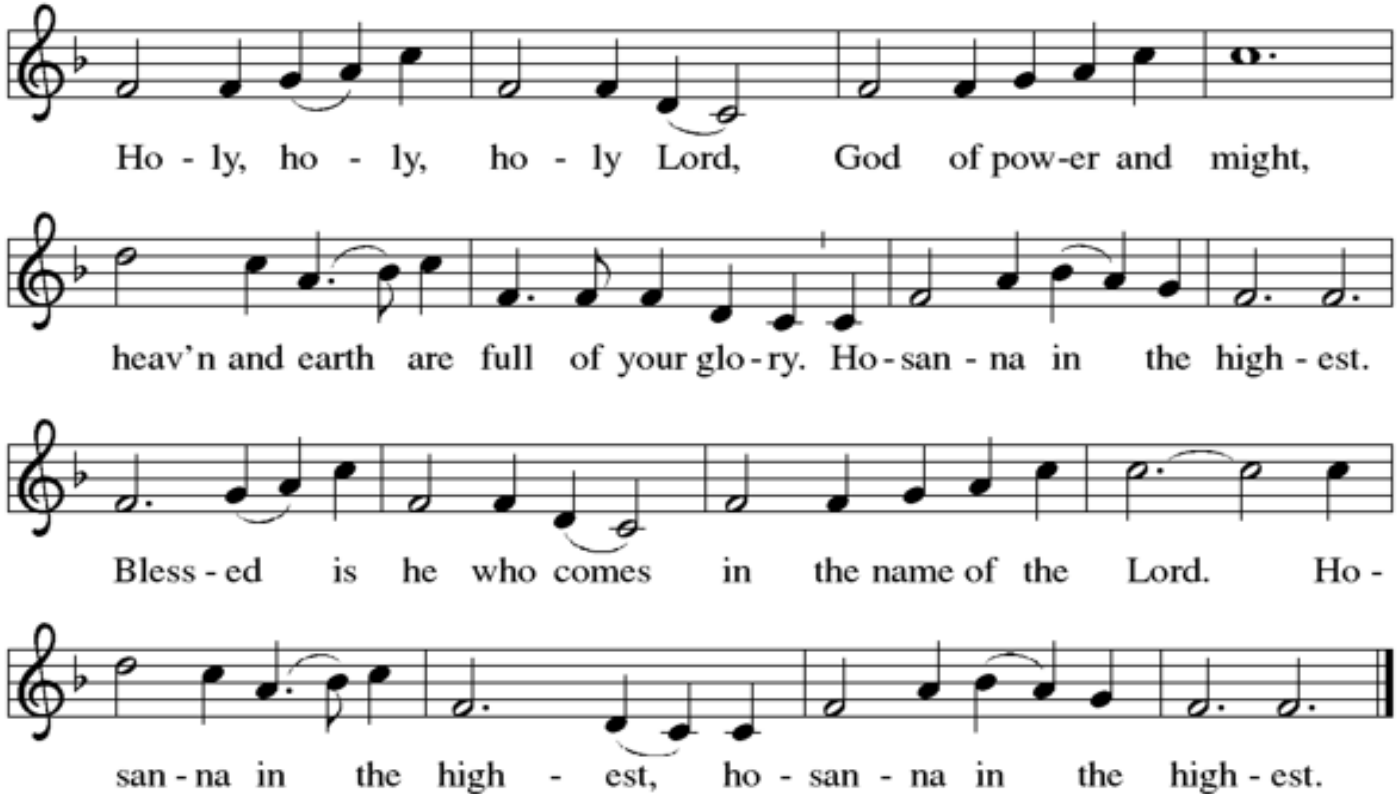
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***THE PREFACE:**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....
We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

***THE SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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 supper he took the cup and 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.

***TRADITIONAL 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

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE AGNUS DEI



All Baptized Christians are welcome for Communion.

(If you would like baptized, see Pastor Tim.).

We ask parents to bring their non-communing children with them for a blessing. To receive the sacrament wine, take an empty cup from the tray. A grape juice option and gluten free communion wafers provided. If you cannot come to the Chancel, Communion will be taken to you.

Please notify an Usher.

Those in the parking lot partake of Communion at this time.

During Communion

Hymn #742: "What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

Hymn #661: "I Love To Tell the Story"

Hymn #781: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Hymn #616: "Jesus, Remember Me"

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

Post Communion Canticle: Hymn #210: “Blessed Be God”

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation,
The spirit of mercy.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C: Amen

† WE LEAVE TO SERVE †

***BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen Amen Amen (sung responsively)

***SENDING HYMN: #856 “How Great Thou Art”**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: “*From All That Dwells Below the Skies*” -John Hatton

Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Glenn Beard

Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold

Organist: Vickie Kissinger

Lay Reader: Melanie Brubaker

Communion Assistant: Linda Weaver

Psalmist: Pastor Beard

Videographer: John Biles

Soundboard: Joe Brubaker

Ushers: Hayden Leonhard, Kristi Leonhard and Ben Gunzenhauser



*The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are
dedicated to the Glory of God by
Denise Snader in Honor of
Jim Snader's Birthday.*

"God of Our Fathers"

Daniel C. Roberts (b. Bridgehampton, Long Island, NY, 1841; d. Concord, NH, 1907) wrote this patriotic hymn in 1876 for July 4 centennial celebrations in Brandon, Vermont. He was rector at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Originally entitled "God of Our Fathers," this text was later chosen as the theme hymn for the centennial celebration of the adoption of the United States Constitution. It was published in the Protestant Episcopal *Hymnal* of 1892.

Mike Sawyer can now receive visitors.

He is at Clifton Center for Medical Breakthroughs

Room 1102 1 Convention Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19104

Weekly Receipts Report as of 08/27/26	
Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)	47
Online Attendance	158
General Receipts	\$2,445.00



Sunday School is back in session on
Sunday September 13th
From 10:15 am to 11:00 am.



*Ephrata School District
Will start School again on
Monday August 31st*

Mums to celebrate the Fall season



The Special Flowers Committee will once again be taking orders for Mums to decorate the church sanctuary on Harvest Home Sunday; September 27th to honor of God's beautiful fall splendor.

Mums can be purchased to remember, and honor loved ones.
One mum plant is a 9" pot for \$6.50.

Mums will be assorted fall colors, you can ask for a preferred color but it is not guaranteed. On the order form please list to whom you would like your flowers made in memory or in honor of. Place your form along with payment in the envelope provided and place in the Special Flowers mailbox or give to Pat Haller at church. Please make checks payable to Mellinger's Lutheran Church.

Last day to order flowers is Sunday September 13.
Please pick up flowers after the service on Sunday September 27.



During the month of September we are having a food drive for Community Hive. The following list are items to consider contributing. Thank you for helping our neighbors.

As of Thursday August 27, 2026 their website <https://community-hive.org> under “Get Involved” the following items are listed as

Needed in the pantry:

Chunky Soups, Saltine Crackers, Cereal, Pasta Noodles, Canned Meat, Canned Fruits and Flavored Oatmeal Packs.

Other Items on their list to consider contributing:

Paper Towels

Laundry Soap

Toiletry Items

The following are other items we have contributed:

Cooking Oils (Olive or Canola)

Spices / Seasonings / Chili Powders

Taco Seasoning / Ranch Seasoning

Tomato Sauce (Jars or Cans)

Canned pastas (Chef Boyardee)

Dry Bagged Beans

Powdered Milk

Instant Coffee / Powdered Creamers

Oatmeal (packets, quick oats, steel cut)

Quinoa

Broths / Gravy

Jelly / Jams

Applesauce pouches / Jars

Canned Veggies (Peas and Carrots)

Condiments

Hamburger Helper

Instant Rice

Carrots

Cake Mixes / Icings

Sugar

Flour

Baking Powder

Baking Soda

Diapers

Feminine Products