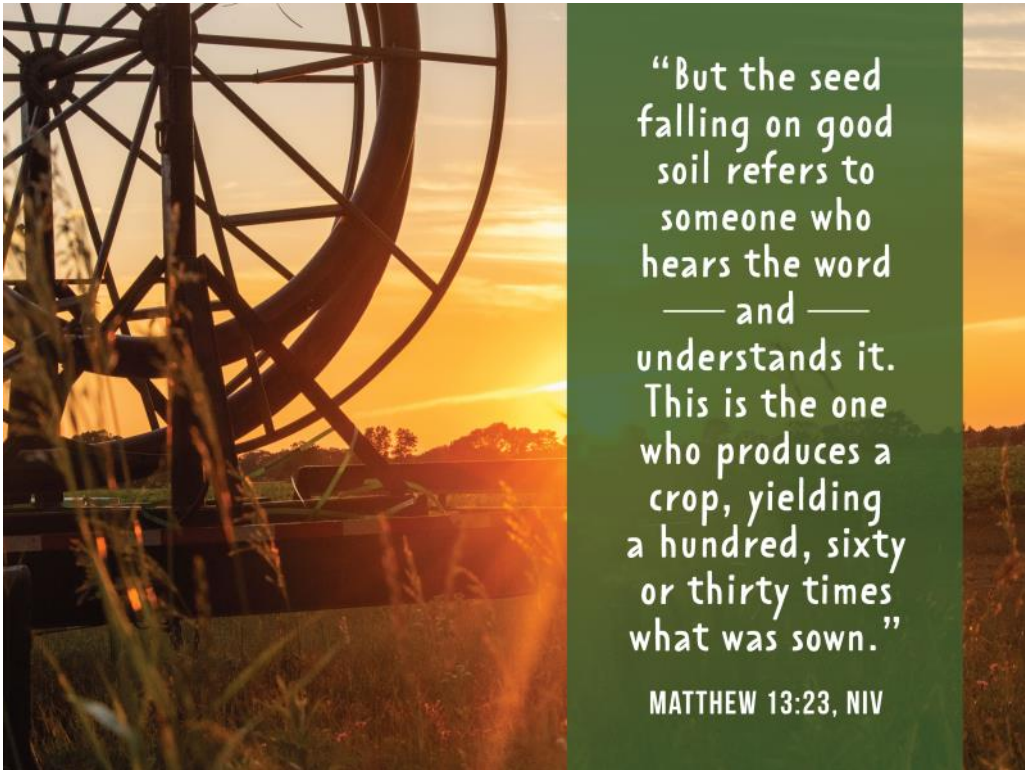




Jerusalem

evangelical lutheran church

July 12, 2026
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 AM Worship Service



“But the seed
falling on good
soil refers to
someone who
hears the word
— and —
understands it.
This is the one
who produces a
crop, yielding
a hundred, sixty
or thirty times
what was sown.”

MATTHEW 13:23, NIV

Mission Statement

SOW. The Gospel of Jesus the Christ to all generations

GROW. His followers into spiritually mature disciples

GO. Back into the world to serve others in His name

WELCOME

We are so glad you have chosen to join with us today as we gather in worship to give thanks to our gracious and loving God. If you have particular needs and/or questions please speak with an usher. Again, thanks for spending a little time with us.

Nursery Care is available for younger children downstairs in the room across from the Coffee Corner.

THIS WEEK AT JERUSALEM

Sunday, July 12	<i>ASP Commissioning</i>	
	10:30 AM	Worship Service with live stream
Tuesday, July 14	<i>Sight & Sound Trip</i>	
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting (SH)
Wednesday, July 15	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (YC)
Saturday, July 18	<i>ASP Departure to North Carolina</i>	
	7:00 AM	AA Meeting (YC)
	12:00 PM	John Markley's Memorial Service followed by luncheon
Sunday, July 19	10:30 AM	Worship Service with communion and live stream

The People of Jerusalem Congregation, Ministers

Rev. Chris McKinstry, Pastor

David A. Crist, Director of Music Glenda Ortiz, Secretary

311 Second Street Schwenksville, PA 19473

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Phone: 610-287-7104

Glenda Ortiz Cell: 215-237-7707 Email - secretary@jelc.org Website: www.jelc.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/jelcville/](https://www.facebook.com/jelcville/) Instagram: [jelc_schwenksville](https://www.instagram.com/jelc_schwenksville/)

**For pastoral care please contact Pastor Chris McKinstry at: 484-300-6674
or the church office at 610-287-7104**

David Crist: 610 489-3320 Email: dalcris@protonmail.com

Jerusalem Lutheran Nursery School and Day Care 610-287-6360

UPCOMING EVENTS & NOTES



Jack Bowman has secured tickets for “Joshua” at the Sight and Sound Theater for **July 14th, 2026**. Price of tickets is \$99. Please contact Jack if you are interested. ***There is still one more ticket available for the “Joshua” show. If interested in purchasing a ticket please contact Jack Bowman.***

Memorial Service



We will be having a memorial service for John Markley, on **Saturday, July 18th** at Jerusalem Church starting at 12 PM. Luncheon to follow in the Social Hall. All who would like to attend are welcomed.

Red Cross Blood Drive



Saturday, August 22nd from 9AM to 2PM in the Social Hall. Scan the QR code to register or visit: [Redcrossblood.org/give](https://redcrossblood.org/give). Enter zip code 19473 and enter date 8/22/26 in the search box or scroll down list for Jerusalem Church from list of donors.



Outdoor Worship Service and Picnic

Sunday, August 30th at 11:00 AM

Upper Salford Park in Schwenksville

Worship service will be followed by lunch and time of fellowship. Games and activities for kids will be available. Stay tuned for more information and sign-up links.



There will be no Monthly Luncheon in July.



Please stay tuned for luncheon selection in August. Location yet to be determined.

Sunday Nursery

We are in need of volunteers. Please look for sign-up schedule link shared via email. Please contact the church office for clearance link. We will need to have clearances on file.



PRELUDE "I Love to Tell the Story" arr. Hassell

Paul Schweitzer

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GATHERING SONGS "The Trees of the Field" Sing 2 times

Em

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,

D G C G D B⁷

and the moun-tains and the hills will break forth be - fore you.

Em

There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field

B⁷ Em/B B/A Em

will clap, will clap their hands.

D⁷ G C G D

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

G

The trees of the field will clap their hands.

continue next page

The trees of the field will clap their hands,
while you go out with joy.

Text: Steffi Geiser Rubin

Music: Stuart Dauermann

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“*Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*” (#512) Sing 2 times

Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of Your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on Your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Words and Music: Handt Hanson,

©1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

*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 the holy Trinity, one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

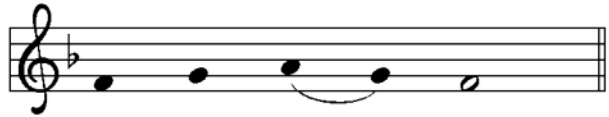
***GREETING**

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.**

***KYRIE (SUNG)**

CANTOR:

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

continue next page

¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 65:9-13 Spoken responsively

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰ You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING Romans 8:1-11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

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

CANTOR: The word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart.

ALL: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

***GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

SERMON

Pastor Chris McKinstry

***HYMN OF THE DAY** “*As Rain from the Clouds*” (#508)

1. As rain from the clouds will Your word come to earth,
as snow from the heavens refreshing the land.

Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to Your hand.

We praise You, our God, for the dew of Your word;
we thank You, good gard'ner, for Your tender toil.

We bless You, best farmer, for hundredfold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.

2. As grain that is scattered Your word has been sown
on rocks and on roadways, in good earth and sand.

Make fertile our soil that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to Your hand.

We praise You, our God, for the seed of Your word;
we thank You, good gard'ner, for Your tender toil.

We bless You, best farmer, for hundredfold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.

3. As rays of the sun shall Your word light the world,
awaking and warming and healing our land.

Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to Your hand.

We praise You, our God, for the light of Your word;
we thank You, good gard'ner, for Your tender toil.

We bless You, best farmer, for hundredfold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.

Words: Delores Dufner, OSB, © 1983, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: Jonathan E. Spilman, arr. ©2003 Augsburg Fortress.

***APOSTLES' 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, 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 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 portion of the prayer ends: A: Lord, in your mercy, C: **hear our prayer.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you all! **And also with you.**

OFFERING MUSIC “Dearest Jesus, at Your Word” Burkhardt

If desired to make an online offering donation or to set-up automatic recurring payments, please scan the attached QR code on the back of the bulletin.

***OFFERING PRAYER (UNISON)**

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us 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.

COMMISSIONING OF ASP TEAM

P: As Christians we are to make the Lord Jesus Christ known to all people. We hear this in His words: “I command you love one another as I have loved you...by this, all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13: 34-35). In Jesus final command we hear: “Go then to all peoples, everywhere and make them disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

We celebrate you and your devotion to the tasks ahead of you, as you join with other persons in mission to the Appalachia Service Project. Through the gift of your service and love, you show others the infinite love that God has for all people. This is both a privilege and a responsibility, and we ask that you now publicly affirm your commitment to God’s work. Will you accept the persons whom you serve right where they are and just the way they are?

TEAM: I will, with God’s help.

P: Will you seek to work in glad cooperation and mutual support with other workers, being sensitive and helpful according to the needs presented to you?

TEAM: I will, with God’s help.

P: Will you answer God’s call and live in His Word, demonstrating your love of Jesus Christ and the church which you represent?

TEAM: I will, with God’s help.

P: Do you sincerely believe that the work you are about to undertake is the work of God for our world?

TEAM: I do so believe.

P: Let us pray: “Almighty God, bless and strengthen these persons we now dedicate and commission for your service. Fill them with your spirit, enrich them with your grace, and strengthen them for the tasks ahead, that as they touch lives, your Name may be glorified.” **AMEN**

I commission you to share the love of Jesus Christ through your gift of Service with the Appalachia Service Project; In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

P: Sisters and Brothers, I present to you these persons whom we have commissioned to participate in the Appalachia Service Project. They are representatives of Christ and the church. I commend them to you for your love, your care, your prayers, and your support for the work that they will perform.

CONGREGATION: We rejoice to recognize you as representatives of our church, and thank God for your dedication and your gift of service. We send you on with our prayers and our support, and with you, we renew our commitment to God and service in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We pray God’s blessings for you and the Appalachia Service Project. AMEN

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***BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen**

***SENDING HYMN “To Be Your Presence” (#546)**

1. To be Your presence is our mission here,
to show compassion’s face and list’ning ear,
to be Your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!
2. To be Your presence is our mission bold,
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,
to be Your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!
3. To be Your presence is our mission blest,
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,
to be Your voice of hope, Your love expressed, alleluia!
4. We are Your heart, O Christ, Your hands and voice,
to serve Your people is our call and choice,
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!

Words: Delores Dufner, OSB, ©2000 GIA Publications, Inc.

***DISMISSAL**

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE “Trumpet Tune” Johnson

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SERVING TODAY

10:30 AM

Ushers: Janet Luyben &
Joan Connolly

Acolyte: Ella Cusumano

Cantor: Dylan Dice

Lector: Janet Luyben

Nursery Assistant: Jen Wolk

Counters: Paul Ensminger & Chris Freer
Altar Guild: Rose Koehler & Louise Hunsicker
Banners: Louise Hunsicker & John Souder

PRAYER CONCERNS....

PRAYERS FOR SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL HEALING & RENEWAL

Tanner Anttilosky, Martin Conte, Debbie Feitchthaler, Anne Fisher, Amelia Hawks,
Jay Kapila, Greg Kealey, Leslie Leben, Bill Luyben, Gene & Pat Miesse,
Bev O'Brien, Daniela Rivera, Don Peters, Joseph Schmitt, Savoey Touch,
Gail Wetzel, & Bobbie Willis.

ONGOING PRAYERS

Susie Barker, Jeanne Bullard, Audrey Englehart, Margaret Fisher,
Effa Hunt, Derek Kirby, Nellie Ann Kodoziejki,
Janet Neumann, Linda Petruccelli, Noel Pumphrey, Joseph Russella,
Robert Schirk, Mary Ann Schofield, Shawn Schlichter, Jennifer Sone, Carol Sprainer,
& Marie Wolfe.

Online Giving: Please scan the attached QR code for
online giving or to set-up automatic recurring payments if desired.

