

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
Courtney Foreman	Holy Communion Assistant
Delmar and Ginny Enders	Altar Guild Preparation
Ty Troutman	Senior Choir Director
Larry and Karen Gehring	Greeters
Amy Gehring	Lector
Grayson Foreman and Derrick Henry	Acolytes
Michael Henninger	Lead Usher
Joshua Paul	Council President

For the month of May, our support of the **Celebrate Insert** is sponsored by Lynn and Helen Henninger to celebrate and thank all the young people who serve as acolytes. **Tree 4 Hope** and our 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.

The **Altar flowers** are sponsored by Amber and Aaron Schreffler in honor of our wonderful Lord!

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book in the foyer. As we celebrate our Lord's Supper, we welcome to our table all baptized Christians who have received the sacrament in their home congregations. All persons who do not yet commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. 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

Pg. 94-96

Opening Hymn #800 "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"

*Apostolic Greeting

Pg. 203

*Kyrie (sung in unison)

Pg. 203

*Hymn of Praise: "Come, let us join..." (sung in unison)

Pg. 204

Prayer of the Day

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Psalm: 104:24-35

Second Reading: I Corinthians 12:3b-13

*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: John 20:19-23

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

*Nicene Creed

Pg. 104

*Prayers of the Church

Musical Anthem by Senior Choir

*Offertory Hymn (#182) (sung as gifts are brought forward):

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL LORD, AND FILL TO THE BRIM OUR CUP OF BLESSING. GATHER A HARVEST FROM THE SEEDS THAT WERE SOWN, THAT WE MAY BE FED WITH THE BREAD OF LIFE. GATHER THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF ALL; UNITE THEM WITH THE PRAYERS WE OFFER NOW. GRACE OUR TABLE WITH YOUR PRESENCE AND GIVE US A FORETASTE OF THE FEAST TO COME.

*Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray... our Savior and Lord. All: **AMEN.**

We Share in God's Supper

*Great Thanksgiving (spoken):

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.**

P: ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*We Respond in Praise (sung in unison):

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAV'N AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. (Pg. 207)

*Eucharistic Prayer:

P: ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All Sing: **CHRIST HAS DIED. CHRIST IS RISEN. CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN. (Pg. 207)**

P: ...be all honor and glory in your Holy Church, now and forever.

All Sing: **AMEN, AMEN, AMEN. (Pg. 207)**

*Our Lord's Prayer – traditional version on right Pg. 208

We Partake of Our Lord's Supper (As we share in the sacrament, please join in singing the praise song "O Lamb of God" on Pg. 208)

*Post Communion Blessing:

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

All: **AMEN**

God Sends Us to Share the Good News

*Post Communion Hymn (#204) (sung):

THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE; TELL EVERYONE WHAT GOD HAS DONE. LET ALL WHO SEEK THE LORD REJOICE AND BEAR CHRIST'S HOLY NAME. SEND US WITH YOUR PROMISES AND LEAD YOUR PEOPLE FORTH IN JOY WITH SHOUTS OF THANKSGIVING. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

*Post Communion Prayer:

P: Let us pray... Christ our Lord.

All: **AMEN**

*Blessing and Dismissal:

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

All: **AMEN**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

*Closing Hymn #400 "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"

*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

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* Please stand, if able to do so.

**THE GERANIUMS HAVE BEEN PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY
BY THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE**

Fay Nichols

In loving memory of my husband

Gail Billow and Holly & Corey Scheib

In loving memory of Duane Billow and Warren & Betty Hassinger

Gail Billow

For the many blessings of my grandchildren,

Granger and Bristol Scheib

Mike & Carol Hubler

*In memory of June & George Hubler, Mikes parents
and Ester & Dave Kauffman, Carol's parents*

Judy & John Ferree

*In honor of Carol Hassinger's 80th birthday and
Judy's parents, Carol and Dale Hassinger
In memory of John's parents, Elsie and Daniel Ferree*

Kim & Barry Williard Jr.

*In honor of Matt, Olivia & Madeline
In honor of Courtney, Rob & Grayson
In honor of Barb & Barry Williard
In honor of the amazing "Blanket Bunch Ladies"
In memory of Paul & Lovel Welker*

Dale & Carol Hassinger

In honor of our family and its many blessings

Shannon & Aaron Troutman

For the many blessings of our loving and supportive church family

Bob & Faye Weaver

*In honor and glory of our Risen Savior
For all the blessings bestowed upon our family*

Today, Sunday, May 28

8:45am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9:30am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
9:30am Worship, Including Sacrament of Holy Communion (In-Person and On Zoom)
10:30am Brief St. John Choir Rehearsal

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day (Observed)
Pastor Tom Taking Monthly Extra Day Off – No Planned Office Hours

Tuesday, May 30

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

Wednesday, May 31

Visit of Mary to Elizabeth
8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Thursday, June 1

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Friday, June 2

8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
Evening – Sandra Lamenza and Pastor Tom Attending Lower Susquehanna Synod
Assembly on Zoom

Saturday, June 3

8am Food Preparation for Annual Strawberry Festival
All Day – Sandra Lamenza and Pastor Tom Attending Annual Lower Susquehanna Synod
Assembly at Trinity Lutheran, Camp Hill

Next Sunday, June 4

The Holy Trinity
8:45am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9:15am Congregational Council Gathers to Prepare for Worship
9:30am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
9:30am Worship, Including Sacrament of Holy Communion and Rite of Confirmation
(In-Person and On Zoom)

Next Sunday, we will have the honor of celebrating with **Cole Roadcap** and his family
as he makes affirmation of his baptism and is confirmed!

Looking Ahead

Please see Pastor Tom's letter on the front of the June **St. John's Epistle** or his recent
congregational emails for complete details on days and times of preparation for and
serving of our Annual Strawberry Festival next week. The big day, of course, is
Wednesday, June 7 – the first Wednesday of the month!

For All Congregational Family Members Planning on Purchasing Whole Strawberry

Pies: If at all possible, please plan to pick up and pay for your pie(s) on the evening of Tuesday, June 6, at the pavilion kitchen. The cost will again be \$10 per pie and exact change would be very helpful. (The goal here is to make sure that everyone from the congregational family gets the pies they want and also to help avoid the confusion that has resulted in the past with “congregational” pies being reserved and put aside in the cooler during the chaos of Festival Day.)

Publicity posters for the Strawberry Festival are available for picking up on the shelf underneath the new cross in the foyer.

For Strawberry Festival donations again this year, we are simply requesting monetary donations for all items. This is because the different committees who are responsible for the preparation of various food items for June 7 can make much more cost-effective purchases by buying supplies in bulk, often at wholesale outlets, allowing us all to be the best possible stewards of everyone’s time and hard-earned money. Therefore, please see the sign-up sheet posted on the foyer bulletin board, where the approximate prices of different items are listed, and consider taking the amount of money that you might have used in the past to go shopping for Festival items, placing it in a plain envelope showing your name and offering envelope number – checks payable to “St. John Bicentennial Fund” please – and dropping it in the offering plate or passing it along to Lynn Henninger or Jeff Lehman or Pastor Tom – by June 4 if possible.

If you’ve ever thought you’d like to give a tug on the bell rope just to see what happens, here is your chance! Congregational Council and Pastor Tom are looking for three or four persons who would be willing to serve as a part of a bell ringing team. Our Lead Ushers, who have been designated as the persons to ring the bell each Sunday 15 minutes before the start of worship, have been finding that it is tough to both be upstairs doing their work and then also remember to get back downstairs at the appointed time. So, folks who would be willing to serve as part of a monthly rotation of bell ringers, to be coordinated by **Jeff Lehman**, are needed. “Training” will be provided and your help will be much appreciated! Please speak with Jeff or with Pastor Tom if interested.

For the month of June, sponsors are still needed (signup sheet temporarily on the table outside of Pastor Tom’s office) for our monthly ministry support of **Tree 4 Hope** (\$50/month). 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.

Amy Gehring continues to collect donations to Bethesda Mobile Mission. Gently used, unstained, clean blankets and casual clothing for MEN & WOMEN are always a need since the homeless do not typically have the ability to launder items. Sleeping bags, tarps, mats, backpacks/large totes or bags are also useful. New underwear, socks, batteries (all sizes), toilet paper, candles, and matches are highly valued. Those served by the Bethesda Mobile Mission also need TRAVEL SIZE toiletries—don’t leave those small bottles behind when you are traveling. Pass them along to Amy. Please contact Amy at church with any questions or call her at 1-717-503-7623. Donations can be placed in the designated hampers in the foyer.

Our Faith Active in Worship – May 21, 2023

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,796
Current – Offerings Received	\$3,118
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$192
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$30
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$230
Total Attendance	Zoom –20, In Person – 73

“St John’s Restoration 250” Financial Update – As of May 21, 2023

Final Total Project Cost (under \$220,000 Budgeted)	\$216,795
Memorials Interest Money Expended for Project	\$82,880
	(under \$88,000 Budgeted)
Total Financial Gifts Received	\$122,555
Total Financial Gifts Pledged, Not Yet Received	\$11,360

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
- **Jordan Dresel** – Discharged from UPMC Harrisburg on 5/23
- **Timothy Enders** – Rm. #120, 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, Viva Senior Living at Harrisburg, 150 Kempton Avenue, Harrisburg, 17111 (717.909.0417)
- **Marie Parnell** – Continuing Healing at the Home of Her Niece, Jane Schader (200 West Broad St., PO Box 164, Elizabethville, 17023)
- **Carrie Schlegel** – Discharged from Penn State Hershey Medical Center on 5/23
- **Steven Schlegel** – Scheduled for 6/9 Surgery at Penn State Hershey Medical Center
- **Jean & Fred Weaver** – In Need of Prayer