

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street Sunday, June 9, 2024
Jersey Shore, PA 17740 3rd Sunday after Pentecost



INTRODUCTON *A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.*

PRELUDE

GATHERING SONG *God of Grace and God of Glory* 705

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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways when they differ from the ways

of the world in which we live.

We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Pass It On!*

Pass It On

from www.traditionalmusic.co.uk

It only takes a spark to get a fire going
And soon all those around can warm up to its glowing
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it;
You spread His love to everyone; you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it;
You want to sing it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you my friend this happiness that I've found
You can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound;
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know;
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know;
The Lord of love has come to me, I want - to pass - it on.

PRAYER OF THE DAY All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

L: A reading from Genesis.

First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.

⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate."¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L Let us read the Psalm responsively by verse

Psalm: Psalm 130

¹Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

²**O LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness,**

in order that you may be feared.

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,**

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel**

from all their sins.

L: A reading from Second Corinthians

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.

¹³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting

away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p.142

Alleluia, Lord, to who shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Mark.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.

[Jesus went home;] ²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly will stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Seek Ye First*

Verse 1

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you,
Allelu, alleluia.

Verse 2

Ask, and it shall be given unto you: seek and ye shall find.
Knock and it shall be opened unto you
Allelu, alleluia.

Verse 3

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia.

APOSTLES CREED (*p. 105 at the beginning of the hymnal*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

You reawaken our hearts to your mercy. We give you thanks for renewers of the church in every age (*especially Columba, Aiden, and Bede whom we commemorate today*). Enliven the creativity and persistence of all seeking to transform the church into a closer vision of your beloved community. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Your presence is revealed in the shade of trees, the growth of seeds into flowers, and in the blessing of plants granting food in their right season. Heal lands scarred by deforestation, pollution, or infestation. Teach us to cultivate the earth with respect and reverence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Our nations and communities are divided, O God. Teach us again to listen with curiosity and mercy, even in disagreement. Grant us the humility to acknowledge our hardness of heart and make us bold in modeling cooperation for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Hear the prayers of all who cry out to you from the depths of fear, despair, or hopelessness (*especially*). With haste, rescue victims of trafficking, exploitation, and abuse, and bless organizations and individuals who work on their behalf. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

C: Grant wisdom and clarity to all who are in seasons of discernment and transition: high school graduates preparing for first jobs or new educational journeys, those who are shifting careers, and those who are navigating changes in their relationships. Accompany them with your peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Lord of all creation, your church spreads beyond our doors, beyond our Synod, beyond our borders, around the globe. Bless Young Adults in Global Mission as they travel the world to accompany your church

in its various expressions on its mission for the gospel. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Praise to you for our ancestors in faith who believed, spoke, and lived in you (*especially*). Give us confidence that as Jesus was raised, so we too will be raised, with all the saints, into your everlasting presence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Once the Table is Prepare, the assembly will stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING P.144 (*in the beginning of the hymnal*)

Dialogue

Preface by the Pastor

Holy Holy Holy

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer p. 145

Invitation to Communion

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

Come!

The assembly is seated.

Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
 The body of Christ, given for you.
 The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond **Amen.**

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus, Remember Me*

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

The assembly stands.

Prayer after Communion

A: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table
 more than we could ever ask.
 As you have nourished us in this meal,
 now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
 In your name we pray. **Amen.**

Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys
 with us,
 † be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song: *Take My Life that I May Be* 685

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate at the front or rear of the church. We practice “open Communion” here at St. John meaning that all who believe in the “real presence” of Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring

grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving "The Body of Christ."

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Jim Allen, Connie Barker, Stella Barner, Danny Bennett, Maisy Boyles, Matteo Cooper, Agnes Cryder, Don Delaney, Helen Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Joanne Fisher, Dawn Fryer, Margaret Gohl, Dawn Hauser, Dean Hoffman, Lucille Jones, Myrtle Long, Mick Miller, Penny Parks-Dean, Cora Pelletier, Ben Saar, Pam Shuler, and all of our shut-ins.

We also remember in prayer Family Promise; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; Bishop Craig A. Miller - USS; for our Companion Synods in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany, and for peace in Ukraine and Israel.

We pray for the safety of **our military troops** around the world including Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jade Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Trevor and Nehemiah Eberhart, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O'Neal, Adam Shaffer, Jeremy and Haley Naugle Sorrell, Rich Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Kevin Titus, and Jenna White. We also lift up in prayer their families who strive to keep a normalcy in the family and continue on.

Special thanks to this week's helpers: Lector –Darlene Bilby; Assisting Ministers--Bill Ely, Ken Dougherty; Head Usher –Deb Heydrich; Teller–Gina Johnson; Bulletin Sponsor--Betty Allen.

Next weeks' helpers: Lector –Shane Snyder; Assisting Ministers -- Gary Johnson, Karen Aucker; Head Usher –Deb Heydrich; Teller– Gina Johnson; Bulletin Sponsor--Betty Allen; Flowers -- Betty Allen.

The **flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Rick Snyder on his birthday. Given with love and remembering and missing him always. Mom, Dad, and Shane.

The **Sanctuary Candle** in June is in honor of the children of St. Johns by Agnes Cryder.

This bulletin and more can be found on church site www.stjl.org

Vacation Bible School is coming July 14th – 18th, and is being held at the First Methodist Church from 6 pm to 8 pm. This year's theme is "*CELEBRATE the Savior, Jesus Gives Us Joy.*" VBS is open to all youth ages 3 years through 6th grade and is a joint effort with The First Methodist Church, Trinity United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church, and our church participating, but it's open to all youth in our community. We work together to make this a wonderful experience for all children, but it takes volunteers from all of the churches to have a successful program. I need a couple of adults and older youth from our church to help out where needed. If you are available, your help will be greatly appreciated. If you can't be there every night, we can still use your help, so please consider being part of this event. More information about registration will follow. Molly Hollick

Anyone interested in joining a **texting prayer chain** please text Christine Barner at 570-360-0178. This texting chain will send out the prayers that are received for the calling prayer chain. This chain is a one-way chain, please do not "reply" when you receive a message.

The Lutheran Church Women's **Prayer Chain** is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran. Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons

Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597 Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852.

Women of the Church has accepted a challenge to **collect new or gently worn shoes** for Missions. Please check your closets and bring the shoes in soon! Place them in the box near the elevator labeled for shoes.

Camp Mt Luther is having a Renovation Campaign. They will build a new bathroom facility and renovate Maple Hall. To complete this project, St Johns wants to contribute. Please place your donation in the envelope marked Camp Mt. Luther found near the bulletins at the entrances and place it in the offering plate. Checks should be made out to Camp Mt Luther. The bulletin board near the front entrance shows details of the renovation and many pictures of St John youth enjoying the camp!

Calendar

Sunday, June 9, 2024 9:30 Worship Service, 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Thursday, June 13, 2024 4:00 p.m. Pack Boxes

Friday, June 14, 2024 9:00- 1:00 p.m. Jersey Shore Care and Share Food Distribution

Sunday, Jun 16, 2024 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Saturday, June 22, 2024 Church Work Day at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 7, 2024 Worship at pavilion at Antes Forte followed by a picnic honoring fathers

Note a Change. The Church worship and Picnic has been moved from **June 30 to July 7** at the pavilion in Antes Fort at 9:30 am. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided to honor the Fathers and Sons in the congregation. The congregation is asked to bring a dish to share, your own tableware, and a folding chair on July 7

