

## Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

### 911 Emergency/GPS Location:

215 St. John Road, Elizabethtown, 17023

### For US Mail Deliveries:

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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.

Pastor

Laurie Little

Young Christians Minister

Judy Ferree

Organist

Larry and Karen Gehring

Greeters

Kyan Peters and Brady Dresel

Acolytes

Reyann Cheatham

Lector

For the month of January, our **Celebrate** lectionary bulletin inserts, our support of **Tree 4 Hope**, and our support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** are all sponsored by Roy and Rachel Henry for God's many blessings.

This week's **Altar Flowers** are sponsored in memory of David and Donald Kaufman and George Hubler, and for all of God's blessings by Mike and Carol Hubler.

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book in the foyer and 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

\*Opening Hymn #310 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

Pg. 94-96

\*Apostolic Greeting

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\*Kyrie (sung in unison)

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\*Hymn of Praise: "Glory to God..." (sung in unison)

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\*Prayer of the Day

### We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

Psalm: 15

Second Reading: I Corinthians 1:18-31

\*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 5:1-12

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

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

Offering of Our Gifts and Musical Anthem by Senior Choir

\*Offertory Hymn (#186) (sung):

**CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD, AND RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT  
WITHIN ME. CAST ME NOT AWAY FROM YOUR PRESENCE, AND TAKE NOT  
YOUR HOLY SPIRIT FROM ME. RESTORE TO ME THE JOY OF YOUR  
SALVATION, AND UPHOLD ME WITH YOUR FREE SPIRIT.**

\*Prayers of the Church

\*Our Lord's Prayer – traditional version on right side of page

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

\*Blessing:

P: May the God of glory dwell in us richly, name us beloved, and shine brightly on our path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon us and remain with us always.

C: **AMEN**

\*Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Christ is our light.

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

\*Closing Hymn #728 "Blest Are They"

\*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Please stand, if able to do so.

### Today, Sunday, January 29

- 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 Celebration Time with Miss Laurie (In-Person and On Zoom)  
11:15am Special Congregational Meeting to Review 2022 Annual Report (In-Person and On Zoom) ***Per our congregational constitution, the only business we can take care of at this special meeting is the review of our 2022 ministries. All voting members – those confirmed members who have communed and contributed during 2021 or 2022 – are especially encouraged to attend this brief, but very important, meeting!***  
11:30am Youth Group Meeting (All youth are asked to bring along a snack to share with a crockpot main dish for lunch.)  
1:30pm Youth Group Advisors Meeting

***Financial Secretary Pat Herb will be in the Conference Room downstairs after the conclusion of the Special Congregational Meeting this morning for everyone to pick up 2022 statements of giving. Any statements not picked up this morning will be mailed.***

### Monday, January 30

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours  
9am Decorating Committee meets to finish Un-decorating of Church  
7pm Church Dartball League Match – Lykens United Methodist at St. John ***Dartball is scored like baseball except that, instead of pitching and hitting a ball, darts are thrown at a baseball field-shaped chart. If you are 10 or older and are interested in a night of very good fellowship, fun, and food, please come and join our team. For the youngest players, league rules require the presence of a parent or guardian. Just speak to one of our coaches, Larry Gehring or Mike Henninger, or to Pastor Tom if you have any questions or would like to be part of the team.***

### Tuesday, January 31

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours  
**9am “Blanket Bunch” Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief (moved from usual Monday morning)**  
7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

### Wednesday, February 1

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours  
6:30-8pm Midweek Bible Study (Zoom Only)  
6:30-8pm February Gathering of ***Celebration Club with Miss Laurie*** (In-Person at Church)

### Thursday, February 2

#### ***Presentation of Our Lord***

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

**Friday, February 3**

8-9:30am Pastor Tom’s Office Hours

**Saturday, February 4**

Pastor Tom’s Weekly Day Off

**Next Sunday, February 5**

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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 Celebration Time with Miss Laurie (In-Person and On Zoom)

2-6:30pm Girl Scout Troop Activity in “Sunday School” Room

**Looking Ahead**

**Everyone is welcome to join in upcoming (Zoom only for the winter months) Book Group Discussions! Next up – Monday, February 6, at 6:30pm – Day After Night by Anita Diamant.** Please call or email Ann 717.362.7895 [rahbruner@gmail.com](mailto:rahbruner@gmail.com) if you need a book or have any questions.

Our talented youth will be taking the complete leadership of our worship on the morning of Sunday, February 12, including the morning sermon shared by senior member RJ Henry. **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.**

Immediately following our February 12 worship, 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!

And, since this is the day of Super Bowl LVII in Phoenix, AZ, we are bringing back a “tradition” we had only just begun pre-COVID – designating February 12 as “**Jersey Day**” and encouraging one and all to come to worship that morning dressed in the fanwear of a favorite team or player of any sport and any level of play, from peewee to professional.

\* \* \* \* \*

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). To sponsor this ministry 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.

2023 offering envelopes are available in the foyer. Please stop by the table and take along those of family members and neighbors!

**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.

**Our Faith Active in Worship – January 22, 2023**

<b><i>Current – Budget Goal</i></b>	<b><i>\$TBD</i></b>
Current – Offerings Received	\$1,796
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$40
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$30
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$225
Total Attendance	<b><i>Zoom – 28, In Person – 85</i></b>

**“St John’s Restoration 250” Financial Update – As of January 22, 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, With Two Important Medical Appointments This Coming Week
- **Judy Cheatham** –Rm. #47B, Cadia Healthcare, 900 Van Buren Street, Annapolis, MD 21403
- **Timothy Enders** – Rm. #122, 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, Commonwealth Senior Living at Harrisburg, 150 Kempton Avenue, Harrisburg, 17111 (717.909.0417)

