

LUKE 12:49-56



**First Lutheran Church**

**August 17, 2025**

**Pentecost 10**

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*The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."*

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## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

Gordon Young

*Trumpet Voluntary in C  
Kenneth Arter, organ*

### **GATHERING**

*(Please stand)*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: 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.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,  
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,  
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease  
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;  
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,  
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;  
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,  
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,  
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;  
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.  
 de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.  
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.  
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

## GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

*The Cantor will sing the verses.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

C: Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

## FIRST READING

**JEREMIAH 23:23-29**

R: *A reading from Jeremiah, the twenty-third chapter.*

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> 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. <sup>28</sup> 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. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

R: *The word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

**HEBREWS 11:29-12:2**

R: *A reading from Hebrews, the eleventh chapter.*

<sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did

not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.<sup>32</sup> 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,<sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions,<sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.<sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection.<sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment.<sup>37</sup> 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<sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised,<sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.<sup>12:1</sup> 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,<sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of 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.

*R: The word of the Lord.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Cantor: My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. (John 10:27)*

**C: Repeat Alleluia.**

*P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.*



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup> "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." <sup>54</sup> He 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. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. <sup>56</sup> 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?"

*P: The gospel of the Lord.*



Praise to you, O Christ.

*(Please be seated)*

**REFLECTION**

**REVEREND MARK SCHURING**

*(Please stand)*

## Open Your Ears, O Faithful People



- 1 O - pen your ears, O faith-ful peo - ple, o - pen your ears and hear God's word.  
 2 They who have ears to hear the mes-sage, they who have ears, now let them hear;



O - pen your hearts, O roy - al priest-hood, God has come to you.  
 they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.



*Refrain*  
 To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
 God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
 God has spo - ken words of wis-dom, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
 God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
 God has spo - ken words of wis-dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

## **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.

*(Please kneel)*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P: Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

*A brief silence.*

L: Gracious God, you lead your people to faith. Remind the church that your word flows into the world. By your Spirit, teach the church to share the word of God for the sake of the world.

*Each petition concludes:*

P: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**



P: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*(Please stand)*

### **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*(Please be seated)*

### **MEAL**

### **OFFERING AND ORGAN MEDITATION**

ENGELBERG

*Ralph Manuel*

*When in Our Music, God Is Glorified*

*Emma Arter, piano; Kenneth Arter, organ*

*(Please stand)*

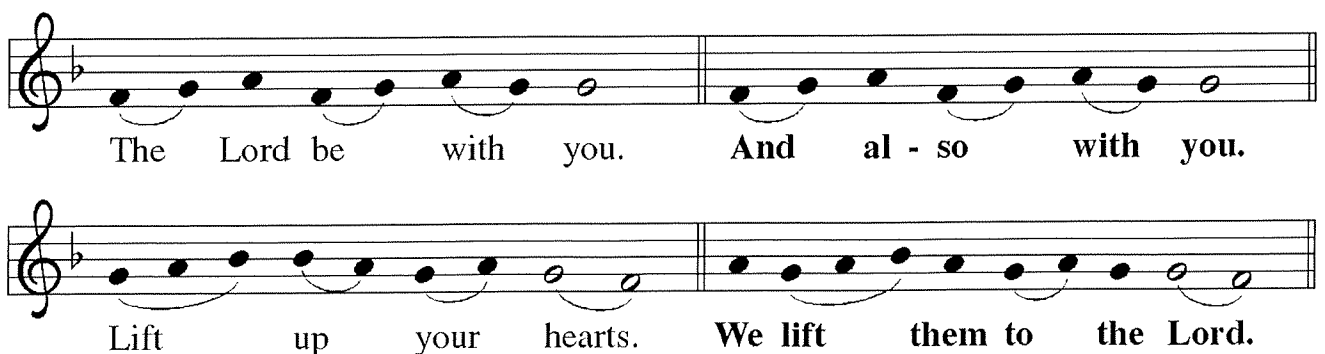
### **OFFERING PRAYER**

L: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

L: 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.

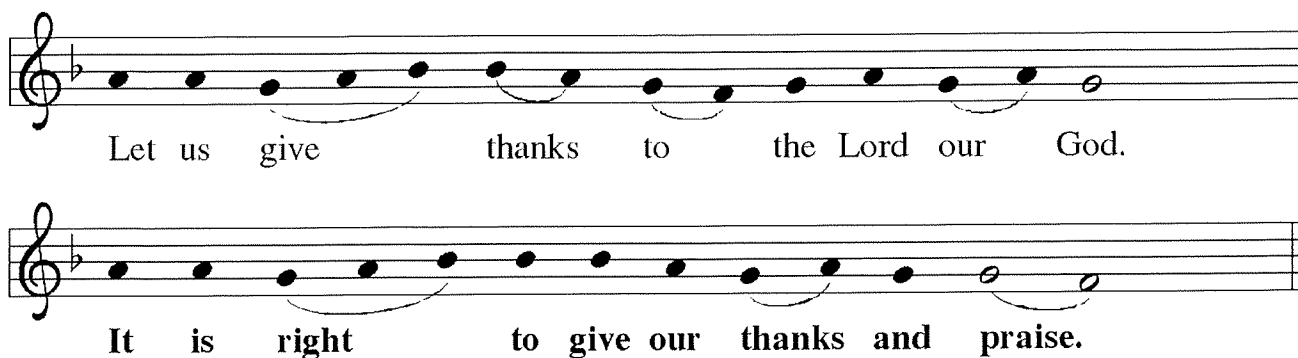
C: **Amen.**

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

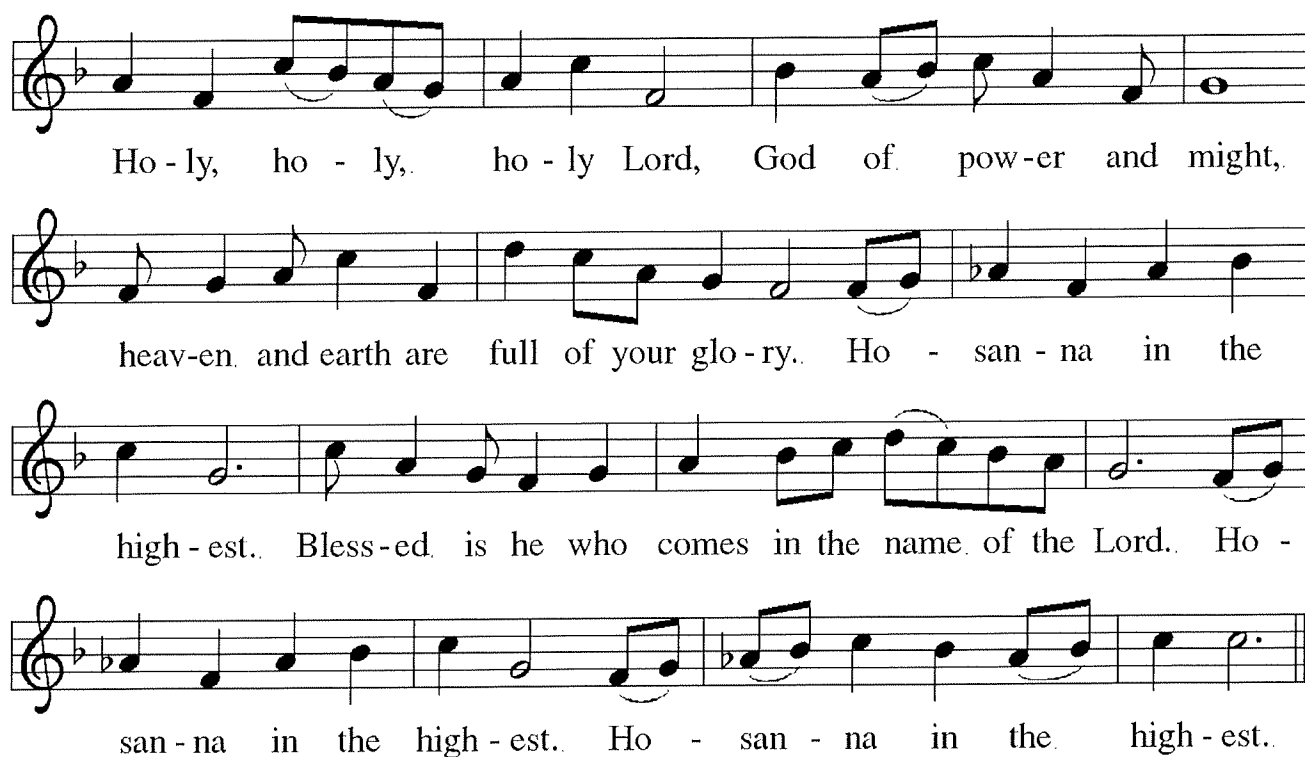
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



### ***PREFACE***

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise 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.

### ***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY***



### ***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE***

P: 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.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us 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.**

*(Please be seated)*

### **COMMUNION**

*Communion is distributed in two manners*

- † *You may commune in your pews.  
Individual communion kits are available at the Narthex doors.  
The presiding minister will share a blessing,  
all communing in-place will commune together.*
- † *You may come to the Table, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.  
A basket is available for disposal of your individual communion cups.*

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

# 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.

## COMMUNION SONG

## Come, Let Us Eat

ELW # 491

Leader or All



- 1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
- 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
- 3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,
- 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
 come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
 in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
 rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
 in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

*(Please stand)*

### **TABLE BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

L: O 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.

C: Amen.

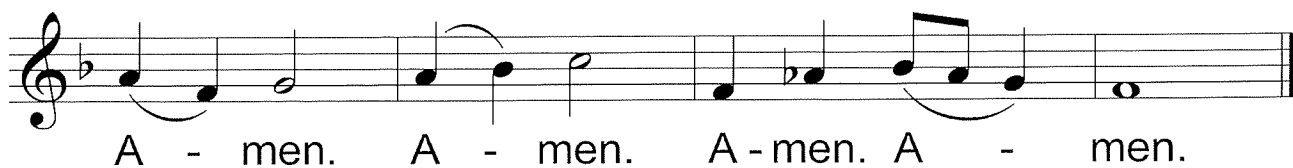
### **SENDING**

### **CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

C: Oh God,  
your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure.  
We are grateful for the goodness  
you have shown us through the years,  
and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future.  
Bless our community of faith, bless our healing,  
bless the changes that are before us,  
bless our pastoral leaders  
who will shepherd us through this time of transition.  
We thank you now for the wisdom you will show us  
as we align with your will, and servant or servants  
you are already preparing to send us in your blessed time.  
Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry  
and our future.  
In his name and for the sake of Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **BLESSING**

P: 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.



## SENDING SONG

ELW # 805

### Lead On, O King Eternal!



- 1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
- 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
- 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.  
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;  
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,  
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.  
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace.

P: Live by the Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

Hermann Schroeder

*Kleine Präludien und Intermezzi für Orgel, Opus 9*

*VI. Poco vivace*

*Kenneth Arter, organ*

## Events in Review

### Sunday

**Aug 17**

**10:00AM**

Church Service  
BBQ New Start

### Monday

**Aug 18**

**10:00AM**

Bible Study @ Willows

### Wednesday

**Aug 20**

**5:30 PM**

Council Meeting

### Thursday

**Aug 21**

**9:00 AM**

Blood Mobile

**4:00 PM**

FISH Meeting

### Next Week

### Sunday

**Aug. 24**

**10:00AM**

Church Service

### Monday

**Aug. 25**

**10:00AM**

Bible Study at Willows

### Thursday

**Aug. 28**

**1:00 PM**

FISH

**7:00 PM**

Prayers at St. Francis



If you have a prayer request for today, please raise your hand during announcements and a host will give you a green card to fill out.

Thank you to Kenneth Arter, organ & Emma Arter, piano for their participation in today's service.

We greatly appreciated it.



## School Supply Collection

The annual Lutheran Relief School Supply donation project is underway and will continue until August 30. A list of needed supplies is on the table in the hallway. You can drop off the supplies in the box by that table or in the office.



## Rummage Sale



Information regarding collection opportunities will be announced soon.

## New Start

Come join us to celebrate our "New Start" at First Lutheran this Sunday, August 17th. Right after service, we will enjoy a delicious BBQ picnic, followed by a question and answer session about what our ministry will look like in the future. Brats and dogs will be provided.



## Lawn Mower for the Week



**Jim Ruess**



## Contact Us



### **First Lutheran Church**

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[firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com)

## *Interim Pastor*

**Pastor Mark Schuring**

(740) 360-2306

[theskipster55@gmail.com](mailto:theskipster55@gmail.com)

## *Our Worship Leaders*

Altar Guild:	Luise & Ken Zeop
Cantor:	Elijah Shiley
Facebook Camera	Shelley / Tim Ross
Host:	Sharon Losey
Reader:	Beth Margraf
Worship Assistant	Jonathan Nominee
Director of Music:	Curtis L. King
Presiding Pastor:	Pastor Schuring

## *Emergency Pastors*

**Pastor Mark Schuring**

(740) 360-2306

**Mike Porter**

(585) 813-5009

**Pastor Philip Scherr**

(814) 756-9435

## *Our Mission Statement*

**“God is among us!”**

**“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel,  
forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”**

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August 10, 2025