

welcome to worship  
**VBS SUNDAY**  
June 21, 2026

# "At the Table"

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement**

5 Wyomissing Boulevard

Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081

610-375-3512 ♦ [www.atonementwyo.org](http://www.atonementwyo.org)

The Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ The Rev. Molly Haggerty ♦ Deacon Tom Yenser, director of music

PRELUDE

*Come, Let Us Eat*

arr. Organ

WELCOME

Pastor Katie

*The assembly remains seated. VBS children and staff gather in the chancel.*

GATHERING SONG

*The Welcome Table*

Traditional

*All sing:*

♪ **We're gonna sit at the welcome table,  
We're gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, Hallelujah!  
We're gonna sit at the welcome table,  
We're gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.**

**We'll invite rich folks to the table,  
We'll invite poor folks to the table one of these days, Hallelujah!  
We'll invite all folks to the table,  
We're gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.**

**We'll invite young folks to the table,  
We'll invite old folks to the table  
one of these days, Hallelujah!  
We'll invite all folks to the table,  
We're gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.**

**All God's children 'round that table,  
All God's children 'round that table  
one of these days, Hallelujah!  
All God's children 'round that table,  
We're gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.**

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: God of abundance, you welcome us to your table of love. Help us to invite others to your table, that they may also share in your gracious blessings. We pray these things in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

VBS SONG

*His Banner Over Me Is Love*

Alfred B. Smith

*All sing:*

♪ I am the Lord's and he is mine, his banner over me is love.  
I am the Lord's and he is mine, his banner over me is love.  
I am the Lord's and he is mine, his banner over me is love.  
His banner over me is love.

He saves me a seat at his welcome table, his banner over me is love...  
We are the sheep and he is the shepherd, his banner over me is love...  
He is the vine and we are the branches, his banner over me is love...  
The one way to peace is the power of the cross, his banner over me is love...

BIBLE STORY

*John 6:1-14* The Feeding of the 5000

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Lauryn

VBS SONG

*Down in My Heart*

George William Cooke

*All sing:*

♪ I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, (where?)  
Down in my heart, (where?), down in my heart.  
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, (where?)  
Down in my heart to stay.

*Refrain:*

And I'm so happy, so very happy, I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.  
And I'm so happy, so very happy, I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.  
I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus, down in my heart...  
I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer  
way down in the depths of my heart...

*The children return to their seats. The assembly stands.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition concludes .... God of grace, receive our prayer.*

*The prayers conclude ... through Jesus our Savior. Amen.*

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

*If you brought an offering or your pledge card today, please place it in an offering plate that ushers will pass at this time. Offering this morning will be shared evenly with Common Ground. Thank you for your generous gifts! Did you know you can give using a credit card? Scan the QR code to the right.*



OFFERING SONG

*Build a Longer Table*

Bjorlin

*All sing:*

♪ **Build a longer table, not a higher wall,  
Feeding those who hunger, making room for all.  
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,  
Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.**

**Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;  
Where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.  
For any place where justice is denied,  
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.**

**Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.  
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.  
When we embrace compassion more than fear,  
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.**

**When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,  
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.  
So must our tables welcome those who roam.  
None can be excluded; all must find a home.**

*The assembly stands.*

HOLY COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

INVITATION

*The assembly is seated.*

DISTRIBUTION

*Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Atonement. Follow the directions of the ushers to receive bread and a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice (in purple cups) from the communion assistants. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the front pew and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to receive communion with their parents' permission.*

*Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews, check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!*

COMMUNION MUSIC *The Open Table*

*All sing:*     ♪ **Come, oh, come, come to the table.  
Gather 'round, come without fear.  
Known by name, here at the table, this table.  
Welcome here, to the table of love.**

**Circle round, let's join together.  
Share your joys and bring your tears.  
Strength and hope found at the table, this table.  
Welcome here, to the table of love.**

**God is love; Love is creating  
something new, right here, right now.  
We're children of God, here at the table, this table.  
Welcome here, to the table of love.**

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 674 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

*All sing:*     ♪ **Let us talents and tongues employ,  
Reaching out with a shout of joy:  
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

*Refrain:*       **Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound! (*repeat*)**

**Christ is able to make us one,  
At the table he sets the tone,  
Teaching people to live to bless,  
Love in word and in deed express. *Refrain***

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) everywhere! *Refrain***

*The assembly stands.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, 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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*VBS children and staff gather in the chancel.*

### BLESSING

May the Spirit take our minds and think through them.  
May the Spirit take our lips and speak through them.  
May the Spirit take our hands and do good with them.  
May the Spirit take our hearts and set them on fire. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*A Dazzling Bouquet*

Bret Hesla

*Refrain (all sing):*

♪ **Mine is the church where everybody's welcome.  
I know it's true 'cause I got through the door.  
We are a dazzling bouquet of every kind of flower.  
Jump in the vase, 'cause we've got space for more.**

**Come here, all you six-foot gladiolas;  
come, all you purple lilacs shining bright.  
Come, let us all bloom together in the garden:  
a carnival of fragrance and delight. *Refrain***

**We don't simply tolerate each other.  
We ask and tell; we don't just turn away.  
We give attention to every bud and blossom.  
Let every face come grace the grand bouquet. *Refrain***

**Our demons keep trying to divide us.  
They document their lies to make them true.  
Today we're freed from our judging and excluding.  
Just look around, enjoy the lovely view. *Refrain***

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Invite everyone to God's table! **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

arr. Organ

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### **Assisting with Worship**

Matt & Jacqueline Lepera, greeters

Jerry Lubitz, head usher

PJ Detweiler, Grace Johnson-Agiri, Rafael Kline, Ainsley Marrella, Charlie McCrae, readers

Joanne Gabel, Tyler Good, Tom Herman, Tracy Ravert, communion assistants

Tom Endy, Max Romig, sound booth

Karen Sandloop, altar captain

Dami Johnson-Agiri, sexton

Madison Nied, Samantha Nied, Max Romig, musicians

Emily Shirk, Rachel Shirk, Elise Wang, song leaders

Katie Lyon, *Pastor*

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Molly Haggerty, *Transition Pastor of Community Engagement*

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Ellen Bryan, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

ebryan@atonementwyo.org

WARMEST WELCOME to this congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! We are a Lutheran church, but we're not just for Lutherans—we belong to our community.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Rosemary Bestwick, whose funeral was held at Atonement June 19.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available with the ushers. The nursery will not be staffed for the summer, but the PRIVACY ROOM at the back of the church is available for families who would like a little extra wiggles room.

RESTROOMS are located in the hall next to the worship space. A FAMILY RESTROOM with a changing table is also located in the Privacy Room at the back of the worship space.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are Monday—Thursday, 10:30am—2:30pm or by appointment.

ATONEMENT VOLUNTEERS SERVE AT OPPORTUNITY HOUSE the third Saturday of every month. Contact Bob Eisenbrown at 484-332-8788 if you would like to join the team.

DONATING TO THE COMMUNITY AID THRIFT SHOP can benefit Common Ground. Use the code **50244** when you make a donation.

FOOD DONATIONS of canned goods, cereal, and other non-perishable, non-expired items for Lutheran Pantry are always accepted in the grocery cart in the narthex.

COMMON GROUND DONATIONS of clothing and toiletries can be placed in the large bin next to the coatroom in the narthex.

PRESCHOOL still has openings for Together Time, T/Th Toddlers, and 3-year-olds. Contact Jen Dauber at [jdauber@atonementwyo.org](mailto:jdauber@atonementwyo.org) for information.

OUR LANDSCAPING TEAM is looking for new members! Contact John Lehr for details at 610-304-6818 or [johnt.lehr@gmail.com](mailto:johnt.lehr@gmail.com).

ADULT FAITH FORMATION continues throughout the summer at 9am in room F122.

COMMON GROUND DROP-IN CENTER is collecting GAMES – they should be simple, short, and not have a lot of reading involved. Use the link found on the Volunteer page of [atonementwyo.org](http://atonementwyo.org) or call the office to see what help is needed and sign up to volunteer.

YOUTH who have completed 6th-12th grade are invited to join Pastor Katie at the Western Berks Mission District Mini Mission Trip Monday, July 27. We will meet on Monday at 8:15am at Atonement and be back at Atonement by 5pm. Call the office to register.

MINISTRY MEAL SIGN-UP SHEETS are in the narthex. Join us for a meal while helping us focus on strategic planning and getting to know one another in the process.

JOIN US FOR SNACKS and fellowship in the narthex after worship today!

PRESCHOOL CAMP REGISTRATION is open. Details can be found at [atonementwyo.org](http://atonementwyo.org), click PRESCHOOL from the top menu, then select Preschool Classes.

