

Welcome to Worship

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church



215 North Second Street, North Baltimore, Ohio 45872-1105

August 23, 2026



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*

Pastor: SAM Paul Brooks 419-722-8625

NWOS Bishop: *Daniel Beaudoin*

ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Yehiel Curry*

Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania*

Web Page: <http://www.stlukesnb.org>

eMail: StLukesNB@gmail.com

Church Phone: 419-257-3253

*Whether this is your first time with us or you have been here your whole life, **WELCOME** to the place where we stand together before God as equals. If you are new here and seeking a church home, please contact the church office at 419-257-3253 and leave a message.*

Assisting in Worship

Organist: *Janet Goldner*

Worship Leader: *Paul Brooks*

Worship Assistant: *Jack Sterling*

Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Rick Van Mooy*

Ushers: *Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney*

Videographer: *Beth Williams*



To the Glory of God

August Altar Candles, Bulletins, & Newsletters: *anonymous*

Food Pantry Needs

The **August** requests are mac 'n cheese and pork 'n beans.



Order of Worship

Sunday, August 23, 2026

God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol ✠ assembly members may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked upon us at baptism.

*please stand, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER REQUESTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Loving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to listen."

THE GREETING

Leader: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **ALL: and also with you.**

*GATHERING HYMN #733

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

(BULLETIN PAGE 10)

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **ALL: Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Compassionate God,

ALL: 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.

* **CONFSSIONAL HYMN #338**

BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.

* **CONFSSION RESPONSE**

Leader: 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.

ALL: Amen.

* **HYMN OF PRAISE #787**

ON EAGLE'S WINGS

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of his hand.

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader: Please join me in prayer, O God,

ALL: with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

MATTHEW 22:34-40

Reader: When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 110:1-7

Reader: The Lord says to my lord, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool.”

ALL: The Lord sends out from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your foes.

Reader: Your people will offer themselves willingly on the day you lead your forces on the holy mountains. From the womb of the morning, like dew, your youth will come to you.

ALL: The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

Reader: The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

ALL: He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter heads over the wide earth.

Reader: He will drink from the stream by the path; therefore he will lift up his head.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

***ACCLAMATION OF THE WORD #756**

ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE

Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

***OLD TESTAMENT READING**

EXODUS 20:3-11

Leader: you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ “You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ “Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

Leader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #509

GOD’S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE

(BULLETIN PAGE 11)

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

ALL: 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 PEOPLE INTRODUCTION**

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: Hear us, O God. **ALL: Your mercy is great.**

We pray for Mike, Ned, Lorraine, Pat, Rut, Ruth, Steve, Lisa, Bertha, Eloise, Rose Marie, Mike, John, JoLynn, Emily, Carl, Jim, Ron, Cheryl, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Barb, Brianne, Delphia, Charles, Heather, Granger, Owen, Mike, Diana, Sean, Judy, Christina, Mike, Riley, Dennis, Nickie, Eli, Mr. Doherty, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Michael, Cindy, John, Sue, Carol, David, Betty, LuAnn, Colene, Teri, Eric, Lisa, Don, Ashley, Brandt, Mary, Pat, Vicki, Josh, and Ellery.

Prayer leader: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **ALL: Amen.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Please share God's peace with those worshiping around you.

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: As we present our tithes and offerings today, let us remember those who are hungry, those who are cold and homeless, those recovering from devastating storms, floods, and fires and those struggling in parts of the world that are in conflict. Let us give with gratitude for all that we have.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #423

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray, Loving God,

ALL: as we wait for the fulfillment of your reign, use these gifts and the gifts of our lives to bring justice to those who are oppressed, to set free those who are in prison, to lift up those who are bowed down, and to uphold those who are vulnerable. Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts. **ALL: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord of God. **ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: And so, with all creatures and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and sing:

***HYMN #413**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Leader: 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.

In the unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All: 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**

*THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Leader: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast.

DISTRIBUTION

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join with me in prayer, Compassionate God,

ALL: through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #623

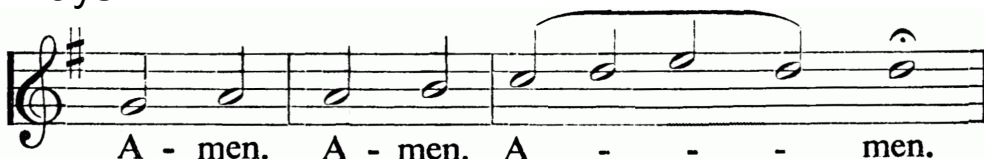
ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

*BLESSING

Leader: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

*The Amen



*SENDING HYMN #618

GUIDE ME EVER, GREAT REDEEMER

(BULLETIN PAGE 12)

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace, love and serve the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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As we leave worship each week, we remember the poor around the world by placing loose offerings in the “hunger bowls” on the Information Table in the Narthex. These gifts are then forwarded to the ELCA World Hunger Program.

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## TODAY’S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” TEXT: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869 MUSIC: Frederick C. Maler, 1844-1927 PUBLIC DOMAIN

“On Eagle’s Wings” TEXT: Michael Joncas, b. 1957 MUSIC: Michael Joncas Text and Music © 1979 OCP Publications

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save” TEXT: William Whiting, 1825-1878, alt. MUSIC: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

“God’s Word is Our Great Heritage” TEXT: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861-1925, alt. MUSIC: Martin Luther, 1483-1546

“Shall We Gather at the River” TEXT: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899 MUSIC: Robert Lowry

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty” TEXT: Reginald Heber, 1781-1826, alt. MUSIC: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876 PUBLIC DOMAIN

“Rock of Ages” TEXT: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778 MUSIC: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1873

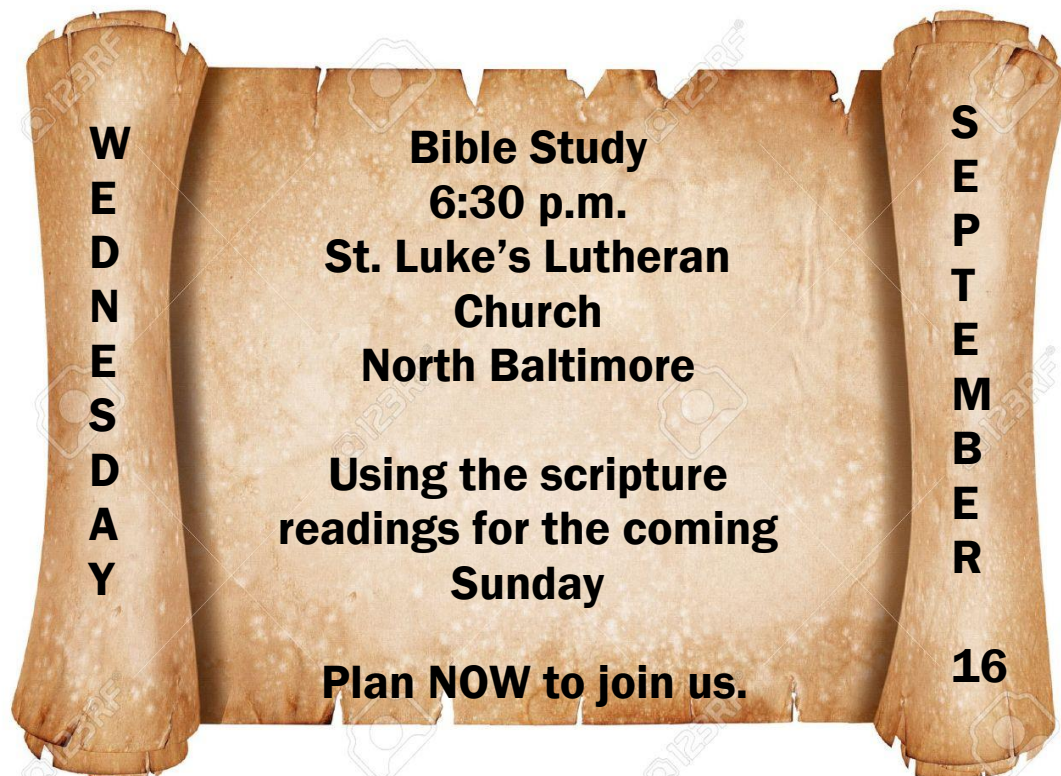
“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” TEXT: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt. MUSIC: John Hughes, 1873-1932

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## Beginning



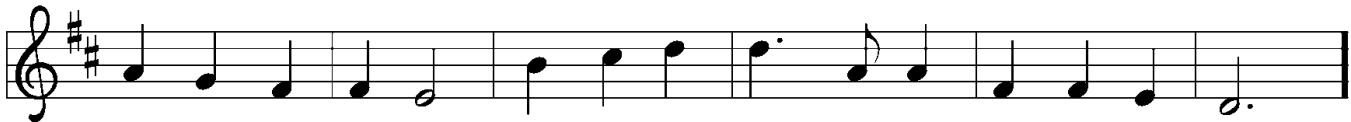
# Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

## *Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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## God's Word Is Our Great Heritage



God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;



to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.



Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while



time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1483–1546

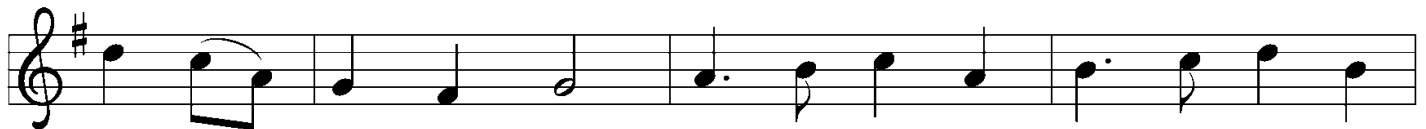
# Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



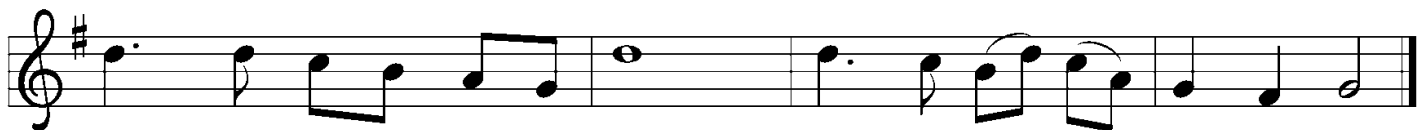
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 shield me with your might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.  
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.  
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932



Please help to keep our Prayer List up-to-date by notifying the church office of any changes, additions or deletions.

**WE GIVE THANKS:** for the leadership of Paul Brooks and Jack Sterling, and for those who serve as Ushers, Altar Guild members, Scripture Readers, and Prayer Leaders. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Ruth McKee, Mike Ferguson, Ron Bean, Ned Slaughterbeck, Lorraine Ferguson, Pat Wheeler, Rut Heilman, Lois Heilman, Steve Pritts, Lisa Claybaugh, Bertha Carter, Eloise Matthes, Rose Marie Hosley, Mike Wheeler, John Stewart, JoLynn Stewart, Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Cheryl Kruse, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Barb Williams.

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Brianne Gott, Delphia Roberts, Charles Edens, Dennis Bauer, Heather Wymer, Granger, Owen, Diana, Sean Mills, Judy Sowards, Christina Webb, Mike, Riley Guy, Nickie Whitman, Eli Swartz, Mr. Doherty, Ron Stewart, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Michael Sullivan, Cindy.

**MILITARY:** for all those who are in training and who are serving in the military & their families; the chaplains (*especially those in combat zones*); grieving families and friends of those who died while serving.

**COMPANION CHURCH:** Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

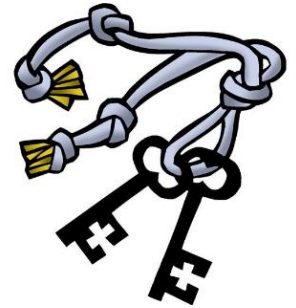
**WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS:** all ministries of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), our presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, all our bishops, pastors, and leaders of the congregations of the NWOS (Northwestern Ohio Synod), Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, and our 15 Central Conference congregations.

**THE WORLD:** for peace in our country and around the world. For the end of violence against one another.

## Confessing Christ, Formed in Faith

In late August, students are preparing to go back to school, and many churches gear up for a new year of Christian education. It is a good time to be reminded of the heart of Christian formation: conformation and transformation (Rom. 12:2).

Disciples are formed over time—shaped by learning, worship, and all aspects of Christian life in community. As it was for Peter, part of our formation is learning to confess Jesus as the Messiah, not only with the right words but also through an experience of the living God in Christ. And along with Peter, through such formation we also discover who we are in relation to God: After Peter “confesses” Jesus’ identity of Messiah, Jesus “confesses” Peter’s identity by calling out his name and vocation.



Traditionally, Lutheran worship contains two confessions which keep forming us: a confession of sin and a confession of faith. In the first, we acknowledge who we are as sinner and saint, and in the second, we acknowledge who God is in the mystery of the Trinity. Like Peter’s, our own identity is revealed in those truths. And, we might say, we are continually formed by and through them.

Peter’s confession is not a precondition for following Jesus; it comes in the middle of his journey of discipleship. Our formation too is a long process—lifelong, in fact—which begins at baptism (and even before!) and is guided by those who travel before and with us. At this time of year, as we explore our own formation, identity, and vocation as disciples of Jesus, Isaiah entreats us, “Look to the rock from which you were hewn” (51:1). Envisioning Peter the “rock” (Matt. 16:18), we might also consider how we are “chips off the old block” of our forebears in faith.

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Church Office Hours M-F 9-1