

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

6th Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023

11:00 A.M.

TIME OF GATHERING: Read through Announcements, Pray over Concerns, Meditate on Celebrations and the wonder and grace of God, and Thanksgiving to God....

Please sign the red pads and pass it onto the next person in your pew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* David Cherwien

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: We gather together in the presence of God,

People: the Lord of heaven and earth,

Liturgist: the Creator of our world and everything in it,

People: the One who gave us life and breath,

Liturgist: the One who is never far away from any of us,

People: the One in whom we live and move and have our being.

All: Let's worship God together!

*HYMN *To God Be the Glory* No. 98

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Unison: **All-knowing God, we gather together with praise and thanksgiving for who you are, and for all that you have done for us. You know us better than we know ourselves - all our thoughts and actions - and yet you love us. No matter where we go or what we do, your love encircles us - ahead and behind - gently leading and guiding and blessing. We praise you for your love and your faithful presence in our lives. May your Spirit move in our hearts and minds as we worship together. Examine our attitudes and actions, lay bare the things we need to confess, challenge us with your Word, and guide us on to paths that lead to life: for we are your people, called by your name. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON *1 Peter 3;13-22*

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

*RESPONSE *Thy Word Is a Lamp* No. 601 refrain only

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from 1 Timothy No. 889

CHOIR ANTHEM *Sing Forever to the Lord* Jon Paige

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Acts 17:22-31*
MESSAGE *"Searching for God"* Pastor Janet Sattel

*HYMN *I Know Whom I Have Believed* No. 714

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+Prayer of Confession

Unison: **God of gods, we believe we are constantly searching for you, but we're not sure we are looking in the right places. Forgive us for looking for the unknown God when Jesus has told us where you are and how we can truly worship you. We ask your forgiveness when we put other gods before you: wealth, position, knowledge, beauty, and many more. Forgive us when we worship things God made, but not you yourself, our creator. Thank you that even as we search for you, you are already searching for us. Thank you. Amen.**

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Sung Response *He Is Lord* No. 177

He is Lord, He is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!

Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is lord.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Variations on Sons and Daughters* Wilbur Held

*Congregational Response *All Creatures of Our God and King* No. 62 vs 7

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness,

O praise ye! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in one!

O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*HYMN *Christ Is Alive* No. 318

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: God knows each of us and has called us by name. If you have the desire to know God:

People: Today is the day! I want to know God and I want God to be in my life. Today! Amen.

*ORGAN RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE *A Joyful Ode* Phil Lehenbauer

*All stand if possible +All kneel or sit to pray

*The Altar Flowers this morning are presented by Ed and Linda Levengood
in Memory of John and Agnes Levengood.*

We thank all those who helped with the service this morning.
Liturgist: Patti Olson

Mission Statement for the Church of the Good Shepherd

We are committed to:

- ▶ Connecting persons to Jesus Christ
- ▶ Connecting with broken and hurting people
- ▶ Challenging persons to grow and celebrate their relationship with Jesus Christ
- ▶ Equipping persons and partnering with them to serve in God-powered ministry

2023 Mission Support

International

Heifer Int., Congo Partners in Mission, Africa University

Lebanon County

COGS in Motion, Gretna Glen Support, Habitat for Humanity, Celebrate Recovery,
Iglesia Nuevo Nacimiento, Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM),
Jubilee Ministries, Lebanon Rescue Mission, COGS Care and Compassion Fund.



Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor
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Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor
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TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
Celebration of Faith †



Searching for God

May 14, 2023

6th Sunday of Easter

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042
church: 717-272-7741 / www.umcogs.org

Sermon Outline:

“Searching for God”
Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22
Pastor Janet Sattel

People are searching for God. We are told, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” 1 Peter 3:15 [NIV]

St. Augustine once said of God, “Our hearts are restless until they find rest in you.”

The Athenians were known for being a sophisticated and advanced culture. They had an altar to the Unknown God, which archeology has been confirmed.

Paul turns this into an opportunity to introduce to the Athenians to the One True God.

The Athenians were searching for God, but they defined their gods by looking at themselves.

In a world of many religions, it can be confusing. But the truth is quite simple... while there may appear to be many Gods, there is One True God. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6 [CEB]

We search for God in so many different ways. We have all erected an altar to an unknown god in one way or the other. Whether we are willing to acknowledge it or not, we all try to fill that empty space inside of us.

God wants to fill that space! God wants to give us satisfaction and fulfillment. Jesus longs to give us an abundant life!

God is not an unknown God, and neither is God unknowable. Jesus is God in flesh, come to us to show us what God is like. Jesus said, “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!” John 14:9 [NLT]

Also quoted: Romans 1:19-23, 25b [NLT]

Calendar for Week of 5/14/2023

SUNDAY Mother's Day

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]

Youth Grades 6-12 please see Youth Page in the Announcements

MONDAY

10-12 - Staff Meeting [Lounge]

6:00 - Private [Sanctuary]

6:00 - CR Praise Team Rehearsal [WC]

TUESDAY

7:00 - Learn & Discern [Lounge]

WEDNESDAY

8:30-11:30 - MLLC [rms 200/202]

7:00 - Celebrate Recovery

7:00 - Traditional Choir Rehearsal [Sanctuary]

THURSDAY

5:00 - Contemporary Design Team

5:30 - Traditional Design Team

FRIDAY

6-8 - Cricut Class [Hall]

SATURDAY

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

8-12 - Making Ziti [kitchen]

SUNDAY

Baked Ziti take home dinner

Isaac's playground fundraiser

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]

Youth Group -

see Youth Page in the Announcements