

Welcome to Worship

at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
a reconciling in Christ congregation



Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 22, 2023

10:30 am

Pastor: The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles

Vicar: Vanessa Storlie

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

330 Ferry Street; Easton, PA 18042-4500

Phone: 610-258-6119

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www.stjohnseaston.org

Statement of Welcome

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.—Galatians 3:28

As a community of God striving to be open to all people, we at St. John's Lutheran Congregation believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We welcome all to join us as we struggle to better understand the mysteries of God's teachings. We are challenged by Christ to care for, to love, to understand, and to listen to each other, regardless of race, age, gender, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual/affectional orientation, national origin or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God's people. St. John's Lutheran Congregation is a place for each person to shine in their own unique gifts.

Statement of Mission

St. John's Lutheran Church is a downtown, community-oriented, congregation of Christians. We worship God, strive to welcome and wholly accept everyone, and reach out with and in God's love.

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Communion is a time we invite all baptized Christians who believe that our Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament. If this is your belief, there are instructions to follow at the time of Communion later in the bulletin.

Nursery – A staffed nursery person is available in the nursery following Children's Chat . . .

Service Notes – * (asterisk) indicates, please stand as you are able.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Announcements

Prelude *“Prelude In B Major, BWV 868”* by J.S. Bach

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: We confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Thus say our God: “The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God’s mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of + Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

*Gathering Hymn

ELW # 520 “*Dearest Jesus, at Your Word*”

*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.**

*Canticle of Praise

(verses 1&3)

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- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***Prayer of the Day**

A: Let us pray. Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Word

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

First Reading

Isaiah 9:1-4

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**⁴One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my
life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in
the temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary and raise me high
upon a rock.

**⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who
surround me.
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of
rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

**⁸My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in
anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O
God of my salvation.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be
no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind
and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s

people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

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Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Chat

Sermon: Vicar Vanessa Storlie

***Hymn of the Day –**

ELW # 798 *“Will You Come and Follow Me”*

***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 the 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 of Intercession**

A: Let us pray. Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships around the world. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless the ground that waits for spring and all who wait to work the land. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, or nourishment. Protect all facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely and all in need including those we mention on our prayer list, ... and those we name aloud or in our hearts...Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C: Amen.

*** The Sharing of the Peace**

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

(Ushers now proceed forward to receive the offering plates from the Altar and begin to pass them through the pews.)

Offertory *“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”*
Sung by the Wittenberg Choir

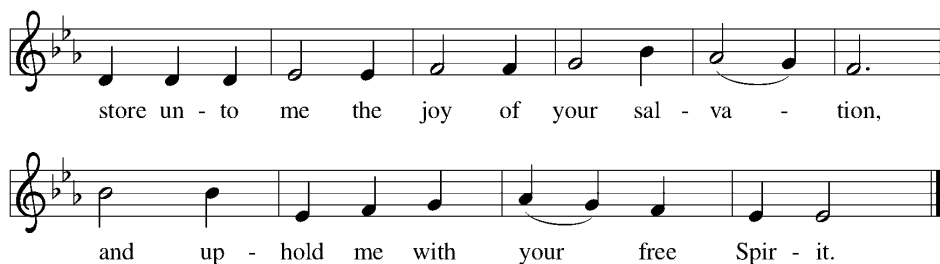
*Presentation of Gifts

(Ushers now bring the offering plates forward.)

*Offertory Hymn

ELW #188 *“Create in Me”*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -



store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

***Offertory Prayer**

A: Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen

***Great Thanksgiving**

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

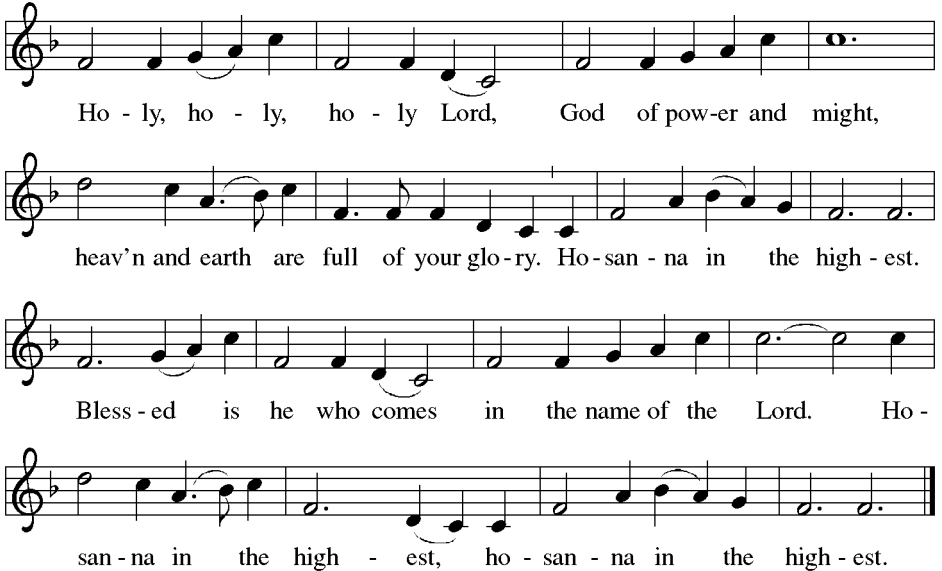
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Preface**

(Leader continues . . .)

*Holy, Holy, Holy

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Communion Form

(Leader continues . . .)

*Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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.

*Lamb of God

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1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Holy Communion - *If you are baptized and believe that it is the real blood and body of Christ, we welcome you at the Lord's table here at St. John's.*

**At the invitation of the usher, please proceed to the front to receive communion. Please remain at the front until the entire table has communed and you are dismissed.*

Communion is also available in your pew, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.

Communion Music—

ELW #481 *“Come to the Table”*

ELW #482 *“I Come with Joy”*

ELW #484 *“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”*

*Post Communion Canticle

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Now, Lord, you let your ser- vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

***Prayer after Communion**

A: Let us pray. Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

C: Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Blessing**

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod + bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

ELW #574 *“Here I Am, Lord”*

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Follow in the ways of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Team– Pastor Sue Ruggles / Vicar Vanessa Storlie

Ushers – Barbara Horinko / Dee Caul

Reader – Larry Transue

Altar Guild – Barbara Horinko / Sylvia Orem

This Week at St. John's: January 22nd – January 29th

Today (1/22/23) – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany, Worship 10:30 am

Monday (1/23/23) – Choir, 1:00 pm

Tuesday (1/24/23) Bible Study, 11:00 am –Hospitality Room,
“ZOOM” offered. (Call the office for link.)

Thursday (1/26/23) – Prayer Group, 9:30 am, Chapel

Friday (1/27/23) –Newsletter Folding, 9:30 am, Gallery

Sunday (1/29/23) –Sunday School Breakfast – 8:30 am
Classes: 9:00 am / Adult Forum: 9:00 am - Gallery

Sunday (1/29/23) –4th Sunday of Epiphany, Worship 10:30 am

Sunday (1/29/23) – Following Worship: Annual Meeting

Sunday (1/29/23) – Gallery Open 12:00-3:00 pm

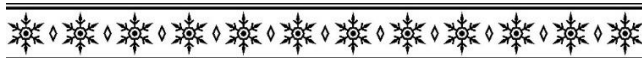
Annual Meeting, January 29th, 2023
– following Worship

Join us for this Important Event.

(Copies of the Annual Report are available in the Narthex.)

****Lunch will be provided by the Membership Committee; Side Dish & Dessert donations will be appreciated.***

Menu: Meatloaf & Macaroni & Cheese



*Allian Flowers are dedicated
to the Glory of God – by Monica Weiss-Nolen*



We are updating the Directory for 2023 . . .
If you have any changes, please notify
the Church Office.

Thank you!



Gallery News:

The Gallery is showcasing David Berkner, whose work depicts scenes from the Last Supper painted on refrigerator doors. The show "say Grace" opens TODAY.

Gallery Open: 12-3:00 pm

The Gallery is always looking for volunteers.
Please contact Charlie Hanson or Rhenmy Golab
if interested.

Fishers Of Men LUKE 5:1-11

D E N E T S I L C P C J Q K F T X
 T B W M Y T N D A F I G T U I O L
 S U O R E P E N T U L A E T S R U
 S H Z A N V L L C B B L A U H E Y
 T P O J T F X F H K F I C W E H J
 W C E R A T I U A H L L H O R T U
 L E D T E M Y S W T X E I L S O G
 C A R Y S D E E H N H E N L O R E
 O B D D W T B S V E J E G O F B N
 M Y F O N K O B K E R E R F M M N
 E K R R S A Y O K C I M S M E T E
 L C I N E O E I F A S L E U N X S
 L A E G A C N P N S S I E N S S A
 O W K O O G R M H T J S M B W T R
 S P K E D O E U O I P I Q O C E E
 O S H O P M D Z J N U A I A N N T
 Q I M S I N F U L G V G S J S O N

ANDREW	BELIEVE	BOAT	BROTHER
CASTING	CATCH	COME	CROWD
FATHER	FISHERMEN	FISHERS OF MEN	FOLLOW
FOOTSTEPS	GALILEE	GENNESARET	GOOD
JAMES	JESUS	JOHN	KINGDOM
LAKE	LISTENED	NETS	NEWS
REPENT	SEA	SHORE	SIMON
SINFUL	TEACHING		

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2. "I Come with Joy" (ELW #482, Text: Brian Wren © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Co.)
3. "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" (ELW #484, Text: Omer Westendorf; Music: Robert Kreutz; Text & music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia, admin. International Liturgy Publ.)
4. "Here I Am, Lord" (ELW #574, Text & Music: Daniel Schutte © 1981 OCP Publ, Inc.)

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We are a Praying Church !

Prayer Concerns: Bonita, Larry, Betty, Bonita, Chuck, Dennis, Julie, Clark, Renee and Family, Rosemary, Stella, Steve, Paul, Bill, Jeff, Danny, Lorraine, Bob, Eleanor, Nicole, Kirk, David, Gene, Hilda, Judy, Luis, Melissa, Tom, our Homebound Family and Friends, and the Family and Friends of Mary Remel.

If you have any prayer requests or needs, please let us know, and let us pray for you.

***We invite you to take this prayer list home and pray.**

**Prayer Requests can be added by contacting the church office at 610-258-6119 or email Admin@stjohnseaston.org, or by filling out a request from the pew cards.*

(Requested will be removed at the beginning of the following month unless notified.)

