

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 #367 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" (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 10:44-48

Psalm: 98

Second Reading: I John 5:1-6

Gospel: John 15:9-17

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

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*

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 #836 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" (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 | 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.

Today, Sunday, May 9

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

9:00am 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.)

Monday, May 10

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

7pm **You are invited to our Book Discussion on Zoom!** Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't been able to read this month's topic: **Small Victories** by Anne Lamott. (And coming up next on Monday, June 7, also at 7:00pm, will be **The Bluest Eye** by Toni Morrison. 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.)

Tuesday, May 11

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

Wednesday, May 12

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

6:30-8pm Midweek Bible Study (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, May 13

Ascension of Our Lord

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

7pm Festival Day Worship on Zoom Only (using the regular Sunday morning Zoom log-in/call-in information)

Friday, May 14

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

Saturday, May 15

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

Pastor Tom Taking Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, May 16

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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***) (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

4pm Congregational Council Meeting (On Zoom)

6-7:30pm Youth Group Gathering In-Person at the Church

Looking Ahead

Worship & Music Committee will gather on Zoom on Tuesday, May 18, beginning at 6:15 P.M.

* * * * *

On Tuesday, May 25, 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 did successfully prior to last year, 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 tools.

Immediately following worship on May 2, a combined Property Committee/Congregational Council meeting gave the go-ahead to a proposal from Shady Lane Curtains, LLC of Bird-In-Hand to replace our pavilion's three curtains (north, east, and south sides) with new, motorized curtains, each of which contains a "window" strip of clear siding which will allow for a much brighter experience for anyone gathered in the pavilion with the curtains lowered. This will also allow us to combine what have been two smaller curtains on the east side (since our expansion of the pavilion years ago) into a single and more solid curtain. The total cost of \$9,011 will be financed through the Strawberry Festival/Bicentennial Fund, as have many such improvements in the pavilion which directly benefit our Annual Strawberry Festival, but the hope is to receive special donations of half or more of the cost. If you would like to make a gift, please place your check (payable to **St. John Bicentennial Fund** and indicating "Curtain Project" on the memo line) in a plain envelope marked with the notation "Curtain Project" and your offering envelope number and drop it in the offering plate at the top of the stairs on Sunday morning or route it to church by any of the alternate means listed below. By moving quickly, we were able to take advantage of almost \$900 in discounts for ordering during what is traditionally Shady Lane's less busy season, and we will be able to have the work done prior to our June 9 Drive-Through Strawberry Festival.

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).

If you are an Amazon.com shopper, perhaps especially in this time of pandemic, 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.

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.

* * * * *

Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **Jane Grosser** – Rm. #206, Premier at Susquehanna, Millersburg, 17061
- **Marlin "Turtle" Grosser** – Discharged from Harrisburg on 4/29
- **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** – Discharged from Harrisburg on 4/30
- **Lois Watson** – Continuing Her Recovery at Home with Visiting Therapists and Other Caregivers

Our Faith Active in Worship – May 2, 2021

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,545
Current – Offerings Received	\$3,081
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$571
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$112
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$336
Total Attendance	Zoom – 39, In Person – 55

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