

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, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: AMEN.

P: Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

(brief silence follows)

P: God of grace and glory,

C: YOU HAVE BROUGHT US THROUGH THE NIGHT OF SIN INTO THE LIGHT OF JESUS' RESURRECTION. YET OUR LIVES ARE STILL SHADOWED BY SIN. MAKE US ALIVE IN CHRIST, O GOD. MAKE US NEW AS YOU MAKE ALL THINGS NEW. RESCUE US FROM EVIL AND THE GLOOM OF SIN, RENEW US IN GRACE, AND RESTORE US TO LIVING IN YOUR HOLINESS, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR RISEN LORD. AMEN.

P: Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves us and frees us from our sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

C: AMEN.

Opening Hymn #377 "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!"

Greeting:

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

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: Acts 11:1-18

Psalm: 148

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Gospel: John 13:31-35

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

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings and Musical 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: The blessing of the Lord God Almighty, the blessing of Christ, the Lamb who was slain, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth be among us and remain with us always.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn #449 "We Know That Christ Is Raised"

Dismissal:

P: Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news

C: WE WILL. THANKS BE TO GOD. ALLELUIA!

Organ Postlude and Silent Prayer

Looking Ahead

On Tuesday, May 24, beginning at 5:30 P.M., we will have a combined first work night to begin getting the pavilion cleaned up and ready for the Annual Strawberry Festival and church outside property work night. As we have done successfully now for several years, we are again putting what had in past years been two annual work nights together into one slightly longer evening, but lots of help will be needed! Please come and help, and please bring along your favorite cleaning supplies and yard tools.

On Thursday evening, May 26, for the first time in three years, we will once again gather in person at 7:00 P.M. for a Liturgy of Holy Communion, in observance of The Ascension of Our Lord. This festival, coming on the 40th day of the Easter season, recalls the end of the 40 days of appearances of the Risen Jesus to his disciples, and his ascension into heaven. ***Worship will be held in the pavilion, weather permitting, and will not be available on Zoom. In the event of a forecast of storms, Pastor Tom may make the decision to cancel this worship the day before and will publicize it accordingly.***

On Sunday, May 29, we will once again switch to our **summer schedule** of 1. **Adult Sunday Bible Study at 8:45 A.M.**, ending by about 9:15 and 2. **Worship at 9:30 A.M.**, ending promptly by 10:30 so that everyone can get on to those reunions and other summer Sunday plans. Again, this summer, beginning on May 29, we will also hold our weekly **SONDay Celebration with Miss Laurie** while worship is going on, **at 9:30.**

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

Organist

Amy Gehring

Lector

Roy Henry

Council President

For the month of May, our **Celebrate** lectionary bulletin inserts are sponsored by Tim & Lori Motter in honor of the marriage of their daughter Shannon Motter to Aaron Troutman on May 14, 2022. Our support of **Tree 4 Hope** is sponsored by Chris & Dana Klouser in Honor of our Risen Savior in joyful anticipation of the birth of our grandson, Cooper, later this month. The support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** is sponsored by Dale and Carol Hassinger for the Glory of God and the Founding Fathers that provided stability to enable us to continue our works of the church.

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!

Today, Sunday, May 15

Deadline to Submit Items for June "St. John's Epistle"

9am Adult Bible Study (On Zoom)

9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person) – Masking and safe distancing are required for everyone present – both adults and young persons – to do our best to protect our (unvaccinated per current guidelines) younger congregational family members!

9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)

9am Youth Group Bible Time (In-Person)

10:15am Worship, Including Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Sunny Sermon and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person (In-Person and On Zoom) – In keeping with the most recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for Dauphin County, masks are no longer required for anyone gathering upstairs for worship, but they remain an option for everyone.

11:15am **Here Comes Summer 'Dog Dayz' Family Fun Time!** (The dog days of summer are just around the corner – please plan to stay after worship as we kick things off. There will be hot DOGS and s'mores by the fire; Mongrel Madness with BW the Hound Dog; and lots of other canine capers! Bring your lawn chair for a DOGGONE good time! Thanks to the Women of the ELCA of St. John and Miss Laurie for organizing this event!!)

This morning we have the honor of welcoming **Kyrah Elaine-Marie Gessner** into the Kingdom of God and the St. John Congregational Family in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We pray that God will grant her parents, **Miana & Matthew**, her sponsors, her other family members and congregational family members the strength and grace to be faithful to the promises they and we all make here this morning!

Monday, May 16

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

Tuesday, May 17

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

6:15pm Meeting of Worship & Music Committee

Wednesday, May 18

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

6:30-7:30pm Midweek Bible Study

7:30pm Third and Scheduled Final Planning Meeting for our Annual Strawberry Festival – all interested folks are invited to attend and be a part of the committee!

Thursday, May 19

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Friday, May 20

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

Saturday, May 21

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, May 22

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9am Adult Bible Study (On Zoom)

9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person) – Masking and safe distancing are required for everyone present – both adults and young persons – to do our best to protect our (unvaccinated per current guidelines) younger congregational family members!

9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)

9am Youth Group Bible Time (In-Person)

10:15am **OUTDOOR WORSHIP IN THE PAVILION**, Including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person (In-Person and On Zoom) – In keeping with the most recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for Dauphin County, masks are no longer required for anyone gathering upstairs for worship, but they remain an option for everyone. **We will have approximately 100 well-spaced metal chairs set up in advance, but anyone who would prefer to do so is also welcome to bring along their own camp chairs to create their own seating.**

6pm Congregational Council Meeting

At a Special Congregational Meeting held following worship on Sunday, May 1, the **St. John Restoration 250** project was approved by a vote of **71-2**. Things to watch for next:

- The work is expected to begin on Monday, May 16 and take approximately 4 weeks (subject to any supply-chain issues encountered).
- This means that our worship will be outside in the pavilion through the duration of the project, beginning with Sunday, May 22 (and including our Ascension Day worship on Thursday evening, May 26).
- In the next few weeks, all congregational family member households will be receiving a USPS mailing concerning how to make a pledge/contribution toward the project. With advance gifts and major pledges already received and with interest from our Memorials Fund approved for use for the project, we will be seeking approximately **\$65,000** in additional gifts/pledges over a two-year period to fully fund the \$220,000 project.
- This \$65,000 in additional funding will allow us to hold back a \$100,000 reserve in our Memorials Account interest, a portion of which will be used to fund our steeple base roof replacement just as soon as a best plan/contractor/price can be obtained and presented to the congregational family for approval in a future special congregational meeting.

As approved by Congregational Council, our St. John's Congregational Family will be supporting **Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center and Family Support System's** annual **Baby Bottle Campaign** this year by placing a large baby bottle in the foyer on Sunday mornings for cash donations, spare change, and checks during the month of May. **Lifeline** is a local organization located in Millersburg to help individuals and couples cope with the challenges of unplanned pregnancies and parenting responsibilities free of charge. (To place a gift in the baby bottle at some time other than on Sunday morning, please check with Pastor Tom.)

Jammin' with the Ladies!

This year as we prepare for the Strawberry Festival, the Women's group again are having an area for "Jammin' with the Ladies". We will have jams and jellies as well as the home-made breads. If anyone wants to help with items needed: Sugar, Sure Jell, Jars and lids, or financial help please contact Fay Nichols

If you are not currently comfortable taking 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.

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 by **Larry Gessner**. Thank you!

If you are an Amazon.com shopper, our congregation is registered with the "Amazon Smiles" program, whereby Amazon donates one half of one percent of your purchase amount to a charitable organization that you select. Please note that, to qualify, your purchase has to be made through the "smile" side of things, to which you will find a very easily identifiable link from the main part of the Amazon.com website. (Once there, it can be a bit tricky to pick out our congregational name from all of the "St. John's" – look for **St John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Berrysburg, PA**. Once you have selected us the first time, we will automatically be designated each time you shop and you won't need to re-do the search.) All monies received in this way will be automatically deposited for use in the Current Fund.

Our Faith Active in Worship – May 8, 2022

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,606
Current – Offerings Received	\$2,516
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$30
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$20
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$165
Total Attendance	Zoom – 32, In Person – 51

Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **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
- **Marzette Hoffman** – Rm. #805, Northern Dauphin Nursing and Rehab. Center
- **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)
- **Ken Nace** – At Home, with Important Upcoming 5/31 Appointment
- **Donna Rabenold** – At Home, Healing from Cancer Surgery
- **Dianne Schell** – Discharged from UPMC Harrisburg on 5/6