

Sunday Morning Liturgy

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Piano Prelude and Silent Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who brings us out of captivity into freedom, out of the wilderness into the promised land, out of death into life.

C: AMEN.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(brief silence follows)

P: Gracious God,

C: WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED, BY WHAT WE HAVE DONE AND BY WHAT WE HAVE LEFT UNDONE. FORGIVE US AND GIVE US STRENGTH TO TURN FROM SIN AND TO SERVE YOU IN NEWNESS OF LIFE. AMEN.

P: By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life.

C: AMEN.

Opening Hymn #504 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (verses 1 and 4)

Greeting:

P: The immeasurable grace of Christ Jesus, the rich mercy of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Prayer of the Day

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms: 25:1-10

Second Reading: I Peter 3:18-22

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

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

We Proclaim Our Faith:

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. (THIS MEANS THAT) I BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST, TRUE GOD, BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER IN ETERNITY, AND ALSO A TRUE HUMAN BEING, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, IS MY LORD. HE HAS REDEEMED ME, A LOST AND CONDEMNED HUMAN BEING. HE HAS PURCHASED AND FREED ME FROM ALL SINS, FROM DEATH, AND FROM THE POWER OF THE DEVIL, NOT WITH GOLD OR SILVER BUT WITH HIS HOLY, PRECIOUS BLOOD AND WITH HIS INNOCENT SUFFERING AND DEATH. HE HAS DONE ALL THIS IN ORDER THAT I MAY BELONG TO HIM, LIVE UNDER HIM IN HIS KINGDOM, AND SERVE HIM IN ETERNAL RIGHTEOUSNESS, INNOCENCE, AND BLESSEDNESS, JUST AS HE IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD AND LIVES AND RULES ETERNALLY. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.

-Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*

Piano 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: The blessing of God almighty, the wisdom and power of Christ Jesus, and the light of the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn #717 "Let Justice Flow like Streams" (entire song)

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD!

Piano 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
Carol Hubler
Barry Williard
Roy Henry

Pastor
Young Christians Minister
Keyboardist
Lector
Council President

For the month of February, our **Celebrate** lectionary bulletin inserts are sponsored in dedication by Dana & Chris Klouser to the Glory of God in memory of their parents: Richard Klouser, Jean Kessler, and Juney Yeager.

The support for one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese** of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania is sponsored in honor of the February birthdays of Ayden Henninger & Sadie Bork Henninger grandchildren of Lynn & Helen Henninger.

Today, Sunday, February 21

9am Faith Formation Time on Zoom (Adult Bible Study, Youth Class, Confirmation Class and SONday Celebration)

10:15am Worship on Zoom (Those folks who for whatever reason do not otherwise access the Zoom platform are invited to the Sunday School Room, where it is possible to join worship on Zoom on the large-screen TV, with Larry Gessner setting up the necessary technology. ***Please remember that 1. maintaining safe spacing and 2. wearing a mask covering both nose and mouth at all times is required for everyone over the age of two, with no exceptions for any reason. Of course, please do not attend this or any other in-person activity 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.*** Since there will not be any other in-person activities in the Sunday School Room or anywhere else prior to 10:15am, those folks coming to the Sunday School Room for their Zoom-ing can arrive as early – or as late – as they wish.)

11:30am "Drive Through" Holy Communion with Pastor Tom and Miss Laurie at the Church

6-7pm Youth Group Gathering on Zoom

Monday, February 22

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

Tuesday, February 23

8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
6:15pm Property Committee Meeting on Zoom

Wednesday, February 24

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours
6:30-7:30pm Lenten Study ***People of the Passion*** 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, February 25

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Friday, February 26

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

Saturday, February 27

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, February 28

Second Sunday in Lent

9am Faith Formation Time On Zoom (Adult Bible Study, Youth Class, Confirmation Class and SONday Celebration)

10:15am **Annual Youth-Led Worship on Zoom** (Those folks who for whatever reason do not otherwise access the Zoom platform are invited to the Sunday School Room, where it is possible to join worship on Zoom on the large-screen TV, with Larry Gessner setting up the necessary technology. ***Please remember that 1. maintaining safe spacing and 2. wearing a mask covering both nose and mouth at all times is required for everyone over the age of two, with no exceptions for any reason. Of course, please do not attend this or any other in-person activity 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.*** Since there will not be any other in-person activities in the Sunday School Room or anywhere else prior to 10:15am, those folks coming to the Sunday School Room for their Zoom-ing can arrive as early – or as late – as they wish.)

Looking Ahead

A first planning meeting for our Annual Strawberry Festival will be held on Tuesday, March 2, on Zoom, beginning at 7:00 P.M. ***Clearly, our first order of business will be to assess whether it makes sense to go any further in planning for June 9 or not, in view of where we are likely to be by then with regard to the pandemic, even with the ongoing vaccination effort.***

Miss Laurie will lead a gathering of ***Celebration Club*** on Wednesday, March 3, from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. – planned for in-person at the church.

At its February 14 meeting, Congregational Council approved returning to in-person (as well as Zoom) worship effective Sunday, March 7. This, of course, is assuming that there aren't any significant setbacks with regard to the pandemic before then, and that things continue generally to improve as they have been in recent weeks.

As to the question of whether to combine in-person and Zoom worship in one 10:15am experience or have separate in-person and Zoom worship times, the feedback you provided in the recent survey was clear as to the congregational family's preference: 31 "votes" were received favoring the single combined 10:15am worship, while 3 "votes" came in favoring two separate times of worship. Accordingly, it is planned that our 10:15 am worship on March 7 will be combined Zoom and in-person from upstairs in our beautiful worship space at the church, with the use of our organ for music.

For those attending 10:15 worship in-person, as was the case last fall, our ushers will still be guiding everyone to safely spaced, designated seating, and masks, covering both nose and mouth at all times, will still be required of everyone, with no exceptions of any kind. Since our in-person attendance last fall averaged only in the upper-20's, there should be no issue with the current PA Department of Health 10% of capacity attendance limit of 32.

For those attending 10:15 worship via Zoom, the call in/log in process will still work exactly the same but when Zoom opens up, instead of showing Pastor Tom and other worship leaders in their living rooms, your screen will include rectangles showing two views of worship at the church – one a close-up of the lectern area from where Pastor Tom will be leading worship and the other which will alternate between showing Judy and our other keyboardists at the organ and showing an overall view of worship from the balcony area. To avoid possible interference with the flow of worship coming from the church, all Zoom participants will find that their mikes will need to be muted at all times, but the chat function will continue just like before, allowing Zoom-ers to continue to directly connect.

A big "Thank You" is due to our overall Zoom coordinators, Roy & Rachel Henry! ***AND WITH THAT THANK YOU, ALSO AN URGENT REQUEST... WE ARE IN NEED OF AT LEAST A FEW MORE PERSONS WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO SERVE AS ZOOM HOSTS FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS BEGINNING MARCH 7, SINCE THAT HOSTING WILL NEED TO TAKE PLACE FROM THE CHURCH. PLEASE SPEAK WITH ROY OR RACHEL HENRY – WHO WILL PROVIDE THE BIT OF TRAINING NEEDED – TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT IS INVOLVED. You don't need to be a technology expert to be a part of our new Video Ministry Team, just someone 1. who has a suitable device (like a laptop or a tablet) and 2. who is comfortable accessing worship and other activities on Zoom!***

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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.

Next Up for Book Discussion Group is a gathering via Zoom on **Monday, March 8, at 7:00 P.M.** Everyone is welcome, so if you would like to participate and haven't joined in before, you can pick up a copy of the current book, **Night** by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel, on the bench under the bulletin board in the foyer, just inside the

main doors. The book, which is both an account of Wiesel's survival of the Nazi death camps as a teenager as well as a deep wrestling with such questions as how human beings can do such things to each other and where is God in it all, is widely viewed as Wiesel's masterpiece. Please let Ann know if we run out of books, and she'll order more. Also, please get in touch with her if you have any other questions – 717.362.7895 or rahbruner@gmail.com.)

2021 offering envelopes are available in the foyer. Please stop by the tables any time the church is unlocked, doing your best to be sure to 1. touch/pick up only those envelopes you are actually taking along, 2. maintain safe distancing from anyone else who might happen to be there doing the same thing, and 3. wear a mask covering both nose and mouth at all times.

Some copies of the 2020 Annual Congregational Report are available in the foyer. To be good stewards of congregational family resources, we will only print a few hard copies at a time for those who either aren't able to access the pdf copy online or who would prefer to have a hard copy as well. If you stop by and there aren't any copies for pickup, that means we will be preparing more to put out – please just stop back!

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. Thank you!

While we are temporarily not gathering for 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.

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Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **Darrell Denlinger** – Wellspan Good Samaritan Hospital, Lebanon
- **Warren Hassinger** – Rm. #101 – Connections Unit, Providence Place of Pottsville, 2200 First Avenue, Pottsville, 17901
- **Lorraine Henninger** – Rm. #100, 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. #328, Polk Personal Care, 301 North St., Millersburg
- **Ray Matter** – On Hospice Care at Home of Sandra & Craig Shade
- **Nicholas Motter** – Recovering at Tim & Lori's Home from Surgery to Repair Broken Ankle
- **Robert Schaffer** – At Home, Traveling to Harrisburg Area for Outpatient Care from Wound Specialists for His Leg
- **Lois Watson** – Rm. #1010, Penn State Health Rehabilitation Hospital, 1135 Old West Chocolate Avenue, Hummelstown, 17036

Our Faith Active in Worship – February 7, 2021

Current – Budget Goal	\$ 2,545
Current – Offerings Received	\$10,596 (includes lump-sum 2021 gift)
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$2,165 (includes lump-sum 2021 gift)
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$130
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$2,955 (includes lump-sum 2021 gift)
Total Attendance	103

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. 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)**
- **Alexis Lehman*, EMT** (Professional Firefighter/Responder in Metro Washington, DC Area)
- **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, CAN**
- **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)

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

Updated 2/16/2021