

Sunday Morning Liturgy

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Organ Prelude and Silent Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who calls us beloved children, who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

C: AMEN.

P: Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(brief silence follows)

P: Faithful and just God,

C: WE CONFESS THAT WE ARE CAPTIVE TO DOUBT AND FEAR, BOUND BY THE WAYS THAT LEAD TO DEATH. WE HAVE NOT LOVED OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS AS YOU HAVE FIRST LOVED US. FORGIVE US, GOD OF MERCY. LET YOUR HOLY SPIRIT WORK IN US TO CHANGE OUR LIVES AND MAKE US NEW, THAT WE MAY KNOW THE ABUNDANT LIFE GIVEN IN JESUS CHRIST, OUR RISEN LORD. AMEN.

P: In this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, I announce to you that our sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill us with joy, and inspire us to live for others.

C: AMEN.

Opening Hymn #365 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" (entire song)

Greeting:

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

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.

Prayer of the Day

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

Psalms: 4

Second Reading: I John 3:1-7

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

Response after the reading is announced: **GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.**

Response after the reading is concluded: **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

Sermon

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

Organ Anthem

Prayers

Our 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.

God Sends Us to Share the Good News

Benediction:

P: Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus from death, lift us up and restore us to wholeness.

C: AMEN

P: Jesus Christ, the Word of life, bless us and send us to be his witnesses.

C: AMEN

P: God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth, refresh us in the gift of baptism this day and always.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn #379 "Now the Green Blade Rises" (entire song)

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia.

C: WE WILL! THANKS BE TO GOD! ALLELUIA!

Organ Postlude and Silent Prayer

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Berrysburg, PA
717-362-9519

stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com | www.stjohnhillchurch.org

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
Judy Ferree
Judy Cheatham
Roy Henry

Pastor
Young Christians Minister
Keyboardist
Lector
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 18

- 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

Monday, April 19

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

7pm Book Discussion Gathering on Zoom – This Month Focusing on **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens – Everyone is Welcome! And coming up next are:

Monday, May 10, 7pm: Small Victories by Anne Lamott

Monday, June 7, 7pm: The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison

If you would like to participate and haven't joined in before, you can borrow a physical or e-copy of the books to be read and discussed 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 Bruner at 717-362-7895 or rahbruner@gmail.com.

7pm Upper Dauphin Conference Cabinet Meeting on Zoom (Please contact Pastor Tom if you would like to receive the Zoom contact information.)

Tuesday, April 20

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

The Altar Guild Team Annual Meeting scheduled for the 20th 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!

Wednesday, April 21

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 22

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 23

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

Saturday, April 24

Pastor Tom Taking Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, April 25

Fourth Sunday of Easter

9am Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Youth 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.)

Looking Ahead

Property Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 27, at 6:15 P.M. in-person at the church, with masks covering both nose and mouth and safe distancing being observed by all.

The next (Adapted) Strawberry Festival Planning meeting will follow immediately after the Property Committee meeting, on April 27 at 7:15 P.M. also in-person, upstairs at the church.

* * * * *

Your Chance to Give the Gift of Fun - and Support our Youth Group - Ends Today!

Today, Youth Group members will be wrapping up 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!!**

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.

Containers are located in the foyer for food donations for the food pantry at the Upper Dauphin Human Services Center in Lykens. Please drop off non-perishable food items at any time and, as the contributions add up, deliveries will be made to the pantry by Larry Gessner, our faithful delivery person. Thank you!

As our world continues to “open up”, Pastor Tom is getting more requests from folks who are not members on the rolls of the St. John congregational family about “renting” our pavilion, and so it seems like it might be a good time for all of us to be reminded about how the pavilion can be used for things other than official congregational family functions. In 1983, soon after the original part of the pavilion was constructed, a policy was adopted by the Congregational Council which says, **“the use of the Grove and Pavilion shall be restricted to the members of the congregation of Saint John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church”**. It then goes on to clarify that this means that at least one member on the rolls must be a member of the group using the facilities, that this person must be present during the event, and that they will be the person taking responsibility for making sure that nothing about the event violates the other guidelines – for instance about no alcohol on the premises and taking away their own trash. Annual family reunions, for instance, can continue to use the pavilion only so long as there continues to be that responsible “official” congregational family member identified and present, which there has been/is in each case. While there is no rental charge, donations are welcome and virtually always given by folks using the pavilion in this way. Please don’t hesitate to contact Pastor Tom (or any Council members) with any questions about this policy.

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.

* * * * *

Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **Paul Glace** – Johns Hopkins Hospital
- **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
- **Robert Schaffer** – Discharged from Harrisburg on 4/13
- **Lois Watson** – Continuing Her Recovery at Home with Visiting Therapists and Other Caregivers

Our Faith Active in Worship – April 11, 2021

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,545
Current – Offerings Received	\$2,240
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$160
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$40
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$710
Total Attendance	Zoom – 56, In Person – 22

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
- Whitney 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