

## 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 spoke light into creation, who calls us to listen and follow, who sends us to shine like stars.

**C: AMEN.**

P: Let us come before God, confessing our sin.

*(brief silence follows)*

P: Holy and merciful God,

**C: WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS AND AGAINST YOU. WE CHERISH THE VALUES OF THIS WORLD. WE CAUSE OTHERS TO STUMBLE. THE EARTH IS WOUNDED BY OUR EXCESS. HAVE MERCY, O GOD. FORGIVE US, RENEW US, AND RAISE US UP ON EAGLES' WINGS, THAT WE MAY DO YOUR WILL WITH COURAGE AND DELIGHT. AMEN.**

P: Hear the voice from heaven: "You are my own, my beloved." God gives power to the weary and strengthens the powerless. Be cleansed, be healed, for in the name of Jesus Christ, I declare to you the forgiveness of our sins and the revealing of God's reign.

**C: AMEN.**

Opening Hymn #532 "Gather Us In" (verses 1 and 4)

Apostolic Greeting:

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: Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalm: 147:1-11

Second Reading: I Corinthians 9:16-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

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

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

Sunny Sermon with Miss Laurie

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: God the Father, light-creator; God the Son, Light from Light; and God the Holy Spirit, light-revealer, bless us and give us peace.

**C: AMEN**

Closing Hymn #543 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" (verses 1 and 3)

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Piano Postlude and Silent Prayer

# Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Berrysburg, PA  
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
Judy Ferree	Keyboardist
Barry Williard	Lector
Roy Henry	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 **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 7

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.)

### Monday, February 8

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

6:15pm Zoom Sound Test at the Church

7pm Book Discussion Group Gathering on Zoom (Everyone is welcome, so even if you haven't had a chance to pick up a copy of the current book, **Sarah's Key** by Tatiana De Rosnay, in the foyer, please join in for the

great fellowship! Please get in touch with Ann Bruner if you have any questions – 717.362.7895 or [rahbruner@gmail.com](mailto:rahbruner@gmail.com).)

### Tuesday, February 9

**Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East**

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

### Wednesday, February 10

***(By the end of the day on Wednesday, please be sure to fill out the worship survey, either online via the following link:***

***<https://www.stjohnhillchurch.org/survey.html> (a link which you can also find in Pastor Tom's letter in the February **St. John's Epistle** or on our congregational website)***

***or*** by returning to the church the tear-off survey form at the bottom of Pastor Tom's letter in your hard copy **St. John's Epistle**. You can find all of the details about the survey in Pastor Tom's letter in the **Epistle**, but please don't hesitate to contact him or Congregational Council President Roy Henry with any questions.)

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, February 11

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

### Friday, February 12

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

### Saturday, February 13

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

### Next, Sunday, February 14

Transfiguration of Our Lord

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.)

11:15am Congregational Council Meeting on Zoom – Council Members will simply stay on Zoom after the conclusion of worship.

## Looking Ahead

**Next Up for Book Discussion Group** is a gathering via Zoom on **Monday, February** Monday, February 15, will be the deadline to submit items for the March **St. John's Epistle**, via email to both Secretary Rachel Henry and Pastor Tom if possible.

Our journey through the Season of Lent begins **February 17 at 7:00 P.M.**, as always with our observance of **Ash Wednesday**, but with that worship taking a different form than ever before – on the Zoom platform. For the very first – and we pray very last – time, we will worship on Ash Wednesday without a physical imposition of ashes, but God will be present just the same as always and we will take time to focus on our need for repentance and restoration just the same as always.

Our next “Drive Through” Holy Communion with Pastor Tom and Miss Laurie is planned for 11:30 A.M. on Sunday, February 21.

Youth Group will gather on Zoom on Sunday, February 21, from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M.

\* \* \* \* \*

***On Wednesday, February 24, and following Wednesdays, we will not be joining in our beloved community round robin of supper and worship, as decided by the host pastors. BUT, on February 24 and following Wednesdays, here at the Hill Church we will all still have the opportunity to join in a time of reflection and study, via the Zoom platform. Each Wednesday evening, from 6:30 to 7:30 P.M., everyone is invited to join in a study entitled “People of the Passion”, in which we will spend time looking closely at key people involved in Jesus’ last days before his crucifixion – people such as Mary, Jesus’ Mother; Pilate; Peter; and Judas – exploring what we know about them and what we only think we know, and looking at how themes of faithfulness, conflict, gratitude, power, and betrayal played out in their lives in that time of crisis and what they might have to say to us in our own times of crisis. So that Pastor Tom can order the correct number of study books, please sign up – by simply contacting him in whatever way is easiest for you – by the end of the day.***

**THANK YOU** to the following persons who directed Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John during 2020: Sheila Barder, Fay Bixler, Barb Bullock, Delmar & Ginny Enders, Larry Gessner, Carol Hassinger, Harold & Pat Herb, and Mary Peters. A total of \$1,538 was received and passed on to the support of such ministries as WELCA blanket making, children and youth ministry, youth group, and our ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Thank you! ***(And a reminder to all Thrivent members that March 31 will be the cutoff to designating 2020 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 Choice Dollars.)***

## Thanking and Supporting Our Health Care Professionals!

On January 11, Book Discussion Group began a project of gathering items to show appreciation for the nurses (including our own **Shannon Motter**) and health care workers doing the difficult and important work of caring for patients on the COVID floor. We pulled together 3 initial baskets of personal and snack items, and Shannon took them in late that week for both the daytime and nighttime shifts. We would like to restock those baskets and expand our ministry project by gathering items and a small gift to support others on our healthcare worker list (and beyond, if you know of others) who are working hard to keep everyone safe and healthy. Monetary donations (checks

payable to “St John Lutheran Church” noting on the memo line “Health Care Workers Ministry” please) will be placed in the Strawberry Festival Fund and used to purchase gift cards for everyone on our prayer list as well as additional Equal Exchange coffees, teas and chocolate bars for the baskets. We will also gather the items below. If you would like to donate them, please place them in the box in the church narthex/entry:

- travel size lotions
- travel size hand sanitizers
- hot cocoa packets
- creamers
- honey sticks
- small, individual packs of nuts

If you know of others who would benefit from this project, please talk with Pastor Tom or with me. We hope to continue to show our support and appreciation beyond those already mentioned and will consider individuals or groups in the order their names are received. Thank you for the gratitude and love you share every day! - **Ann Bruner**

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!

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.)***

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.

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.

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 for recycling are delivered to Dauphin County Recycling in Harrisburg.

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!

The Youth Group continues to collect aluminum – aluminum only, please – on the lower level of the barn, facing toward Elizabethville. Please place your aluminum in the barrel outside of the door. Thank you for your help with this major fundraiser for our youth and help for our environment!

\* \* \* \* \*

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

- **Cynthia Carr** – Still Dealing with Lung Problems at Home from COVID Infection
- **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, Daily Traveling to Harrisburg Area for Outpatient Care from Wound Specialists for His Leg
- **Lois Watson** – Penn State Hershey Medical Center, Neuro Science ICU

**Our Faith Active in Worship - January 31, 2021**

<b>Current – Budget Goal (Approx.)</b>	<b>\$2,536</b>
Current – Offerings Received	\$875
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$245
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$25
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$110
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>90</b>

**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**
- **Alayna Peters, Doctor of Pharmacy** (Practicing 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**
- **Timothy Bruner & Gabrielle Fregeau\*, Doctors of Physical Therapy** (Practicing in Ocean County, NJ)
- **Daniel Bruner & Richelle Demers\*, Doctors of Chiropractic**
- **Dr. Jerrel Boyer\*** (Neurosurgeon in Chicago, IL)
- **Brett Bellis\*, Doctor of Chiropractic**

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

**Updated 1-20-2021**