

## 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 calls us beloved children, who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

C: **AMEN.**

P: Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(brief silence follows)*

P: Faithful and just God,

C: **WE CONFESS THAT WE ARE CAPTIVE TO DOUBT AND FEAR, BOUND BY THE WAYS THAT LEAD TO DEATH. WE HAVE NOT LOVED OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS AS YOU HAVE FIRST LOVED US. FORGIVE US, GOD OF MERCY. LET YOUR HOLY SPIRIT WORK IN US TO CHANGE OUR LIVES AND MAKE US NEW, THAT WE MAY KNOW THE ABUNDANT LIFE GIVEN IN JESUS CHRIST, OUR RISEN LORD. AMEN.**

P: In this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, I announce to you that our sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill us with joy, and inspire us to live for others.

C: **AMEN.**

Opening Hymn #377 "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!" (softly singing entire song)

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 8:26-40

Psalm: 22:25-31

Second Reading: I John 4:7-21

Gospel: John 15:1-8

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 – Apostles' Creed:

**I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.**

**I BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, GOD'S ONLY SON, OUR LORD, WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE, WAS CRUCIFIED, DIED, AND WAS BURIED; HE DESCENDED TO THE DEAD. ON THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN; HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, HE IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER, AND HE WILL COME TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND DEAD.**

**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. AMEN.**

Organ Anthem

Prayers

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

Benediction:

P: Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus from death, lift us up and restore us to wholeness.

C: **AMEN**

P: Jesus Christ, the Word of life, bless us and send us to be his witnesses.

C: **AMEN**

P: God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth, refresh us in the gift of baptism this day and always.

C: **AMEN**

Closing Hymn #449 "We Know That Christ Is Raised" (softly singing entire song)

Dismissal:

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

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

Organ Postlude and Silent Prayer

# Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Berrysburg, PA

717-362-9519

[stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com](mailto:stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com) | [www.stjohnhillchurch.org](http://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

Amy Gehring

Lector

Roy Henry

Council President

For the month of May, our **Celebrate** lectionary bulletin, **Tree 4 Hope** and 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 in thanksgiving for all our blessings. For good health, for family and friends.

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### Today, Sunday, May 2

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 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.)

### Monday, May 3

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

### Tuesday, May 4

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

### Wednesday, May 5

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

6:30-8pm Midweek Bible Study (On Zoom)

6:30-8pm **Celebration Club** with Miss Laurie – In-person at the Church

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, May 6

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

6-7:30pm Weekly Zoom Fellowship Time (***Think of it as the Zoom version of our sextons unlocking the front door of the church, turning on the lights, and turning up the heat for anyone who might wish to stop in for any or all of that time. Roy and Rachel Henry will simply create a weekly recurring Zoom event which will automatically begin at 6:00pm and end at 7:30pm, but no actual host will be needed and they themselves will likely not be able to be present due to family schedules. Likewise, Pastor Tom will typically not be present and there will be no agenda or theme – simply a “space” to come together and visit and catch up for whomever might wish to do so. It is an experiment for this time until the “new normal” when we anticipate returning to all of the various in-person things much as we knew them pre-pandemic.***)

### Friday, May 7

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

### Saturday, May 8

Pastor Tom Taking Weekly Day Off

### Next Sunday, May 9

Sixth Sunday of Easter

***Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East***

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 Sunny Sermon with Miss Laurie (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

### **You are invited to our Book Discussion on Zoom!**

We continue our monthly times of reading and sharing via Zoom. Next up:

**Monday, May 10, 7:00 P.M**

**Small Victories by Anne Lamott**

**Monday, June 7, 7:00 P.M.**

**The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison**

Everyone is welcome, so if you would like to participate and haven't joined in before, you can borrow a physical or e-copy of the current book at your local library or pick up a copy at church - on the bench under the bulletin board in the foyer, just inside the main doors. Please let Ann know if we run out of books, and she will locate more. Questions? Call or email Ann at 717-362-7895 or [rahbruner@gmail.com](mailto:rahbruner@gmail.com).

After missing a year in 2020, we will once again be gathering for worship on the evening of **Ascension of Our Lord, Thursday, May 13, at 7:00**. Please note that this worship will take place on Zoom only and so our annual Blessing of Seed & Soil will accordingly be adapted. We will use the same Zoom contact information as on Sunday mornings.

Saturday, May 15, will be the deadline for submitting items for inclusion in the June **St. John's Epistle**.

**The next Drive-Through Holy Communion with Pastor Tom and Miss Laurie will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, May 16, at the Church.**

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The church desktop computer (everything except the printer) is available for free to a good home. To turn it on and/or take a look at it, please stop in to the Sunday School Room (just outside of Pastor Tom's office). To learn more about its specifics, please contact Larry Gessner (717.362.3122).

To make sure that our blessed prayer shawls get to as many folks in need of God's healing touch as possible, it is now possible for anyone from the St. John congregational family to deliver a prayer shawl to a person who is known to them to be hurting in body, mind, and/or spirit, and who would be blessed by receiving one of our shawls. To obtain a shawl, please first contact Pastor Tom, who will help you with the process. ***(Please bear in mind that it is the intention of the prayer shawl ministry that each person receive just one shawl "for life", to be used in whatever time(s) of brokenness they may face.)***

Please see the bright blue container at the computer desk in the Sunday School Room to recycle your AA, AAA, C, D, 9-Volt and Button Cell batteries in Alkaline, NiMH, NiCAD, Zinc Air and Non-Lithium types, 9 volts and below. All batteries must be dry cell only, and they cannot be leaking or have broken cases. Through the efforts of Larry Gessner, batteries that are in especially good condition are being recharged and donated to Bethesda Mission, while all others for recycling are delivered to Dauphin County Recycling in Harrisburg.

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!

The Youth Group continues to collect aluminum – aluminum only, please – on the lower level of the barn, facing toward Elizabethville. Please place your aluminum in the barrel outside of the door. Thank you for your help with this major fundraiser for our youth and help for our environment!

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

- **Paul Glace** – Discharged from Johns Hopkins Hospital on 4/26
- **Jane Grosser** – Harrisburg, Rm #410
- **Marlin "Turtle" Grosser** – Harrisburg, Rm #421
- **Warren Hassinger** – Rm. #101 – Connections Unit, Providence Place of Pottsville, 2200 First Avenue, Pottsville, 17901
- **Lorraine Henninger** – 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. #416, Premier at Susquehanna, Millersburg, 17061
- **Robert Schaffer** – Harrisburg Rm #504
- **Lois Watson** – Continuing Her Recovery at Home with Visiting Therapists and Other Caregivers

## Our Faith Active in Worship – April 25, 2021

<b>Current – Budget Goal</b>	<b>\$2,545</b>
Current – Offerings Received	\$1,548
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$190
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$35
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$240
Total Attendance	<b>Zoom – 41, In Person – 31</b>

### 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. Todd Peters\* (Chief Medical Officer in Baltimore, MD)
- Joshua Peters, PA-C (Serving in Colorado)
- Dr. Alayna Peters (Doctor of Pharmacy in Hagerstown, MD)
- Courtney Peifer\*, Psych Technician
- Sara Paul, Family Practice Center Medical Receptionist
- Bobby Paul, BS
- Angela Paul, PTA
- Cindy Nicholson\*, RN
- Whitney Ney, RN
- Haley Nestor\*, BSN, RN
- Shannon Motter, RN
- Courtney Miller, B.S. R.T(R)(CT)
- Roni Mace, RN
- Heidi Lehman, RT (R)
- Shawnita Latsha, RT (RDMS, RVT)
- Rose Kell, MS (Occupational Therapist in California)
- 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, CNA
- 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)
- Chelsea Beard, EFDA

\* denotes someone who is a part of our extended congregational family

Updated 4/21/21