

ALSACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
“CHURCH ON THE HILL, STANDING ON THE WORD”
2201 KUTZTOWN ROAD
READING, PENNSYLVANIA 19605

Worship 9:00 a.m. – Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Service Broadcast live over 1340 AM

Streamed on the Internet at www.iheart.com

Office Phone #610-929-8727 Office Fax #610-929-5397

E-Mail Address – alsacelutheranchurch@gmail.com

Website Address – www.alsacelutheranchurch.com

YouTube Channel – www.youtube.com/@AlsaceLutheranChurch

Facebook Page – www.facebook.com/alsacelutheran

Instagram – www.instagram.com/alsacelutheranchurch

The Rev. Alexander S. Grimes, Pastor

The Rev. Mark E. Brophy, Pastor Emeritus

Patrick Grinage, Parish Administrator

David Rutt, Music Director

Nina Rowley, Organist

William Reber, Jr., Sexton

August 30th, 2026
The 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Notes: “+” indicates to please stand, if able

“SBH” denotes the Red Service Book & Hymnal

“CH” denotes the Green Celebration Hymnal

“P” indicates Pastor “C” indicates Congregation

Prelude

Nina Rowley

+ Alsace Theme Hymn: SBH 556 (verse 1)

Rise, Ye Children

Parish Comments

Debbie Baer

+ Hymn CH 196

O Come, Let Us Adore Him

+ The Invocation

P: I welcome you here in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome to Alsace Lutheran Church! We are so blessed to have you here in worship and fellowship with us where we open our hearts and minds together and let God be the light unto our paths. We hope that you will join us again in the future for Sunday worship; and for any adult, youth, and/or children's programs. There is always a flurry of activity here at Alsace, and many opportunities in which to feed your soul.

Alsace Lutheran Church exists to continue the earthly ministry of Jesus by, recruiting disciples for the kingdom of God, equipping disciples in their faith commitment, and by reaching out in love and compassion to others.

To learn more about Alsace or to have any of your questions about membership answered, please reach out to any church council member or our Parish Administrator. We invite you to join us in becoming a part of this covenant community of faith.

Church Council

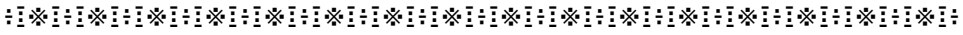
President – Deborah Baer

Vice President – Lorenzo Ocasio Hartman

Secretary – Julianne Hurst

Treasurer – Sherri Mengel

Roger Baer	Terry Hurst
Jim Bauer	Gini Mitchell
Kim Grinage	Don Moll
James Gruber	Kyle Seiz
Richard Hinnershitz	Ricky Weidner



Peaches for Sale!

We still have a few pints of frozen peaches for sale.

1 Pint = \$7 | 2 Pints = \$12

See Patrick Grinage after worship and get your peaches today!

Sales are first-come-first-served.

So, get your peaches before we run out!

cash or checks accepted.

Please write out checks to: *Alsace Lutheran Church*

Prayer Requests



Grieving a loss?

Find hope and healing after
the death of a loved one.

Join us at
Grief  Share®

Weekly grief support group

When: Saturday's: 10AM - 12PM

Aug 29th to Nov 21st

Where: Alsace Lutheran Church
- 2201 Kutztown Rd. Reading,
PA 19605

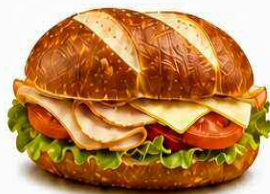
Contact: Gloria Barto
(610) - 413 - 8633

Register: griefshare.org/findagroup



R & K SANDWICH SALE

— FUNDRAISING FOR SUPERHEROES FOR AUTISM —



R & K PRETZEL SANDWICH



R & K HOAGIE



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT SUPERHEROES FOR AUTISM

and their programs & events for
families who have children and
young adults on the autism spectrum.



ORDERS AND MONEY
ARE DUE TO
DENEIDA PEREZ
ON OR BEFORE
**TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8, 2026**



SANDWICH PICK-UP:
**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026
4:30–5:30PM**



**ALSACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
2201 KUTZTOWN ROAD
READING, PA 19605**



/superheroesforautism



/superheroesforautism



superheroes4autism@gmail.com



Superheroes 4 Autism is holding a Sandwich Sale Fundraiser. If you'd like more information about this fundraiser or would like to place an order, please contact our Parish Admin, Patrick Grinage.

Cash or checks are accepted and may be given to Patrick Grinage.

Please make all checks payable to: *Superheroes for Autism.*

Also, if you are not able to make the Sandwich pick-up time here at the church listed above, please let us know and we will hold your order for you. Please keep in mind that the "wet toppings" are packaged separately, but the bread and/or cheese may become soggy if they sit too long.

Just a friendly reminder that the first Choir and Bells rehearsals will be held on **Tuesday, September 8th**. We'll be reviewing a few songs that we had learned this past spring in preparation for an important upcoming event. We hope to see you there!

Alsace Combined Choirs: 6:45 - 7:30 pm



It's that time of year again: Harvest Time! Check out God's Harvest, located on the bench after you make a right hand turn inside the main entrance. Each Sunday over the next few months, feel free to take any fresh produce you find that you plan to eat or use. Also, if you're one of our congregation's growers, please feel free to bring in any edible surplus you may have. Anything from Artichoke to Zucchini is welcome, and we hope that it finds someone who's able to use it before it spoils.



We are very excited to announce that Superheroes 4 Autism has started up a new food pantry here at Alsace powered by Helping Harvest! The food pantry will be open to the public beginning on Wednesday September 2nd from 5:00 - 7:00 PM and will continue with these same hours on the first Wednesday of each month.

We are currently seeking any volunteers from the congregation to assist with the Food Pantry if you are able. If you plan to help, please contact Lorenzo Hartman or Patrick Grinage so we can inform the leaders of S4A that we'll be bringing in volunteers. Also, if you are able to help, please try to arrive about 30 minutes ahead of time so that we can explain the flow and rules of our food pantry. Thanks so much for your help!

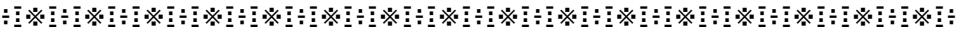


Have a look at the bulletin boards around the church for more information on Church & Community Events, Fundraisers, Concerts, Care Services, etc. that may or may not be listed in the weekly bulletins & bi-monthly messengers. Also, please spread the word and support these events if you can! Flyers for some events and fundraisers are available in the drop box by the church office as well! Feel free to take some and spread the word!

GREC – Greater Reading Encore Chorale

The Greater Reading Encore Chorale (GREC), directed by our own Mr. David Rutt, has begun their weekly rehearsals for the 2026-2027 season. This choral group meets here at Alsace in the Bertha Weber Fellowship Hall every Thursday from 9:50am - 12 noon. GREC is a vocal music group for people over 55 who used to sing or would like to learn more about singing. They perform festive seasonal songs, popular timeless tunes, and other choral works. They've only just begun rehearsals for their Christmas concerts so it's not too late to join in the fun and make some music!

*If you or anyone you know would like more information about GREC or perhaps be interested in joining GREC; please reach out to Mr. David Rutt. He'll be glad to tell you all about the great things this group has done and continues to do.



Boscov's: Friends Helping Friends

Looking to get your Christmas shopping done early this year? Why not shop with a discount while also supporting your church? Alsace Lutheran Church is holding a fundraiser via the Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends" program. **How does it work?** Donate \$5 to *Alsace Lutheran Church* through Patrick Grinage and you'll receive one Shopping Pass in return. 100% of your \$5 donation goes directly towards supporting Alsace Lutheran Church.

Shopping Discount: 25%
OFF* Lowest Sale Prices

Date: Wed., Oct. 21st 2026

Store Hours: 8 AM – 11 PM

Where: In-Store at any Boscov's location. Or online at: www.boscovs.com

Register to Win: A \$100 Boscov's Gift Card (*1 winner per store*)

ALSACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Non-Profit Organization)



IN-STORE & ONLINE

ONE DAY ONLY - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026
SHOP 8AM - 11PM

DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

- **25% OFF** DISCOUNT SHOPPING PASS*
- **REGISTER TO WIN A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD**
One Winner at every Boscov's store

100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION

For Shopping Passes or information, contact:

Patrick Grinage 610-929-8727

*Exclusions apply. For more details visit boscovs.com/category/friends-helping-friends-event

“Trunk or Treat!”

Service Notes

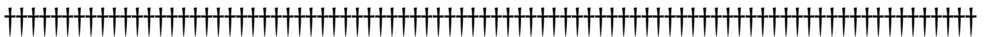
Worship Assistant: Debbie Baer Acolyte: Morgan Waits

The flower arrangements at the altar this morning are sponsored
in memory of my daughter, Debbie
from Gayle Danneberg

The bulletins for this morning's worship service are sponsored
in honor of Jerrold Reber's Birthday
from The Reber Family

Looking Ahead

Sun. Aug. 30 th	9:00 am	Worship
14th Sun. after Pentecost	10:15 am	Sunday School
Mon. Aug. 30 th	10-11am	Bible Study (Romans)
Tues. Sept. 1 st	9:00 am	Sr. Club Board Meeting
	10:00 am	Messenger Mailers
Wed. Sept. 2 nd	5:00-7:00 pm	S4A Food Pantry at Alsace
Thurs. Sept. 3 rd	9:50am-12noon	GREC Rehearsal
	11:00 am	Prayer Service
	6:30 pm	Prayer Service
Sat. Sept. 5 th	10am- 12noon	Grief Share (<i>Bertha Weber Hall</i>)
Sun. Sept. 6 th	9:00 am	Worship & Communion
15th Sun. after Pentecost	10:15 am	Sunday School
Mon. Sept. 7 th	Labor Day	*CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED*



Bible Study

Pr. Grimes is currently running two bible studies.

- A Study on the book of Romans is held on Mondays from 10-11 AM in the Bertha Weber Fellowship Hall.
- A Study on the book of John is held on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Bertha Weber Fellowship Hall.

Please feel welcome to join us. We hope to see you there!

Evangelism & Discipleship

Pastor Randy Nelson from the AFLC Evangelism and Discipleship Ministry will be visiting Alsace on Tuesday, September 15th from 10 AM to noon. He will be sharing ways to encourage us as everyday disciples who have natural opportunities to talk about Christ with friends, co-workers and family. Plan to join us for a casual conversation about how we can spread the news of Jesus.

Healthy Boundaries

“You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes. You shall follow my rules and keep my statutes and walk in them. I am the LORD your God.” - Leviticus 18:3-4

- The Borders of a Nation
 - God established a level of distinction between the Israelites and the other nations.
 - When you become a citizen of a nation, it is expected that you leave behind much of your old nation and your old culture to blend into your new nation.
 - Are you a citizen of the kingdom of Heaven, or do you belong to the nation of Sin? A nation without borders or identity is no nation at all.
- The Boundaries of Behavior
 - Laws help set the boundaries for their citizens behavior.
 - There is a war between the kingdom of Heaven and the nation of Sin, one of identity versus one of nothingness.
 - The boundaries of the kingdom of Heaven are not burdensome, they set your identity with that of love and life.
- The Way Love is
 - It's easy to look out for and to love your own. That isn't distinct to any one nation. It's the lowest common denominator.
 - It's when love returns nothing, or even returns pain is where the love of God shines.
 - Romans 5:7-8 – “For one will scarcely die for a righteous person, though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die, but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

**You show the love of God by living out your life in accordance with the borders of the Kingdom, with the boundaries of behavior set forth by King Jesus. May all praise our God and King, who was and is, and is to come!
Amen.**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. 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.

The Closing Prayer

The time has come, O Lord, for us to leave this place. Guide us and protect us, and lead us in thy grace. Wherever life may take us, as we go our separate ways. Help us share with others the things we've shared today. May the peace of God the Father, and the love of Christ, His Son, Guide us in the days ahead, and strengthen us each one. May the blessings of the Spirit, fill us from within. God bless us and return us to this fellowship once again.

+ The Call to Worship – (from Ecclesiastes 12:13)

P: The end of the matter; all has been heard.

C: Fear God, and keep his commandments, for that is the whole duty of everyone.

+ The Confession of Sins & Promise of Forgiveness

P: Let us pray and confess our sin.

All: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and ask you, for Christ's sake, for the forgiveness of our sins and to increase in us true knowledge of you, and of your will, and true obedience to your Word, that by your grace, we may come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce and declare to all who repent of their sins and trust solely in Christ, the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May he who has begun this good work in you perfect it in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen! Thanks be to God!

+ Prayer of the Day – (from Proverbs 21:29-31)

P: Let us now pray together.

All: Sinful people try to look as if they were bold. But honest people think about how they live. No wisdom, wise saying, or plan can succeed against the Lord. You can prepare a horse for the day of battle. But the power to win comes from the Lord.

+ Hymn SBH 257 (1st verse)

God's Word is Our Great Heritage

The First Lesson: Leviticus 18:1-5

pg. 92 (NRSV, Zondervan Ed.)
or pg. 82 (NRSV-OT, Hendrickson Ed.)

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 7:7-25

pg. 918 (NRSV, Zondervan Ed.)
or pg. 120 (NRSV-NT, Hendrickson Ed.)

The Alleluia – SBH pg. 52 (sung)

C: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Announcement of the Gospel
Matthew 5:43-48 pg. 787 (NRSV, Zondervan Ed.)
or pg. 4 (NRSV-NT, Hendrickson Ed.)

- + **Response** (*sung*) – **C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**
- + **The Reading of the Gospel**
- + **Response** (*sung*) – **C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ!**
- + **The Apostles’ Creed** (*see insert/screen/SBH pg.5*)

- Anthem:** “I Can Only Imagine” Brenda O’Connell
- + **Offertory** SBH 544 (*2nd tune*)(*1st verse*)
We give thee but thine own, Whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.
- + **Hymn CH 151** A Mighty Fortress is our God
- Sermon:** “Healthy Boundaries” Pastor Alexander Grimes
- + **Hymn CH 446** We’ve a Story to Tell the Nations

- Prayers**
- The Lord’s Prayer** (*see insert/screen*)
- The Benediction & Three-fold Amen** (*sung*) SBH pg. 70
C: A-men, A-men, A – men.

- + **Hymn CH 374** Victory Chant
- + **Sending Song** (*see insert/screen*) The Closing Prayer
- Postlude Nina Rowley

