

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

911 Emergency/GPS Location:

215 St. John Road, Elizabethville, 17023

For US Mail Deliveries:

PO Box 270, Berrysburg, 17005-0270

717-362-9519 | pt@stjohnhillchurch.org | 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 Organist

Ty Troutman Senior Choir Director

Josh and Sara Paul Greeters

Reyann Cheatham Lector

Landon and Bennett Troutman Acolytes

Joshua Paul Lead Usher/Council President

For the month of March, the ***Celebrate Inserts***, the support of one pastor for one month in the ***Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania*** and the ***Tree 4 Hope*** are sponsored by Brian and Sheila Barder.

This week's ***Altar Flowers*** are presented by Bob Reish in loving memory of Josephine Bruner and Jenny and Arlington Koppenhaver.

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

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Organ Prelude and Silent Prayer

Observance of Scout Sunday

*Opening Hymn #379 "Now the Green Blade Rises"

*Greeting:

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling 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: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm: 51:1-12

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

*Gospel: John 12:20-33

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

Young Persons Go with Miss Laurie for Celebration Time

Sermon

We Respond to All That God Gives Us

We Proclaim Our Faith:

I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH. (THIS MEANS THAT) I BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS CREATED ME TOGETHER WITH ALL THAT EXISTS. GOD HAS GIVEN ME AND STILL PRESERVES MY BODY AND SOUL; EYES, EARS, AND ALL LIMBS AND SENSES; REASON AND ALL MENTAL FACULTIES. IN ADDITION, GOD DAILY AND ABUNDANTLY PROVIDES SHOES AND CLOTHING, FOOD AND DRINK, HOUSE AND FARM, SPOUSE AND CHILDREN, FIELDS, LIVESTOCK, AND ALL PROPERTY – ALONG WITH ALL THE NECESSITIES AND NOURISHMENT FOR THIS BODY AND LIFE. GOD PROTECTS ME AGAINST ALL DANGER AND SHIELDS AND PRESERVES ME FROM ALL EVIL. ALL THIS IS DONE OUT OF PURE, FATHERLY, AND DIVINE GOODNESS AND MERCY, WITHOUT ANY MERIT OR WORTHINESS OF MINE AT ALL! FOR ALL OF THIS I OWE IT TO GOD TO THANK AND PRAISE, SERVE AND OBEY HIM. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.

-Martin Luther's ***Small Catechism***

Offering of Our Gifts and Choir Anthem

*Prayers of the Church

*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

*Blessing:

P: God our Father bless us and shield us. Christ our Brother shelter us and carry us. God the Holy Spirit guide our journey, both now and forever.

C: **AMEN**

*Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

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

*Closing Hymn #880 "O God beyond All Praising"

*Choral Dismissal Song #622 "Neither Death nor Life"

*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

* * * * *

* Please stand, if able to do so.

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, Complete Care at Annapolis, 900 Van Buren Street, Annapolis, MD 21403
- **Timothy Enders** – Rm. #120, The Gardens at York Terrace, 2401 W. Market St., Pottsville, 17901
- **Patricia Herb** – UPMC Harrisburg, Med/Surg ICU
- **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)
- **Steven Schlegel** – Home Receiving Next Every-Third-Tuesday Chemotherapy Treatment on 3/19

Our Faith Active in Worship – March 10, 2024

<i>Current – Approx. Budget Goal</i>	\$3,112
Current – Offerings Received	\$1,927
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$36
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$36
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$151
Total Attendance:	Zoom – 32, In Person – 90

Today, March 17

- 9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am Worship, Including Annual Observance of Scout Sunday and Sunny Sermon & Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)
11:15am Brief Gathering to Plan Fred Weaver Memorial Easter Morning Breakfast
Upstairs Immediately Following Worship
11:15am Immediately following worship, the members of our Equal Exchange/Fair Trade Ministry Team - Ann Bruner, Courtney Foreman, & Grayson Foreman - will host a time of fellowship downstairs for sampling and purchasing.
4pm Creation Care Team Gathering – In Person with a Zoom Option (The team has met twice and decided on a few initial projects, including renewed/improved recycling at church and during the strawberry festival, and educational and worship projects. Everyone is invited to share ideas and resources at this gathering. If you have questions - or can't make it but have ideas to share -- please talk with Christie Kahler or Ann Bruner.)

Monday, March 18

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
9-11am "Blanket Bunch" Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief
7pm Church Dartball League Playoffs

Tuesday, March 19

Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
6:15pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 20

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours
6:15pm Community Lenten Supper and Worship (7:00) at Salem Lutheran Church, Elizabethtown

Thursday, March 21

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

Friday, March 22

- 8:00 – 9:30 A.M. Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Saturday, March 23

- Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, March 24

- Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday
9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
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10:15am Worship, Including Liturgy of Palms, Dramatic Reading by Vincent Lamenza of **The Passion According to St. Mark**, Holy Communion and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person (In-Person & On Zoom)
11:30am-1:30pm Youth Group Gathering at the Church Starting with Pizza Lunch

Looking Ahead

Property Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 26, at 6:15pm at the church.

Please see Pastor Tom's letter in your March St. John's Epistle for our full schedule of special worship and other activities during the Triduum or "Three Days" leading up to and including Easter Day, but please note these corrections to that information:

- The age groups for the Easter Egg Hunt on March 30 should read: Infant – Preschool, Kindergarten, Grades 1-2, and Grades 3-4.
- And please add the First Annual Fred Weaver Memorial Easter Breakfast at 7am to the activities listed on Easter Day, March 31.

Easter Sunrise Breakfast

Please join us for the **First Annual Fred Weaver Memorial Easter Breakfast** on March 31st at 7am. If there are any men of the congregation willing to help, please contact Roy Henry at 717-215-9837.

HUNT STARTS AT 10:00 A.M.
PRIZES FOR EACH AGE GROUP
MARCH 30, 2024
ST. JOHN'S EASTER EGG HUNT
Join us on the beautiful grounds of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Berryburg for the annual Easter Egg Hunt!
Sponsored By: St. John's Youth Group and Thrivent Financial
FOUR AGE GROUPS:
INFANT TO PRESCHOOL
KINDERGARTEN
1st & 2nd GRADE
3rd & 4th GRADE

Monday, April 1 is Family Movie Night! Again, this year, the Youth Group has rented the Twin Valley Players Colonnade in Millersburg for a showing of the family-friendly movie **Woodlawn**. (Please see your March **St. John's Epistle** for a more complete description of this inspiring true story of the triumph of love and hope over hate.) There is no admission cost; however please don't forget to visit the concession stand to help support the Colonnade. The doors will open at 6:15pm with the movie getting underway at 6:30pm. Please tell your family and friends!

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
WOODLAWN
Bring your family and friends!
FREE ADMISSION!
FAMILY NIGHT SPONSORED BY THE YOUTH GROUP
Visit the concession stand to support the Colonnade!
April 1st 6:15 p.m. Millersburg Colonnade

Pastor Tom is seeking one male voting member and one female voting member (confirmed congregational family member who has communed and contributed in this or the prior year) who do not have to be married to join him in attending this year's Annual Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly, with the theme **The Healing of the Nations: Christ's Healing for a Broken World**. Again, this year, the business of the assembly will be held in two parts – on the evening of Friday, May 31, on Zoom (and so in the comfort of your own home) and on Saturday, June 1, in-person at St. Matthew Lutheran, York. All costs for voting members are borne by our congregational family budget, so all that anyone willing to serve needs to be able to contribute is their time. Please speak with him as soon as possible to learn more.

For the month of April, sponsors are needed for our altar flowers for Sundays, April 14 & April 28 - \$35/week. To sponsor either date in honor or in memory of loved ones or events, please either sign up in person on the foyer bulletin board or, if easier, feel free to call or email Pastor Tom, who can take care of signing you up.

Please place your non-perishable food donations for the food pantry at the Upper Dauphin Human Services Center in Lykens on any shelf inside the north (right side, coming in the front doors) closet in the foyer, where the door is labelled accordingly. As the contributions add up, deliveries will be made to the pantry by **Larry Gessner**. Thank you!

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Following government orders, the Colonnade is closed to the public for the remainder of the evening. The movie will be shown on a screen in the foyer. The movie will be shown on a screen in the foyer. The movie will be shown on a screen in the foyer.

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