

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 1, 2023

9:30 a.m.



***We Gather in Jesus' Name***

***Prelude*** (a time for silent meditation)

***Announcements***

**Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
✙ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,  
confessing our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.  
We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.  
We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.  
For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.  
For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.  
For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.  
Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Song: "Shine, Jesus, Shine" WOV 651**

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow

Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
So our faces display your likeness  
Ever changing from glory to glory  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story  
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

**Greeting**

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

**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray . . . God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**Readings for the 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Children's Sermon**

**First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise, iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, Word of Life  
**Thanks be to God**

***Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9***

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

**<sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**<sup>4</sup>Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**<sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and <sup>1</sup> my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

**<sup>8</sup>You are gracious and upright, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

***Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13***

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, Word of Life

**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter

**C: Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

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

**Sermon**

**Song of Praise: "Here Is Our King"**

Here is our King  
Here is our Love  
Here is our God who's come  
To bring us back to Him  
He is the One  
He is Jesus  
X2

From wherever spring arrives to heal the ground  
From wherever searching comes, the look itself  
A trace of what we're looking for  
So be quiet now, And wait  
The ocean, Is growin'  
The tide is comin' in, here it is  
Here is our King  
Here is our Love  
Here is our God who's come  
To bring us back to Him  
He is the One  
He is Jesus, Jesus  
X2

### ***Apostle's Creed***

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the  
dead.**

**I believe In the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

### ***Prayers of the Church***

(Each prayer ends with ...*Merciful God, the congregation responds: **receive our prayer.***)

### ***Sharing of the Peace***

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also, with you**

***The Offering*** Please leave your offering on our website: [https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco\\_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCLmH2sG-jdxWYJMFgw\\_IQfxkD4hBw8W0Q6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-JU\\_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKk0PpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y\\_VCHQ6\\_VCoE=&ver=3](https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCLmH2sG-jdxWYJMFgw_IQfxkD4hBw8W0Q6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKk0PpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3)

### ***The Offertory***

#### ***Offertory Prayer***

*Let us pray...* **God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.**

**We bring your gifts to the table,  
that all might be fed.**

**Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

### ***Sacrament***

#### ***The Great Thanksgiving***

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

### ***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***

The body of Christ, given to you  
The blood of Christ, shed for you

### ***Prayer After Communion***

Let us pray...Blessed be your name, O God,  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,

where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

***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. **Amen.**

***Sending Song: "Thank You Lord"***

Verse 1

I come before You today  
And there's just one thing that I want to say  
Thank You Lord thank You Lord  
For all You've given to me  
For all the blessings that I cannot see  
Thank You Lord thank You Lord

Pre-Chorus

With a grateful heart with a song of praise  
With an outstretched arm I will bless Your name

Chorus

Thank You Lord  
I just want to thank You Lord  
Thank You Lord  
I just want to thank You Lord  
(Thank You Lord)

Verse 2

For all You've done in my life  
You took my darkness and gave me Your light  
Thank You Lord thank You Lord  
You took my sin and my shame  
You took my sickness and healed all my pain  
Thank You Lord thank You Lord

Pre-Chorus

With a grateful heart with a song of praise  
With an outstretched arm I will bless Your name

Chorus

Thank You Lord  
I just want to thank You Lord  
Thank You Lord  
I just want to thank You Lord  
(Thank You Lord)

***Dismissal***

Go in peace. God is at work in you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**OUR MISSION – FAITHFUL IN THE WORD**

- + To *gather* as God’s people and nurture one another.
- + To *know* the Word of God
- + To *grow* in faith, love, and service
- + To *go* into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.



**SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Pastor:	The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen
Music Director	Michael Dettra
Worship Assistant	Jennifer McQuiggan

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by Dave & Helen Shearer in honor of their anniversary and by Gail & Doug Oines in honor of their anniversary.

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

Sunday, September 24, 8:00 am 19 9:30 a.m. 31 **TOTAL 50**

**CONTACTING PASTOR MATT**

If you need to speak with Pastor Matt when he is not in the office, particularly in the case of a pastoral emergency, please feel free to call his cell phone 215-859-3778 or email, [pastormattollikainen@gmail.com](mailto:pastormattollikainen@gmail.com) (new email). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.



**CELEBRATION OF ADVENT’S 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023, 9:00 AM**

Join us on **Sunday, October 8, 2023**, as we celebrate this special milestone! There will be one worship **service that day at 9:00 a.m.**

**ADVENT SUPPORTS BUCKS COUNTY MEDICATION TAKE BACK EVENT**

Information was received from Lauren Foisy, Prevention Coordinator, Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc. regarding the Bucks County Medication Take Back event. The bi-annual event provides community members with a safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of unused, unneeded or expired medications.

There will be a labeled box in the narthex, starting, Sunday, October 1 to October 22, if you would like to bring in unused over-the-counter medications, vaping products, vitamins, pet meds for safe disposal. The box will be secured until it is delivered on October 28 to the Northampton Police Department.

If you would like to drop off your items differently, there is a notice on the box indicating Take Back Locations.

Thank you for your help in keeping our community safe.





**MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14**

In spite of supply chain challenges, we will be planning to have our first breakfast of the fall on Saturday, October 14th. We plan to eat at 8:30 am. **Coffee is ready by 7:30 a.m.**  
**Dave**



**ADVENT'S STITCH CLUB BAZAAR SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 15, 22 & 29**

The Advent Stitch Club is having their Bazaar on Sundays, October 15, 22, and 29, before and after Sunday services. There will be wonderful handmade items on display for sale in the narthex.

Proceeds from the sale will help support the weekly flower arrangements that grace our altar each week and food purchases for Caring for Friends. Thank you for supporting this cause!

**PRAISE BAND AND VOCAL CHOIR PRACTICE WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15 to 8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra for more details.



**NO BIBLE STUDY THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5**



**STITCH CLUB ON SATURDAYS, 10 A.M.**

Stitch club meets on, Saturdays at **10:00 a.m. to noon**. Stitch club is open to all who would like to join. If you like to knit, crochet or do needlepoint, this is for you!

The Stitch club items are **available throughout the year**. If you need any of the items made by the Stitch Club, i.e., blankets, hats, baby items, please contact Hanna McCollum, 215-262- 9032, or Jeff Jobes, 215-355-4149

**MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Financial Report For August 2023		
	Rec'vd for August 2023	Budget for August 2023
General Fund	\$16,876.68	\$17,281.00
Mortgage	\$1,961	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$17	\$134
Other Benevolence	\$1,093	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,947.68</b>	<b>\$19,313.00</b>
	Recv'd YTD 1/1-8/31/23	Budget YTD 1/1-8/31/23
General Fund	\$91,060.00	\$138,248.00
Mortgage	\$18,897.00	\$15,184.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$537.00	\$1,072.00
Other Benevolence	\$5,804.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$116,298.00</b>	<b>\$154,504.00</b>



**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are numerous dates available for 2023 to dedicate flowers to beautify the altar each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication. Two bouquets are available each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. In addition to making the altar more beautiful, you take the flowers home after the late service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions call Cindy Frey 267-205-0713.



**NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Please consider supporting our sister congregation, Nueva Creación Lutheran Church, which does vital ministry in North Philadelphia. A sign-up chart is on the table in the narthex near the entrance to the sanctuary.



**DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION**

If you have food for the Warminster Food Bank that you or your friends would like to donate and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. A list of the Food Bank’s most needed items is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.



Recycling can tabs for charity is a great idea! If you bring them in, we’ll drop them off. Look for marked containers in the narthex, located on the shelf above the coat rack. No cans, please – just tabs! The tab collection program began at **Ronald McDonald House Charities** of the Philadelphia Region in 1997. Since the inception of the program, **RMHC** has collected over 350 tons of tabs and over \$170,000! See [RMHCphilly.org](http://RMHCphilly.org).

**THIS WEEK AT ADVENT**

**18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – OCTOBER 1**

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 – grade 6
- 10:30 am Fellowship: George Henry
- 10:45 am Adult Bible Study

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 2**

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4**

- 6:30-7:15 Praise Band Practice
- 7:15-8:00 Vocal Choir Practice

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5**

- 7:00 pm Lower Bucks Conference Meeting at Advent

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6**

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7**

- 10:00 am – noon Stitch Club

**19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – OCTOBER 8**

- 9:00 am 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service with Holy Communion