



Jerusalem

evangelical lutheran church

October 25, 2026
Reformation Sunday
10:30 AM Worship Service



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, October 25

Reformation Sunday

9:15 AM Sunday School & Confirmation Classes
10:30 AM Worship Service with communion & live stream

Wednesday, October 28

4:00 PM Fall Fest at Olszanowski Farm

6:30 PM Women's Bible Study (OP)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (YC)

Thursday, October 29

12:30 PM Monthly Luncheon Gathering

6:00 PM Schwenksville Halloween Parade

Saturday, October 31

Happy Halloween

7:00 AM AA Meeting (YC)

9:00 AM Community Blood Drive (SH)

Sunday, November 1

All Saints Sunday

9:15 AM Sunday School & Confirmation Classes

10:30 AM Worship Service with communion & live stream

Daylight Saving Time Ends

~ November 1, 2026 ~

Turn Clocks back (fall back) one hour on
Saturday, October 31st.



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

**For pastoral care please contact Pastor Chris McKinstry at: pastor@jelc.org
or the church office at 610-287-7104**

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS & NOTES



This ***Sunday, October 25th***, we celebrate the 509th anniversary of the Reformation. Every year on the last Sunday in October we celebrate Reformation Sunday as a commemoration of the Reformation by Martin Luther which started in 1517. On Reformation Sunday we are reminded as we celebrate that we are saved by faith through God's grace. Faith alone, grace alone, scripture alone, Christ alone, God alone.



2026 Fall Fest

Fall Fest at Olszanowski Farm!

Sunday, October 25th from 4PM - 7 PM

Hay ride \$10 ~ Corn Maze \$10

Hay ride starts promptly at 4PM

RSVP: www.jelc.org, QR Code, or contact Glenda Ortiz



Monthly Luncheon ~ Thursday, October 29th at 12:30 PM

Giovanni's 724 Restaurant

1492 E. Schuylkill Road, Pottstown PA 19465

we are limited to twenty spots for this reservation. Please contact Dan Slemmer **BEFORE** October 22nd to reserve your place and request carpooling if needed.



Halloween Parade

Thursday, October 29th

Registration starts at 6PM at Heidelberg UCC Church

Parade starts at 7 PM down Second St onto the old Univest Parking lot.

We will have a table outside the church with candies and goodies! Stop by to say hello.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Saturday, October 31st from 9AM to 2PM in the Social Hall. Scan the QR code to register or visit: Redcrossblood.org/give. Enter zip code 19473 and enter date 10/31/26 in the search box or scroll down list for Jerusalem Church from list of donors.



Support JLNSDC Fundraising see insert flyer for order forms

Please place order forms in basket in the Coffee Corner no later than **Friday, October 30th**. If paying cash, please place payment in envelope with name on it. Dinners may be picked up directly at the Royersford restaurant on November 5th or 6th.



All Saints Sunday Sunday, November 1, 2026.

The first Sunday in November is the day to remember our sisters & brothers in Christ who have died during the preceding year. We will have a table for members to share photos of loved ones that have passed. We will acknowledge those loved ones in the service. If you would like to have your loved ones remembered in this way please drop the picture with the name of the person off to the church office.



ASP Christmas Cards Fundraising

ASP is currently selling Christmas cards as part of their fundraising efforts for their upcoming mission trip in July of 2027. Christmas cards are available in the Coffee corner. They are \$10 for a pack of 10. Cash payments can be placed in the envelope provided by the cards. Payments made by checks can be placed in the offering plate.

Please mark: ***“ASP Christmas Cards”*** in the memo line.



Duo Piano Recital ~ St. Luke Lutheran Church in Gilbertsville presented by Bruce Tonkin, Director of Music

Sunday, November 1st at 2:00 PM

2 pianos, 8 hands

John Bednar, Joan Johnson, Amy LaRue, Bruce Tonkin - pianist
a free will offering will be received
35 Wilson Ave, Gilbertsville



Annual Congregational Meeting

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026 in the Sanctuary
at 11:30 AM (Following Worship Service)

There will be No Christian Education. ***Committee leaders submit a summary of 2026 activities for the meeting by Oct. 18th.***

Please send to Glenda secretary@jelc.org and
andrew.inglehart@gmail.com).

You are important to this process. Hope to see you all there!



Harvest Home Sunday: Sunday, November 15th & 22nd

We will once again be collecting non perishable food items. This year we will donate items to homeless shelters. We will have baskets in the Coffee Corner for donation items to be placed (starting late October/early November.) We will take some items to the altar for a special blessing before distributing the donations.

Donations can be dropped off no later than November 22nd

Please prepare your hearts for worship as we meditate during the Prelude sitting in silence or softly whispering upon entering the Sanctuary.

PRELUDE “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” A. K. Organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GATHERING SONG** “In Christ Alone”

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease,
my Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This Gift of Love and Righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
'til He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend,
©2002 Thankyou Music/PRS adm. by worshiptogether.com
Songs.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most 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.

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. **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, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BIBLE PRESENTATION

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

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

SECOND READING Romans 3:19-28

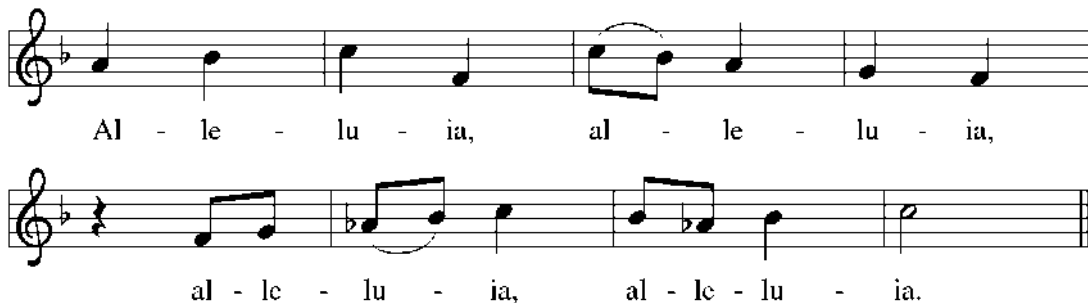
¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

continue next page

CANTOR: If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples,
and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

ALL: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

***GOSPEL READING John 8:31-36**

The holy gospel according to John, the eighth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

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

SERMON

Pastor Chris McKinstry

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”* (#729:1, 2, 3, 5)

1. The church of Christ, in ev’ry age
beset by change, but Spirit led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.

2. Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die.

3. Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ’s sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ’s humanity.

5. We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord;
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread His liberating word.

Words: Fred Pratt Green, ©1971 Hope Publishing Company.

***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 “That Priceless Grace” arr. Helgen

Asaph Choir

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)**

God of creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING (SPOKEN)**

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.**

***PREFACE**

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

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

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. 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.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*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

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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, Lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION - AT THE RAIL

Please come forward down the center aisle, receive a cup from the usher, and fill the altar rail from the left (pulpit side) to the right (lectern side). Gluten-free wafers are available in the container on the small table. You may take the wafer for yourself. Grape juice is available from the ushers for those who do not take wine..

COMMUNION HYMNS #654, #779

*COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

***POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**

O Lord, now let your servant depart in heav'nly peace,
 for I have seen the glory of your redeeming grace:
 a light to lead the nations unto your holy hill,
 the glory of your people, your chosen Israel.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Sustaining God,
 with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit,
 send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation,
 healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” (#504:1, 2, 4)**

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
 He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.
 The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!
 With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight.
 On earth he has no equal.

2. No strength of ours can match his might!
 We would be lost, rejected.
 But now a Champion comes to fight, whom God Himself elected.
 You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He!
 Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored.
 He holds the field victorious.

4. God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
 for God Himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
 Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
 though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.
 The kingdom's ours forever!

Words: Martin Luther, ©1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

***DISMISSAL**

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “Toccata in D Minor, BWV 565” J. S. Bach

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SERVING TODAY

10:30 AM

Ushers: Chas & Gina Weygand

Acolytes: Sean Ortiz &
Gabriel Emannual

Cantor: Norma Grosick

Worship Assistant: Tim Arnold

Nursery Assistant: TBD

Counters: Tim & Nancy Arnold
Altar Guild: Renee Bartlett & Janet Luyben
Banners: Louise Hunsicker & John Souder

Altar flowers are presented in celebration of Reformation Sunday.

*Christian Education students receiving Bibles today are:
Camryn Johnson & Ryan Weygand.*

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYERS FOR SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL HEALING & RENEWAL

Henry Arnold Conaty, Barbara Blanchard, Mike Blinebury, Martin Conte,
Debbie Feichthaler, Anne Fisher, Pat Giarrocco, Greg Kealey, Gene & Pat Miesse,
Bev O'Brien, Daniela Rivera, Don Peters, Lorie Sarnocinski, Joseph Schmitt,
Frankie Stankus, Victor Vazquez, Rita Weiss, Gail Wetzell, Bobbie Willis
& Carol Withers.

ONGOING PRAYERS

Damian Aguilera, Coral Aubert, Susie Barker, Jeanne Bullard, Audrey Englehart,
Margaret Fisher, Madison Hills, Effa Hunt, Jay Kapila, Derek Kirby,
Nellie Ann Kodoziejski, Leslie Leben, Bill Luyben, Janet Neumann, Noel Pumphrey,
Joseph Russella, Robin Schlichter, 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.

