

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

911 Emergency/GPS Location:

215 St. John Road, Elizabethtown, 17023

For US Mail Deliveries:

PO Box 270, Berrysburg, 17005-0270

717-362-9519

pt@stjohnhillchurch.org | 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

Carol Hubler

Pianist

Ty Troutman

Senior Choir Director

Courtney Foreman

Lead Usher

Olivia and Madeline Williard

Greeters

Abby and AJ Adams

Acolytes

Women of St. John's

Lectors

Joshua Paul

Council President

For the month of November, the ***Celebrate Insert*** and the support of one pastor for one month in the ***Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania*** are presented by Dennis and Mary Ann Smeltz. ***Tree 4 Hope*** is presented by Dana Klouser.

This week's ***Altar Flowers*** are presented in honor of Donna Rabenold's birthday by Tom.

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!

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Organ Prelude and Silent Prayer

Greeting:

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.**

Gathering Song: Women of St. John's, Hymn WOV #760 "For the Fruit of All Creation"

*Prayer of the Day

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: 1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalms: 107: 1-9, 43: Please respond responsively

P: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

C: **Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**

P: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

C: **Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.**

P: Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

C: **For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.**

P: Let those who are wise give heed to these things, and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

*Gospel: Matthew 26: 6-13

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

Hymn of the Day: Hymn #840 "Now Thank We All Our God"

Offering of Our Gifts and Choir Anthem

*Offering Prayer

*Prayers of Intercession: Please respond after God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

*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: God has filled the hungry and thirst with good things:

C: **LET US GIVE THANKS TO GOD, FOR GOD'S MERCY ENDURES FOREVER!**

P: God has done wonderful works for all people:

C: **LET US REJOICE IN GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE!**

P: God has looked upon us with grace and favor:

C: **LET US REMEMBER GOD'S MERCY!**

P: God has put into our hearts a song of thanksgiving and freedom:

C: **LET US JOIN OUR VOICES IN SINGING OUR PRAISE!**

P: The God of abundance, Creator, Redeemer, and Spirit, bless you and keep you,
now and forever.

C: **AMEN.**

*Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Live with gratitude

C: **THANKS BE TO GOD**

*Closing Hymn #838 "Beautiful Savior"

*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

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* Please stand, if able to do so.

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
- **Timothy Enders** – Rm. #120, The Gardens at York Terrace, 2401 W. Market St., Pottsville, 17901
- **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)
- **Scott Peters** – Discharged from Evangelical, Lewisburg, on 11/10
- **Dianne Schell** – Penn State Holy Spirit Medical Center, Acute ICU
- **Steven Schlegel** – Penn State Hershey Medical Center – Undergoing Inpatient Chemotherapy
- **Fred Weaver** – Rm. #103, Spring Creek Rehab. and Healthcare Center, 1205 S. 28th St., Harrisburg, 17111

Our Faith Active in Worship – November 12, 2023

Current – Approx. Budget Goal	\$2,796
Current – Offerings Received	\$2,047
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$136
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$51
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$181
Total Attendance	Zoom – 14, In Person – 83

Today, Sunday, November 19

- 9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
- 9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
- 9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
- 9am SONday Celebration (In-Person)
- 10:15am **Thankoffering Worship, Led by the Women of the ELCA of St. John,** Including Sunny Sermon and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)
- 6:30pm Care of Creation/Green Team Organizing Meeting in the Fellowship Hall ***(Would you like to join with others to share ideas and work on projects to care for God's world together? We want to revive the Green Team which was active for several years, and we'll learn about our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Creation Care resources. Everyone, of all ages, is invited to an initial meeting to share ideas and resources, and to consider a few initial projects. Two first projects will be to revive our recycling efforts at church and decide on a name for our team. If you have questions - or can't make it but have ideas to share -- please talk with Ann Bruner.)***

Monday, November 20

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
- 9-11am "Blanket Bunch" Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief
- 7pm Church Dartball League Match – Messiah Lutheran at St. John

Tuesday, November 21

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
- 6:15pm Worship & Music Committee Gathering at the Church
- 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 22

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Thursday, November 23

- Thanksgiving Day
- Pastor Tom Taking Monthly Extra Day Off

Friday, November 24

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

Saturday, November 25

- Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
- Jingle Elves Sing at Gratz Holiday Parade

Next Sunday, November 26

- Festival of Christ the King
- 9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
- 9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
- 9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
- 9am SONday Celebration (In-Person)
- 10:15am Worship, Including Sacrament of Holy Communion and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)

Looking Ahead

The Property Committee meeting listed on November 28 in the calendar in the current **St. John's Epistle** is an error on Pastor Tom's part (one of those times where it would be nice if the computer could read your mind and automatically do what you wanted it to do!). The next committee meeting will be as set at the last meeting – Tuesday, January 23, at 6:15 P.M. at the church.

The **Women of the ELCA of St. John** will be hosting an angel ornament craft on **November 30 from 6-8pm**. There is no cost to attend. Snacks and drinks will be provided. A sign-up sheet is posted on the foyer bulletin board. Please join us for this time of holiday fellowship!

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The 2024 schedule of Greeters will soon be prepared. If you would be interested in serving occasionally in this important ministry, please speak with Pastor Tom. Basically, this ministry involves arriving about 15-20 minutes prior to worship on a Sunday morning when scheduled and standing (or sitting if needed – no problem) just inside the main doors in the foyer to say a warm hello to those arriving for the morning. For those coming through the doors for the first time, a point in the right direction can also be a great help. No experience is required, and the Greeter(s) assigned on a given morning can be a single person, a couple, or an entire family as desired. And, if it turns out that you aren't able to serve on a scheduled date, you can simply switch with someone else on the schedule or, if it is at the last minute, simply let Pastor Tom know. Thank you for prayerfully considering this call to serve!

Please place your non-perishable food donations for the food pantry at the Upper Dauphin Human Services Center in Lykens on any shelf inside the north (right side, coming in the front doors) closet in the foyer, where the door is labelled accordingly. As the contributions add up, deliveries will be made to the pantry by **Larry Gessner**. Thank you!

St. John's Ornaments

The Youth Group is excited to offer the second ornament in the St. John's ornament collection. Again this year the ornament is \$15 and comes in its own gift box. They will be here before Christmas, so consider getting more than one to gift to children and grandchildren. This year's design depicts the beautiful prayer garden installed by Eagle Scout, Roy Henry, Junior.

This will be a short sale to be sure they arrive in time for Christmas. The last day to order is Sunday, November 26—please see any Youth Group Advisor to order and pay. Checks can be made to St. John's Youth Group. Please reach out to Amy at 717-503-7623 if you have any questions. A portion of the cost supports St. John's Youth Group, so thank you to all who already placed an order!

There is a small number of last year's ornament available. Please see Amy Gehring if you are interested.

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Berrysburg, PA**

**Poinsettia Sponsor Form 2023
Smucker Gardens**

Please consider sponsoring a Poinsettia to create our Christmas Poinsettia Tree. Our lovely tree will be on display Sunday, December 17th through our Christmas Eve Service, after which you can take your beautiful plants home to enjoy!

Colors: Burgundy or White 6 ½" Pot Price per plant: \$8.25

PREFERRED Burgundy - #: _____ PREFERRED White - #: _____

Total Number Ordered: _____ @ \$8.25 = \$_____ **Total Due**

Please print desired memorial as you want it printed in the bulletin:

Presented by: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

For the Many Blessings of:

Order forms, along with payment, can be given to any member of the Flower Committee: Fay Nichols, Gail Billow, Dana Klouser, or Sheila Barder

Absolute Last Day to Order – November 26, 2023

We Appreciate Your Support!