

LECTIONARY 20

AUGUST 17, 2025



Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

308 Market St. / PO Box 246, New Berlin, PA 17855 www.newberlinlutherans.com | 570-966-2815

Beverly Hoffman, Synod Approved MinisterPlease contact Beverly Hoffman for all pastoral needs.

1-570-428-4876 | bevhoff@ptd.net

Christine Rowe, Parish Secretary christinerowe@newberlinlutherans.com

Welcome to worship

WF'RE GLAD THAT YOU ARE HERE!

Navigating Worship

Congregational responses are written in bold.

AED Available Downstairs

In case of an emergency, an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is located in the stair tower on the first floor.

Nursery

The nursery is available downstairs—please wipe down toys used.

Streaming Video

We extend our worship from our building into our community on Facebook, and YouTube. The front two pews and chancel are visible on the video.

Today's Worship Leaders:

Presiding: Beverly Hoffman
Greeter/s: Emily Moyer
Lector: Deb Wetzel

Acolytes: Audrey Resseguie

Cantor/s: Alicia Saxon
Music Dir: Frank Shue
Video Operator: Nancy Morgan

Communion Set Up: Steve and Linda Resseguie Communion Baker: Steve and Linda Resseguie

Altar Flowers:

Liturgical Music and Texts from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and Sundays and Seasons © Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission under Augsburg Fortress Annual Liturgies License SBT002156. **Scripture quotations, except the Psalm**, are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. **All** rights reserved worldwide.

Copyright coverage for streaming worship provided by Augsburg Fortress Annual Liturgies License SBT002156 and OneLlcense.net ##A-7151960.

^{*} indicates to stand as you are able

Ф GATHERING Ф

WELCOME AND WORSHIP NOTES

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Confession And Forgiveness

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

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. Amen.

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

*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.



The Lord be with you. And also with you.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex alt ed thus!"
- 3 Je sus is wor-thy to re-ceive hon-or and pow'r di vine;
- 4 Let all cre a tion join in one to bless the sa cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one. "Wor-thy the Lamb," our lips re-ply, "for he was slain for us!" and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine. of God who sits up-on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Ф Word Ф

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 23:23-29

²³ Am I a God nearby, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

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

Response Psalm 82

Refrain (sung twice at the beginning and once at the end)



Psalm Tone



- ¹God stands to charge the divine coun- [|] cil assembled, giving judgment in the midst [|] of the gods:
- ² "How long will you | judge unjustly, and show favor | to the wicked?
- ³ Save the weak ¹ and the orphan; defend the hum- ¹ ble and needy;
- ⁴ rescue the weak ¹ and the poor; deliver them from the power ¹ of the wicked.
- ⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness;
 - all the foundations of the | earth are shaken.
 - ⁶ Now I say to you, ¹ 'You are gods, and all of you children of ¹ the Most High;
 - ⁷ nevertheless, you shall | die like mortals, and fall like | any prince.'"
 - ⁸ Arise, O God, and ¹ rule the earth, for you shall take all nations ¹ for your own. R

(Repeat Refrain)

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—³³ who through faith conquered realms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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

*Gospel acclamation



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*GOSPEL

LUKE 12:49-56

The holy gospel according to St. Luke Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, and in-laws against one another."

⁵⁴ Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily

Beverly Hoffman

*HYMN OF THE DAY

517

LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD

*APOSTLE'S CREED

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 and 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 to 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 catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound. Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

*PEACE

Feel free to shake hands during Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Ф MEAL Ф

OFFFRING

An offering is collected in the plates located in the narthex and by the elevator. You may give electronically at http://newberlinlutherans.com/give.

SPECIAL MUSIC

ALICIA SAXON & KAREN FULLAM

FAIREST LORD JESUS

SILESIAN FOLK MELODY

*OFFERTORY

188

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

*OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

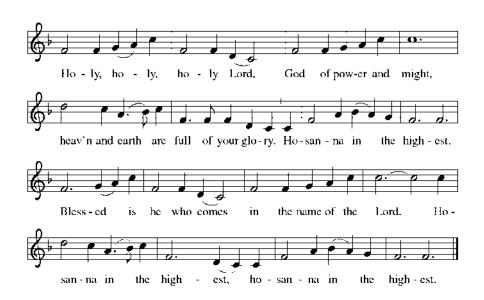
Amen.

*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.**

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we are bold to pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

*COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Both sides process forward simultaneously by the center aisle. At the front pew are empty cups for wine. The cups that are filled are grape juice. The Common Cup is also available.



COMMUNION SONGS

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF LIGHT # 815

LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS # 765

*Prayer After Communion

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Ф SENDING Ф

*BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG

LET THE WHOLE CREATION CRY

876

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. Thanks be to God.

We hear "Let the Whole Creation Cry" as we go forth to
LIVE GOD'S GRACE; SHARE CHRIST'S LOVE; SERVE THE LORD
All are invited for coffee, snacks, and fellowship in the parish hall.

Fellowship After The Service

Join us for fellowship every Sunday after the Worship Service. Today's Fellowship Hour is hosted by Your Church Council

 August 24
 ???

 August 31
 ???



Family Focused Faith Formation

Join the fun with our neighbors at United In Christ and Christ's Lutheran this Fall for Faith Lab! The program has something for all kids from grades K-6, as well as adult formation to accompany the lessons the kids are learning about! Plus, each gathering ends with

A FREE MEAL! YOU READ THAT RIGHT PARENTS! A NIGHT YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING FOR DINNER!

We will gather every first and third Sunday of the month; first Sundays will meet at Christ's Lutheran in Lewisburg and the third Sundays will meet at United in Christ outside of West Milton.

Don't have kids in the age group but still want to help out? We'd be thrilled to have you sign up to host the meal portion of one of the monthly gatherings.

Just Scan the QR Code to Sign Up!



YOUTH GAME NIGHT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

All youth grades 6-12 are invited to the Upper Susquehanna Synod Youth Group's first gathering for the new school year on Sunday, September 14, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Christ's Lutheran Church in Lewisburg. The theme is game night, so bring your favorite board game. We will spend some time getting to know each other, playing games, and enjoying some refreshments. This is a program of Camp Mount Luther and the Upper Susquehanna Synod Youth Initiative.

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED!

JUST SHOW UP WITH A GAME!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

School Backpacks

W.E.L.C.A. would like to thank all those who donated school supplies for the Lutheran World Relief School Backpack program. Because of your generosity, we have surpassed our goal of 75 school kits and will be able to send 100 school kits! Please join us on September 7 for our annual God's Work Our Hands celebration. Following a Breakfast Brunch, we will welcome volunteers to help assemble these kits. Thanks again, for your selfless support and generosity!

YOU ARE AMAZING!!





When was the last time you bought meat, dairy and produce for 19 cents a pound?!???!!!

Well, believe it or not, that's what our Food Pantry pays for food through the Central Pa. Food Bank! Now you might think that's a deal and we don't need your donation to provide for those in need in our area. Oh, contraire! We have been providing to 100+ individuals every month. That means that although items are only 19 cents a pound, we still need to buy enough to meet the ever-growing amount of need. I hate to belabor this point, but, we obviously can't get this good deal if we don't have the money. So, let me show you some numbers: A gift of \$5.00 will get us almost 26 pounds of food. \$10.00 will buy us 52 pounds of food and \$20.00 will buy us 105 pounds of food!!! You can't find a better deal anywhere! Plus, we can get free stuff too!

Please give your monetary donations to the New Berlin Food Pantry through Messiah. If you are giving cash, please place it in an envelop designated for the Food Pantry. If you are writing a check, please make it payable to Messiah and note in the memo line that it is for the New Berlin Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity.

Also, another great way to be a good steward of your money and support the New Berlin Food Pantry is by purchasing gift cards for Weis, Giant and L and L markets. I know, a lot of us go to Walmart, but meat and produce are ALWAYS better at Weis and Giant. Even a purchase of a \$25.00 card helps the Food Pantry.

Worship Leaders for Sunday, August 24, 2025

Presiding: Beverly Hoffman Greeter/s: Mim Keister Lector: Nancy Morgan

Acolytes: Nancy Morgan and CarolAnn Miller

Cantor/s: CarolAnn Miller
Music Dir: Frank Shue
Video Operator: Kay Trick

Communion Set Up: Steve and Linda Resseguie
Communion Baker: Steve and Linda Resseguie
Altar Flowers: Ronald and Frances Blatchley

Last Week 8/10/25

Attendance: 30 Giving: \$815.00

Have a prayer request?

Fill out the yellow Prayer Request card and drop it in the offering plate or put it in the secretary's mailbox.

Need immediate prayers? Contact Tom Milbrand (272-305-0058), Diane Walter (570-966-0333), or Frances Blatchley (570-966-0288) to have prayers shared on the prayer chain.

Please remember to give Christine Rowe an update on the status of those on our prayer list.

Remember to fill out at least one Communion card each year.

Can't make it to church in-person?

Attend remotely on Facebook, YouTube and the phone. To listen in on the phone, call 570-989-8899.

In our **pr**ayers

Healing, wholeness, and encouragement

Long Term

Alicia Saxon, Noah Navickas, Matthew Myers, Steve Boonie, Lori Haines, Jeffrey Ames, Oliver Auman, Aimee Erdley, Bev Fausey. Christine Koons, Darrell O'Bryant, Robert "Butch" Hestor, Betty Reber, Michael Callahan, Angela Golfieri, Todd Miller, John Hollenbach, Eric Brosious, Kay Fleming, Taryn Myers, Brantley Herman, Timothy Shomper, Jane Ohlidia, Weston Treas, Trudy Livingston, Mick Hauck, Lark Springer, Logan Roush, Katelyn Mattison, Tena Decker-Norman, Mary Hoover, Laurie Thomas, John Wagner, Beth Ann Troutman, George Hauck, Sandy Raymond, Kathy Spangler, Dianne Bailor, Doug Aikey, Loretta Weatherill, Melissa Boonie, Adam Guzenski, Julia Hauck, Ellie Crane, Jami and Dylan Crane, Tracy Sassaman, Paul Burkholder, Sue Ulrich, Charlie Stabler, Shawna St. Claire, Stanley St. Claire, Larry St. Claire, Daytona Wentzel, Tim Walsh. Ted Kolvich, Ron Trick, Cameron Osgood, June Bingaman, Michelle (Pam Erdley's friend), Grant Snyder, Robert Sauers, Rick Slear. Joe Hoffman, Tommy Ward

Short Term

Mary Wagner, Ken Walter, Carole Jacka, Deb Wetzel, Diane Walter, Randy Rim Fultz, Mary Lou Shoop, Mary Agnes Hackenberg

Providence and Protection for first responders and military service men and women Stanley Miller, Benjamin Pilko

Companionship, Prayer and Support for our Homebound Carol McJilton, Valda Sassaman, Julia Fetter, Mick and Mary Hauck, Nancy Hummel, Carole Jacka

Comfort for those who Grieve:

For the friends and family of Gary Keister

This Week

Today, Sunday, August 17
9 am Service of Holy Communion
Fellowship

Tues. August 19

12:30 pm Quilt Tying

Wed. August 20

6 pm Theology On Tap @ Rusty Rail

Thurs. August 21

10 am Food Pantry

Sunday, August 24

9 am Service of Holy Communion Fellowship

READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Psalm for Monday-Wednesday is Psalm 32

Mon.	Aug. 18	Jeremiah 23:30-40	1 John 4:1-6
Tues.	Aug. 19	Jeremiah 25:15-29	Acts 7:44-53
Wed.	Aug. 20	Jeremiah 25:30-38	Luke 19:45-48

Psalm for Thursday-Saturday is Psalm 103:1-8

Thurs.	Aug. 21	Numbers 15:32-41	Hebrews 12:3-17
Fri.	Aug. 22	2 Chronicles 8:12-15	Acts 17:1-9
Sat.	Aug. 23	Nehemiah 13:15-22	Luke 6:1-5

Sunday, Aug. 24 Isaiah 58:9-14 Psalm 103:1-8 Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17