

Sunday Morning Liturgy

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Keyboard Prelude and Silent Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.

C: AMEN.

P: Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.

(brief silence follows)

P: God and Father of all,

C: WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED. WE HAVE THOUGHT BETTER OF OURSELVES THAN OTHERS. WE HAVE TOLD LIES, SAID HURTFUL THINGS, ACTED IN WAYS WE WISH WE COULD TAKE BACK, AND LOOKED THE OTHER WAY WHEN ACTION WAS NEEDED. IN YOUR MERCY, O GOD, FORGIVE US, CLEANSE US, AND HEAL US, FOR THE SAKE OF JESUS, OUR SAVIOR. AMEN.

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, we are a new creation: our sins are taken away and we are made new. Let us be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven us.

C: AMEN.

Opening Hymn **LBW** #425 "O God of Mercy, God of Light" (**softly singing entire song**)

Greeting:

P: The grace that is Christ's gift to us, the love of God, and the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace be with you all.

C: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Prayer of the Day

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Psalms: 15

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

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.

Prayers

God Sends Us to Share the Good News and We Share in God's Supper

Jesus' Words of Institution of Holy Communion:

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

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.

Blessing:

P: Almighty and merciful God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep us this day and forevermore.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn **LBW** #557 "Let All Things Now Living" (**softly singing entire song**)

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

C: WE WILL! THANKS BE TO GOD!

Keyboard Postlude and Silent Prayer

We Depart and Receive Jesus' Body and Blood

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
Vincent Lamenza	Lector
Roy Henry	Council President

For the month of September, our **Celebrate** lectionary bulletin is sponsored by Fred and Jean Weaver for good health and God's many blessings. **Tree 4 Hope** is sponsored by Joe and Arlene Doyle for God's many blessings and Support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese** of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania is sponsored by Chris and Dana Klouser in honor of a new school year – may all children feel safe, loved, and secure in God's embrace.

Today, Sunday, September 5

8:45am Adult Bible Study (On Zoom)
9:30am SONDay Celebration with Miss Laurie (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!
9:30am **OUTDOOR WORSHIP, Ending with "Drive Through" Holy Communion with Pastor Tom and Miss Laurie** (In-Person and On Zoom)

Monday, September 6

Labor Day
Pastor Tom Taking Monthly Extra Day Off – No Office Hours

Tuesday, September 7

8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
9:30am Pastor Tom at Conference Pastors Meeting

Wednesday, September 8

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours
6:30-8pm (Rescheduled) First Gathering of **Celebration Club with Miss Laurie** for a New Year (In-Person in Pavilion)
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, September 9

Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East
8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Friday, September 10

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

Saturday, September 11

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, September 12

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:45am Adult Bible Study (On Zoom)

9:30am

OUTDOOR WORSHIP – SONDAY CELEBRATION WORSHIP, with a Sunny Sermon by Miss Laurie, a **Knights of North Castle** VBS slideshow by Nicole Radel, and our **Annual Blessing of the Backpacks & Devices** led by Pastor Tom – for which all students – Preschool through Grade 12 – are asked to bring along their school backpacks (or devices) for a time of recognition, blessing, and prayer, as a new school year gets underway. (In-Person and On Zoom – **Everyone is encouraged to dress warmly and bring along a jacket for our outdoor gathering on this breezy hill!**)

10:30am

Departing for Annual Congregational Outing to Knoebel's (Everyone attending will gather in our reserved pavilion space, with their covered dish and container of drink for sharing to join in lunch together, followed by plenty of time for riding. Our younger members will have some ride tickets provided.)

7pm

Congregational Council Meeting (In-Person at the Church)

Looking Ahead

You are Invited to Book Discussion and Fellowship!

Monthly times of reading and sharing continue in the beauty of our pavilion. Next up:

Monday, September 13, 6:30pm - When Women Were Birds by Terry Tempest Williams

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.

Wednesday, September 15, will be the deadline to submit items for inclusion in our October **St. John's Epistle**.

As per our annual practice, on **Sunday, September 19**, we will return to our "rest of the year" Sunday morning schedule, but with a twist this year. Faith Formation activities for all ages will return to **9:00am**, including Adult Bible Study, Youth Group Bible Time, Confirmation Class, and SONday Celebration with Miss Laurie. And worship will follow at 10:15am, but outdoors in our beautiful pavilion, SO THAT we can go right to a **Welcome Back Picnic** immediately following the close of worship, hosted by Youth Group. Everything will be provided by Youth Group – all you need to bring is your appetite, for both great picnic food and great fellowship!

Your Chance to (Still) Give the Gift of Fun – and Support our Youth Group!

As we look forward to our congregational family outing to Knoebels on September 12, a reminder that Youth Group is still selling **\$20 books** of Knoebels ride tickets for just **\$18**, with all proceeds being used for the support support of Youth Group outings and the planned 2022 ELCA National Youth Gathering. Please speak with Advisor **Olivia Williard**. **And remember – even if you won't be able to make it on the 12th, one of the many things that we all love about Knoebels is that those ride tickets never expire – and it isn't too early to be working on those Christmas stocking stuffer gifts!!**

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!

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.

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 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.

Our Faith Active in Worship – August 29, 2021

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,545
Current – Offerings Received	\$2,950
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$278
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$46
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$151
Total Attendance	Zoom – 19, In Person – 104

Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **Louise Baumgardner** – Discharged from Penn State Hershey Medical Center on 8/31
- **Judy Cheatham** – UPMC Harrisburg, Rm. #591
- **Paul Glace** – Two Upcoming Procedures at Johns Hopkins with Dates TBD – Installation of a Pacemaker/Defibrillator and Heart Valve Replacement Surgery
- **Jane Grosser** – Rm. #705, Northern Dauphin Nursing and Rehab. Center, Millersburg, 17061
- **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. #805, Northern Dauphin Nursing & 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)
- **Lois Watson** – Continuing Her Recovery at Home

33rd Convention of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Women of the ELCA

On September 25, 2021, St. John's Women's Group will be hosting the **Annual Convention for the Lower Susquehanna Synod Women of the ELCA**.

If you are not planning to attend that doesn't mean you can't help! We would like to ask our congregation for help in attaining food items for our seminarians. We are collecting the following items:

- Cans of Chunky Soups (any kind)
- Cans of Tuna
- Cans of Chicken
- Gift Cards to be used for gas and prescriptions. Gift cards should come from Weis Market, Giant Stores, or Walmart.
- SPAM
- Cans of Salmon
- Cans of Mackerel
- Or any other meat items in a can

We will be collecting these items in the Conference Room near the window until September 22, 2021. Thank you for your help!

Medical Professionals in Our Praters 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**
- **Whitni 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)
- **Abigail Francisco*, RN**
- **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 8-23-21