

Easter “Celebration” Worship

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

*Gathering Song - “Great is the Lord”

Great is the Lord. He is holy and just. By His power, we trust in His love.

Great is the Lord. He is faithful and true. By His mercy, He proves He is love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory. Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice. Now lift up your voice.

Great is the Lord!

(repeat above)

Great is the Lord. He is faithful and true. By His mercy, He proves He is love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory. Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice. Now lift up your voice.

Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

*Prayer of the Day

See Celebrate

We Hear God’s Word

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

See Celebrate

Psalms 133

See Celebrate

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2

See Celebrate

*Gospel: John 20:19-31

See Celebrate

Sunny Sermon with Miss Laurie
Sermon

We Rejoice in God’s Word

**“Jesus Lives”

We Respond to All That God Gives Us

*A New Creed:

**We are not alone,
we live in God’s world.**

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

-The United Church of Canada, 1968

Song for Reflection: “You Are My All In All”

You are my strength when I am weak; You are the treasure that I seek.

You are my all in all.

Seeking You as a precious jewel; Lord to give up I’d be a fool.

You are my all in all.

*Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name. Jesus, Lamb of God,
worthy is Your name.*

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame; rising again I bless Your name.

You are my all in all.

When I fall down, You pick me up; when I am dry, You fill my cup.

You are my all in all.

*Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name. Jesus, Lamb of God,
worthy is Your name. (3 times)*

Worthy is Your name. (2 times)

*Prayers/ The Lord’s Prayer

See Celebrate

God Sends Us to Share the Good News

Easter Object Lesson with Sunny

*Benediction

*Sending Song - “Because He Lives”

God sent His son- they called Him, Jesus. He came to love, heal and forgive.

*He lived and died, to buy my pardon. An empty grave is there to prove my Savior
lives!*

(chorus):

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow. Because He lives, all fear is gone.

*Because I know, he holds the future. And life is worth the living just because He
lives!*

How sweet to hold a new born baby. And feel the pride and joy he gives.

*But greater still, the calm assurance. This child can face uncertain days because
He lives!*

(chorus)

*Because He, because He, because He lives. Because He, because He lives! (2
times)*

(repeat verse 1 and chorus)

And life is worth the living just because He lives!! Because He lives!!

*Sending Statement

P: Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Berrysburg, PA
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Our Mission

St. John congregation, responding to the call of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel, unites together to preach and teach the Word, administer the sacraments, and carry out God's mission. With God's guidance and grace, we strive to boldly proclaim by word and action the reconciling Gospel of Jesus: Working together for justice and peace, and caring for those in need in our community and world. We invite everyone to join us wherever you are on your faith journey.

Adopted December 8, 2013

Serving Today

The Rev. Thomas G. Bruner, Jr.
Laurie Little
Roy Henry

Pastor
Young Christians Minister
Council President

For the month of April, our **Celebrate** lectionary bulletin inserts are dedicated to the Glory of God by LuAnn Ressler in loving memory of her husband, Jeffery Ressler. **Tree 4 Hope** sponsored by the Motter Family in celebration of the Easter season and Our Risen Lord Jesus. Support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese** of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania in honor of Lynn and Helen Henninger's 57th anniversary from their grandchildren Sadie & Ayden.

Today, Sunday, April 11

- 9am Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Youth Class, Confirmation Class, and SONDay Celebration Meeting In-Person at Church)
- 10:15am Easter Celebration Worship including Miss Laurie and Sunny **(In-Person and On Zoom)** (For those who are attending worship in-person, please remember that a mask covering both nose and mouth is required to be worn by every worshipper over the age of two, with no exceptions for any reason at this time. Of course, please do not attend in-person worship if you aren't feeling well for any reason or if you have been exposed any time in the prior 14 days to a person who subsequently develops COVID-19-like symptoms or who tests positive for COVID-19. Ushers will guide you to designated safely-spaced seating.)
- 11:15am Mutual Ministry Committee Quarterly Meeting

Monday, April 12

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
- 7pm Second Planning Meeting for our (Adapted) Annual Strawberry Festival ***(We will gather in-person upstairs in our main worship space, which will allow for those present – each wearing a mask covering both nose and mouth – to gather and maintain safe spacing. Please contact Chairperson Jeff Lehman with any questions or ideas and, as is always the case for these planning meetings, everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!)***

Tuesday, April 13

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Wednesday, April 14

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours
- 6:30-8pm Midweek Bible Study (On Zoom)
- 7pm Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer 1. for All Educators/Students/Families and 2. for Our Health Professionals ***(Please make use of the list of health care professionals at the end of this bulletin information, taking a few minutes to lift each person up to God by name. To add names to the list, please contact Pastor Tom with their information.)***

Thursday, April 15

Deadline to Submit Items for Inclusion in the May "St. John's Epistle"

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours
- 6-7:30pm Weekly Zoom Fellowship Time ***(Think of it as the Zoom version of our sextons unlocking the front door of the church, turning on the lights, and turning up the heat for anyone who might wish to stop in for any or all of that time. Roy and Rachel Henry will simply create a weekly recurring Zoom event which will automatically begin at 6:00pm and end at 7:30pm, but no actual host will be needed and they themselves will likely not be able to be present due to family schedules. Likewise, Pastor Tom will typically not be present and there will be no agenda or theme – simply a "space" to come together and visit and catch up for whomever might wish to do so. It is an experiment for this time until the "new normal" when we anticipate returning to all of the various in-person things much as we knew them pre-pandemic.)***

Friday, April 16

Pastor Tom Taking the Morning for a Medical Appointment – No Regular Office Hours

Saturday, April 17

Pastor Tom Taking Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, April 18

- Third Sunday of Easter
- 9am Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Youth Class, Confirmation Class, and SONDay Celebration Meeting In-Person at Church)
- 10:15am Worship **(In-Person and On Zoom)** Including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons Attending In-Person (For those who are attending worship in-person, please remember that a mask covering both nose and mouth is required to be worn by every worshipper over the age of two, with no exceptions for any reason at this time. Of course, please do not attend in-person worship if you aren't feeling well for any reason or if you have been exposed any time in the prior 14 days to a person who subsequently develops COVID-19-like symptoms or who tests positive for COVID-19. Ushers will guide you to designated safely-spaced seating.)
- 11:30am Drive Through Holy Communion with Pastor Tom and Miss Laurie at the Church
- 4pm Congregational Council Meeting (On Zoom)
- 6-7:30pm Youth Group Gathering In-Person at the Church

Looking Ahead

You are invited to our Book Discussion on Zoom!

We continue our monthly times of reading and sharing via Zoom. Next up:

Monday, April 19, 7:00 P.M. Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

Monday, May 10, 7:00 P.M Small Victories by Anne Lamott

Monday, June 7, 7:00 P.M. The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison

Everyone is welcome, so if you would like to participate and haven't joined in before, you can borrow a physical or e-copy of the current book at your local library or pick up a copy at church - on the bench under the bulletin board in the foyer, just inside the main doors. Please let Ann know if we run out of books, and she will locate more. Questions? Call or email Ann at 717-362-7895 or rahbruner@gmail.com.

The Altar Guild Team Annual Meeting scheduled for April 20 has been postponed until the fall, when we will be at least much closer to the resumption of normal altar ministry duties. Please stay tuned for a new date closer to time!

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Your Chance to Give the Gift of Fun – and Support our Youth Group!

Through April 18, Youth Group members will be holding a unique fundraiser, selling \$20 books of Knoebels ride tickets for just \$18. Delivery will take place on May 2. All proceeds will go to our Youth Group for support of Youth Group outings and the planned 2022 ELCA National Youth Gathering. Please give your payment to your Youth Group member when you order your tickets. **And remember – one of the many things that we all love about Knoebels is that those ride tickets never expire!!**

We are in need of two Voting Members – a man and a woman who must both be voting members of the congregational family, confirmed, contributing, and communing – to join with Pastor Tom in taking part in our Annual Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly, taking place on Friday evening, June 4, and Saturday, June 5. For the first (and most likely last) time, the Assembly will take place only virtually, probably on the Zoom platform. The only other requirement for those participating is that they will each need to have two Zoom-compatible devices available to them – one with a suitable screen to allow for viewing and hearing everything that is taking place and the other, such as a smart phone, to be used as a dedicated voting device. Since we will all be Zooming from the comfort of our own locations, please take note of the opportunity presented to multi-task (not to mention attend in your jammies!) such as has never been the case before and likely never will be again. To take advantage of less expensive “early bird” registration – paid for by our congregational family – Voting Members are needed by Pastor Tom by Thursday, April 15.

Last year about this time the Women of the ELCA of St. Johns were making plans for the purchase of new church aprons. The ordering was put on hold because of the Pandemic. The women would like to reopen this project. The aprons, both full and half, will be available in gray. The color will be a bit lighter than the original aprons we purchased 8 years ago. The full aprons will have 2 pockets and will cost approximately \$8.00. The half aprons will have 3 pockets and will cost approximately \$7.00. We still have the original sign-up sheet which is posted at church. We will continue to take orders through April 25th. The sign-up sheet will remain posted through that time. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pat Herb. Thank you.

If you are an Amazon.com shopper, perhaps especially in this time of pandemic, our congregation is registered with the “Amazon Smiles” program, whereby Amazon donates one half of one percent of your purchase amount to a charitable organization that you select. Please note that, to qualify, your purchase has to be made through the “smile” side of things, to which you will find a very easily identifiable link from the main part of the Amazon.com website. (Once there, it can be a bit tricky to pick out our congregational name from all of the “St. John’s” – look for **St John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Berrysburg, PA**. Once you have selected us the first time, we will automatically be designated each time you shop and you won't need to re-do the search.) All monies received in this way will be automatically deposited for use in the Current Fund.

If you are not yet ready to take part in in-person worship, there are **three** very simple options for giving your tithes and offerings. You are welcome to 1. mail your offering to the church (PO Box 270, Berrysburg, 17005-0270) or 2. drop it by the church and place it in the red plastic tub that is prominently visible in the Sunday School Room, on the table just outside Pastor Tom's office door. ***In addition, 3. if neither of those is easily done, you may wish to contact your bank about setting up an automatic payment, as some of our congregational family members also have done, whereby the offering you direct is sent by your bank as a check mailed directly to the church.*** In all cases, Pastor Tom will then see that all offerings received get securely passed along to our counters.

Larry Gessner would like input from our congregational family about favorite hymns which he might program into our carillon this fall for Reformation Sunday, All Saints Sunday, and Christ the King Sunday. He is seeking about 25 hymns for each of those festival days – please contact him with your suggestions/favorites by the end of April at: 717-362-3122.

If you have not yet done so, please be sure to pick up your copy of the new quarter of the devotional **Christ in Our Home**, in either large or regular print, in the foyer.

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Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **Mary Gessner** – Discharged from Penn State Hershey Medical Center on 4/2
- **Warren Hassinger** – Rm. #101 – Connections Unit, Providence Place of Pottsville, 2200 First Avenue, Pottsville, 17901
- **Lorraine Henninger** – Rm. #133, Frey Village, 1020 North Union Street, Middletown, 17057
- **Marzette Hoffman** – Rm. #803, Premier at Susquehanna, Millersburg, 17061
- **Cora Mace** – Rm. #3647, Roosevelt 3, Masonic Health Care Center, 600 Freemason Drive, Elizabethtown, 17022
- **Joyce Matter** – Rm. #416, Premier at Susquehanna, Millersburg, 17061
- **Kyan Peters** – Diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes on 4/3
- **Roberta Radel** – Discharged from Harrisburg on 3/31
- **Lois Watson** – Continuing Her Recovery at Home with Visiting Therapists and Other Caregivers

Our Faith Active in Worship – March 28, 2021

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,545
Current – Offerings Received	\$1,829
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$87
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$56
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$131
Total Attendance	Zoom – 50, In Person – 62

Our Faith Active in Worship – April 4, 2021

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,545
Current – Offerings Received	\$5,177
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$304
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$168
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$528
Total Attendance	Zoom – 56, In Person – 99

Medical Professionals in our prayers in this time of COVID-19:

- **Paulette Warner, Non-Emergency Medical Transportation**
- **Jenna Troutman, RN**
- **Jodi Thompson, CCMA**
- **Gwen Switzer, RTR**
- **Payton Stutzman, Hospital Clinical Assistant**
- **Kristen Spicher, RN**
- **Sara Shaffer, RN**
- **Steven Schlegel, Paramedic**
- **Michelle Scheff*, MS, CCC/SLP** (Speech Therapist in Seattle, WA)
- **Joanne Rheem*, Healthcare Administrator**
- **David Rheem*, Healthcare Administrator**
- **Dr. Todd Peters*** (Chief Medical Officer in Baltimore, MD)
- **Joshua Peters, PA-C** (Serving in Colorado)
- **Dr. Alayna Peters** (Doctor of Pharmacy in Hagerstown, MD)
- **Courtney Peifer*, Psych Technician**
- **Sara Paul, Family Practice Center Medical Receptionist**
- **Bobby Paul, BS**
- **Cindy Nicholson*, RN**
- **Whitni Ney, RN**
- **Haley Nestor*, BSN, RN**
- **Shannon Motter, RN**
- **Courtney Miller, B.S. R.T(R)(CT)**
- **Roni Mace, RN**
- **Heidi Lehman, RT (R)**
- **Shawnita Latsha, RT (RDMS, RVT)**
- **Nichole Holman*, RN**
- **Dr. Tonya Henninger & Dr. Sarah Bork*** (Hospitalists in Seattle, WA)
- **Robert Foreman, Paramedic**
- **Courtney Foreman, RN**
- **Glenn Fontaine*, RN** (Serving in Michigan)
- **Ann Fontaine*, PA-C** (Serving in Michigan)
- **Olivia Enders, CNA**
- **Dr. Seth Eisenberg*** (Anesthesiologist in Atlanta, GA)
- **Rachel Denlinger*, RN** (Serving in Charleston, SC)
- **Gary Daniels, EMT**
- **Dr. Timothy Bruner & Dr. Gabrielle Fregeau*** (Doctors of Physical Therapy in Ocean County, NJ)
- **Dr. Daniel Bruner & Dr. Richelle Demers*** (Doctors of Chiropractic)
- **Dr. Jerrel Boyer*** (Neurosurgeon in Chicago, IL)
- **Dr. Brett Bellis*** (Doctor of Chiropractic)
- **Chelsea Beard, EFDA**

* denotes someone who is a part of our extended congregational family

Updated 3-29-21