

## Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

### 911 Emergency/GPS Location:

215 St. John Road, Elizabethtown, 17023

### For US Mail Deliveries:

PO Box 270, Berrysburg, 17005-0270

717-362-9519

[stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com](mailto:stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com) | [www.stjohnhillchurch.org](http://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.	Pastor
Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister
Jim Watson	Holy Communion Assistant
Carol & Mike Hubler	Altar Guild Preparation
Judy Ferree	Organist
Michael and Carol Hubler	Greeters
Caroline and Stella DeSoto	Acolytes
Barry Williard	Lector
Joshua Paul	Council President

For the month of February, our **Celebrate** lectionary bulletin inserts are sponsored by Delmar and Virginia Enders to the Glory of God for our many blessings, our support of **Tree 4 Hope** is still in need of a sponsor, and our support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** is sponsored by Lynn and Helen Henninger in celebration of our grandchildren, Ayden and Sadie's February birthdays.

The **Altar Flowers** are presented to the Glory of God by Chris & Dana Klouser in honor of the birthdates of Desiree DeSoto 2/20 and Collin Klouser 3/8 and in thankfulness for all of life's blessings.

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book in the foyer. As we celebrate our Lord's Supper, we welcome to our table all baptized Christians who have received the sacrament in their home congregations. All persons who do not yet commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please worship with us again and join in other congregational family activities!

## Sunday Morning Liturgy – ELW Setting 10

### God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Organ Prelude and Silent Prayer

\*Confession and Forgiveness

Pg. 94-96

\*Opening Hymn #673 "God, Whose Almighty Word"

\*Apostolic Greeting

Pg. 203

\*Kyrie (sung in unison)

Pg. 203

\*Hymn of Praise: "Come, let us join..." (sung in unison)

Pg. 204

\*Prayer of the Day

### We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm: 112:1-10

Second Reading: I Corinthians 2:1-16

\*Gospel Acclamation (sung in unison):

**ALLELUIA! LORD AND SAVIOR: OPEN NOW YOUR SAVING WORD. LET IT BURN LIKE FIRE WITHIN US; SPEAK UNTIL OUR HEARTS ARE STIRRED. ALLELUIA! LORD WE SING FOR THE GOOD NEWS THAT YOU BRING. (Pg. 205)**

\*Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

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

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

Young Persons Go with Miss Laurie for Celebration Time

Sermon

### We Respond to All That God Gives Us

\*Apostles' Creed

Pg. 105

\*Prayers of the Church

Offering of Our Gifts and Musical Anthem by Senior Choir

\*Offertory Hymn (#182) (sung):

**LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL LORD, AND FILL TO THE BRIM OUR CUP OF BLESSING. GATHER A HARVEST FROM THE SEEDS THAT WERE SOWN, THAT WE MAY BE FED WITH THE BREAD OF LIFE. GATHER THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF ALL; UNITE THEM WITH THE PRAYERS WE OFFER NOW. GRACE OUR TABLE WITH YOUR PRESENCE AND GIVE US A FORETASTE OF THE FEAST TO COME.**

\*Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray... our Savior and Lord. All: **AMEN.**

### We Share in God's Supper

\*Great Thanksgiving (spoken):

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.**

P: ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

\*We Respond in Praise (sung in unison):

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAV'N AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. (Pg. 207)**

\*Eucharistic Prayer:

P: ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All Sing: **CHRIST HAS DIED. CHRIST IS RISEN. CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN. (Pg. 207)**

P: ...be all honor and glory in your Holy Church, now and forever.

All Sing: **AMEN, AMEN, AMEN. (Pg. 207)**

\*Our Lord's Prayer – traditional version on right Pg. 208

We Partake of Our Lord's Supper (As we share in the sacrament, please join in singing the praise song "O Lamb of God" on Pg. 208)

\*Post Communion Blessing:

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

All: **AMEN**

### **God Sends Us to Share the Good News**

\*Post Communion Hymn (#204) (sung):

**THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE; TELL EVERYONE WHAT GOD HAS DONE. LET ALL WHO SEEK THE LORD REJOICE AND BEAR CHRIST'S HOLY NAME. SEND US WITH YOUR PROMISES AND LEAD YOUR PEOPLE FORTH IN JOY WITH SHOUTS OF THANKSGIVING. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**

\*Post Communion Prayer:

P: Let us pray... Christ our Lord.

All: **AMEN**

\*Blessing and Dismissal:

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

All: **AMEN**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: **WE WILL! THANKS BE TO GOD!**

\*Closing Hymn #314 "Arise, Your Light Has Come!"

\*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Please stand, if able to do so.

## Our Faith Active in Worship – January 29, 2023

<b>Current – Budget Goal</b>	<b>\$2,796</b>
Current – Offerings Received	\$4,269
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$211
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$142
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$602
Total Attendance	<b>Zoom – 23, In Person – 99</b>

## “St John’s Restoration 250” Financial Update – As of January 29, 2023

Final Total Project Cost (under \$220,000 Budgeted)	\$ 216,795
Memorials Interest Money Expended for Project	\$ 83,330
	(under \$88,000 Budgeted)
Total Financial Gifts Received	\$ 88,785
Total Financial Gifts Pledged, Not Yet Received	\$ 44,680

## Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **Cindy Carr** – At Home, Undergoing Treatment for Autoimmune Disorder and Resulting Organ Damage
- **Judy Cheatham** –Rm. #47B, Cadia Healthcare, 900 Van Buren Street, Annapolis, MD 21403
- **Timothy Enders** – Rm. #120, The Gardens at York Terrace, 2401 W. Market St., Pottsville, 17901
- **Jane Grosser** – Rm. #705, Northern Dauphin Nursing and Rehab. Center, Millersburg, 17061
- **Cora Mace** – Rm. #3647, Roosevelt 3, Masonic Health Care Center, 600 Freemason Drive, Elizabethtown, 17022
- **Joyce Matter** – Rm. #128, Viva Senior Living at Harrisburg, 150 Kempton Avenue, Harrisburg, 17111 (717.909.0417)

## Today, Sunday, February 5

9am	Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9am	Youth Group Bible Time (In-Person)
9am	Confirmation Class (In-Person)
9am	SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am	Worship, Including Sacrament of Holy Communion and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie (In-Person and On Zoom)
2-6:30pm	Girl Scout Troop Activity in “Sunday School” Room

## Monday, February 6

8-9:30am	Pastor Tom’s Office Hours
9am	“Blanket Bunch” Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief
6:30pm	<b>Everyone is welcome to join in upcoming (Zoom only for the winter months) Book Group Discussions! <u>Next up – Day After Night by Anita Diamant.</u> Please call or email Ann 717.362.7895 <a href="mailto:rahbruner@gmail.com">rahbruner@gmail.com</a> if you need a book or have any questions.</b>
7pm	Church Dartball League Match – St. John at Valleys EC Church, Halifax

## Tuesday, February 7

8-9:30am	Pastor Tom’s Office Hours
9:30am	Pastor Tom at Upper Dauphin Conference Pastors Meeting
7:30pm	Senior Choir Rehearsal

## Wednesday, February 8

8am-12pm	Pastor Tom’s Office Hours
6:30-8pm	Midweek Bible Study (Zoom Only)

## Thursday, February 9

<b>Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East</b>	
8am-12pm	Pastor Tom’s Office Hours

## Friday, February 10

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

## Saturday, February 11

Pastor Tom’s Weekly Day Off

## Next Sunday, February 12

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

**Since this is the day of Super Bowl LVII in Phoenix, AZ, this will also be “JERSEY DAY” here at St. John, with all interested folks invited to come to worship dressed in the fanwear of a favorite team or player of any sport and any level of play, from peewee to professional.**

9am	Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9am	Youth Group Members Meet to Prepare for Leading Worship
9am	SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am	Worship – <b><u>Led by Members of Youth Group</u></b> (In-Person and On Zoom – Please note that ushers, greeters, and other persons scheduled to serve in worship that morning will not be needed, as the youth will be taking on all those roles.)

11:15am "Souper Bowl" Collection (***After a pause of a few years, we will again observe "Souper Bowl" Sunday with a special offering to benefit the work of the Northern Dauphin Human Services Center. Youth Group Members will meet us at the door with soup bowls in hand to receive our votes for which team will win the Super Bowl later that day, with a \$1 donation as the suggested "vote". Let's have a great response on behalf of those in need in our area, and let's see if we're right in predicting the winner!***)

2pm Monthly Gathering of the Women of the ELCA of St. John

### **Looking Ahead**

Wednesday, February 15, will be the deadline to submit items for inclusion in the March ***St. John's Epistle***.

\* \* \* \* \*

As things have settled down in our foyer with the completion of our ***Restoration 250*** project, we have a new location for food donations for the food pantry at the Upper Dauphin Human Services Center in Lykens. Please place those non-perishable food items on any shelf inside the north (right, coming in the front doors) closet, where the door is labelled accordingly. As the contributions add up, deliveries will be made to the pantry by **Larry Gessner**. Thank you!

Copies of the 2022 Annual Congregational Report (along with remaining 2023 offering envelopes) are also available in the foyer, for those who either aren't able to access the pdf copy online or who would prefer to have a hard copy as well.

**THANK YOU** to the following persons who directed Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John during 2022: Sheila Barder, Carl & Louise Baumgardner, Fay Bixler, Barb Bullock, Larry Gessner, Carol Hassinger, and Harold & Pat Herb. A total of \$1,216 was received and passed on to the support of such ministries as our Children and Youth ministry, the Women of the ELCA of St. John, Lutheran Disaster Relief, our "Restoration 250" project, and our ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Thank you! (***All Thrivent members have until March 31 to designate 2022 Choice Dollars. A phone call to Thrivent – or logging in to the Thrivent website – is all that it takes to find out about and direct Thrivent Choice Dollars.***)

For the month of March, sponsors are still needed (signup sheet temporarily on the table outside of Pastor Tom's office) for our monthly ministry support for our ***Celebrate*** bulletin inserts (\$22/month) and for providing one month of a ***Konde Diocese (in Tanzania, Africa) Pastors Salary*** (\$50/month), as well as for the altar flowers for Sunday, March 26 (\$35/week, signup sheet temporarily posted on the south closet door in the foyer). To sponsor any of these ministries in honor or in memory of loved ones or events, please either sign up in person or, if easier, please feel free to call or email Pastor Tom, who can take care of signing you up. ***More time-critically, for the month of February, a sponsor is still needed for our monthly ministry support for Tree 4 Hope (\$50/month – signup sheet temporarily on the table outside of Pastor Tom's office).***

Please be sure that, if you are a communing member of St. John, you turn in **one communion record card** this year – only one is needed. Also, if you are a contributing member of the congregation, please be sure that you **use your offering envelopes at least once this year**, so that you are on record as having made a contribution. Please help to make sure that our parish records are as accurate as possible!

**FEBRUARY is St. John's Pack & Play/Pack & Pray for Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center Month:** Please Pack the crib in the foyer with new and gently used baby and children's items for the Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center in Millersburg. All items are appreciated; however, of greatest need right now are: baby food, new sippy cups, Similac Advance formula, children's toothbrushes and toothpaste, baby gates, baby monitors, diapers Newborn and Size 1, childproofing/safety kits, pjs 12M – 5T, Winter Clothing 12-24M, New girls underwear 3T – 6, and new socks for children and babies. Please speak with contact person Dana Klouser for further information.

To make sure that our blessed prayer shawls get to as many folks in need of God's healing touch as possible, it is now possible for anyone from the St. John congregational family to deliver a prayer shawl to a person who is known to them to be hurting in body, mind, and/or spirit, and who would be blessed by receiving one of our shawls. To obtain a shawl, please first contact Pastor Tom, who will help you with the process. (***Please bear in mind that it is the intention of the prayer shawl ministry that each person receive just one shawl "for life", to be used in whatever time(s) of brokenness they may face.***)

Please see the bright blue container at the computer desk in the Sunday School Room to recycle your AA, AAA, C, D, 9-Volt and Button Cell batteries in Alkaline, NiMH, NiCAD, Zinc Air and Non-Lithium types, 9 volts and below. All batteries must be dry cell only, and they cannot be leaking or have broken cases. Through the efforts of Larry Gessner, batteries that are in especially good condition are being recharged and donated to Bethesda Mission, while all others are recycled.

The Youth Group continues to collect aluminum – aluminum only, please – in the lower level of the barn, facing toward Elizabethtown. ***Please be sure to place your aluminum inside the sliding door and not outside in the pull-in space, where the animals tend to create a mess with donations.*** Thank you for your help with this major fundraiser for our youth and help for our environment!