

Sunday Morning Liturgy

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Organ 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 #379 "Now the Green Blade Rises" (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: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms: 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.**

Sermon

We Respond to All That God Gives Us

We Proclaim Our Faith:

I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. (THIS MEANS THAT) I BELIEVE THAT BY MY OWN UNDERSTANDING OR STRENGTH I CANNOT BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST MY LORD OR COME TO HIM, BUT INSTEAD THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS CALLED ME THROUGH THE GOSPEL, ENLIGHTENED ME WITH HIS GIFTS, MADE ME HOLY, AND KEPT

ME IN THE TRUE FAITH, JUST AS HE CALLS, GATHERS, ENLIGHTENS, AND MAKES HOLY THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH ON EARTH AND KEEPS IT WITH JESUS CHRIST IN THE ONE COMMON, TRUE FAITH. DAILY IN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH THE HOLY SPIRIT ABUNDANTLY FORGIVES ALL SINS – MINE AND THOSE OF ALL BELIEVERS. ON THE LAST DAY THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL RAISE ME AND ALL THE DEAD AND WILL GIVE TO ME AND ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST ETERNAL LIFE. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.

-Martin Luther's "Small Catechism"

Organ Anthem

Prayers

Words of Institution:

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

We Partake of Our Lord's Supper

Post Communion Blessing:

P: The bodily presence of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve us in eternal life.

All: AMEN

Post Communion Prayer:

P: Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: 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 #880 "O God beyond All Praising" (entire song)

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD!

Organ 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.	Pastor
Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister
Judy Ferree	Keyboardist
Judy Cheatham	Lector
Roy Henry	Council President

For the month of March, 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 Jamie Doyle to the glory of God and for the many blessings of our congregation.

Today, Sunday, March 31

9am Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Youth Class, Confirmation Class, and SONDay Celebration Meeting In-Person at Church)

10:15am Worship (**In-Person and on Zoom**) Including Holy Communion & Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons Attending In-Person (***For those who are attending worship in-person, please remember that a mask covering both nose and mouth is required to be worn by every worshipper over the age of two, with no exceptions for any reason at this time. Of course, please do not attend in-person worship 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. Ushers will guide you to designated safely-spaced seating.***)

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

6-7pm Youth Group Zoom Gathering

Monday, March 22

Pastor Tom Taking Monthly Extra Day Off – No Office Hours

Tuesday, March 23

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

Wednesday, March 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, March 25

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Friday, March 26

Palms will be available for pickup outside the church starting Friday morning for everyone who will be participating in Palm/Passion Sunday worship via Zoom – please watch for details about where they will be located (so as to avoid problems with wind) in an email from Pastor Tom this coming week.

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

Saturday, March 27

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, March 28

Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

9am Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Youth Class, Confirmation Class, and SONDay Celebration Meeting In-Person at Church)

10:15am Worship (**In-Person and on Zoom**) Including Holy Communion, Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons Attending In-Person, and Featuring Liturgy of Palms and Dramatic Reading by Vincent Lamenza of The Passion According to St. Mark (***For those who are attending worship in-person, please remember that a mask covering both nose and mouth is required to be worn by every worshipper over the age of two, with no exceptions for any reason at this time. Of course, please do not attend in-person worship 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. Ushers will guide you to designated safely-spaced seating.***)

Looking Ahead

Our 7:00 P.M. worship on Maundy Thursday, April 1; Good Friday, April 2; and Holy Saturday, April 3, will all take place on Zoom only.

The Youth Group will be holding an adapted Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday, April 3. ***(Please stay tuned for more details, but it will be possible, as in previous years, to attend our Hunt and still make the Berrysburg Community Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 A.M.)***

On Easter Sunday, April 4, we will again gather for Sunrise Worship in-person – with masks covering nose and mouth and observing safe spacing – on the field across from the pavilion, next to the sexton house, at 6:30 A.M.

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Our spring session of Midweek Bible Study will get underway on **Wednesday, April 14** and will continue through the end of May, wrapping up just before the Memorial Day weekend. We will meet each week from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M., tentatively on the Zoom platform. After spending the year thus far in the New Testament, we will now turn to the Old Testament with a study of the **Book of Jeremiah** and the closely related **Book of Lamentations**. Speaking as he first did more than 600 years before Jesus' birth, in a time when things which had for centuries seemed so rock-solid were tottering and shaking, the Prophet Jeremiah has a lot to say to us in these times in which we are living. (And perhaps more so than with any other biblical prophet, we find a kindred spirit in Jeremiah – someone who is open about his struggle with just how difficult following the call of God can be.) No previous Bible study experience is required – only an interest and enthusiasm to study, reflect on, and (as you are comfortable doing so) discuss God's Word together! So that the correct number of study books can be ordered for our study, please register in advance (by speaking with Pastor Tom) **no later than next Sunday morning, March 28.**

We are in need of two Voting Members – a man and a woman who must both be voting members of the congregational family, confirmed, contributing, and communing – to join with Pastor Tom in taking part in our Annual Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly, taking place on Friday evening, June 4, and Saturday, June 5. For the first (and most likely last) time, the Assembly will take place only virtually, probably on the Zoom platform. The only other requirement for those participating is that they will each need to have two Zoom-compatible devices available to them – one with a suitable screen to allow for viewing and hearing everything that is taking place and the other, such as a smart phone, to be used as a dedicated voting device. Since we will all be Zooming from the comfort of our own locations, please take note of the opportunity presented to multi-task (not to mention attend in your jammies!) such as has never been the case before and likely never will be again. To take advantage of less expensive “early bird” registration – paid for by our congregational family – Voting Members are needed by Pastor Tom by Thursday, April 15.

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.

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!

If you are not yet ready to take part in 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

- **Marie Farner** – Discharged from Harrisburg on 3/15
- **Warren Hassinger** – Rm. #101 – Connections Unit, Providence Place of Pottsville, 2200 First Avenue, Pottsville, 17901
- **Lorraine Heninger** – Rm. #133, 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. #211, Premier at Susquehanna, Millersburg, 17061
- **Lois Watson** – Continuing Her Recovery at Home with Visiting Therapists and Other Caregivers

Our Faith Active in Worship – March 14, 2021

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,545
Current – Offerings Received	\$2,875
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$87
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$36
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$191
Total Attendance	Zoom – 61, In-Person – 31

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