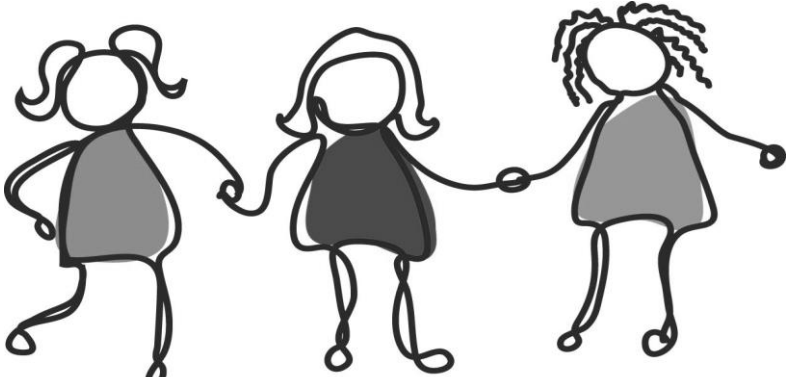


Welcome to Worship
at
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
a reconciling in Christ congregation



Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

10:30 am

Pastor: The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

330 Ferry Street; Easton, PA 18042-4500

Phone: 610-258-6119

E-mail: Admin@stjohnseaston.org

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.

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 . . .

Gathering

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

Announcements

Prelude “*Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies*” by J.G. Werner
(Tune: *Ratisbon* from *Choralbuch*, 1815)

***Confession and Forgiveness**

A: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

A: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

***Gathering Hymn** *(please use your hymnals, sing quietly)*

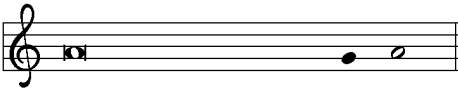
ELW # 452 **“Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death”**

***Greeting**

A: 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.**

***Kyrie** *(Congregation sing parts in bold . . .)* page 147



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



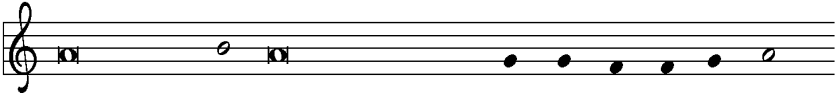
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men.**

*** Canticle of Praise**

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Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray. O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Word

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

First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from

Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

(please read responsively)

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,

⁶**who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

⁹mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²**young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and
heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise
for all faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near
the LORD. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

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*Gospel

John 13:31-35

A: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

A: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Chat

(young children may be dismissed to the nursery.)

Sermon: The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles

***Hymn of the Day** – *(please use your hymnals, sing quietly.)*

ELW # 377 ***“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”***

***Apostles Creed**

C: 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. Loving God, lead us to care for one another and follow your Spirit rather than our own prejudices or desires. Open us to see your gifts in those we least expect and be gracious to them. God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us. Urge your people to care for the world you have made. God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, rush to dwell among those who are in pain or distress. Be with those with the deepest suffering, those experiencing despair and great need including those we mention on our prayer list, . . . and those we name aloud or in our hearts . . . God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, Place love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to intolerance in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

A: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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 Come with Joy” by W. Walker
(from *Southern Harmony*, 1835)

*Presentation of Gifts

(Ushers now bring the offering plates forward.)

*Offertory Hymn

ELW #172 *“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”*

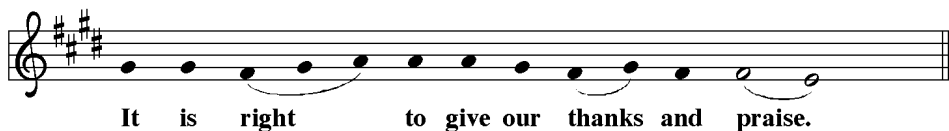
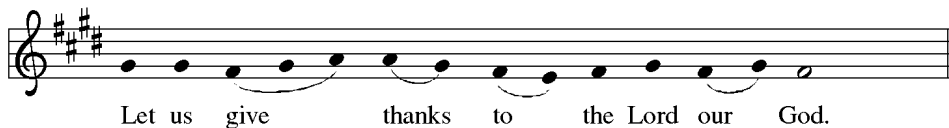
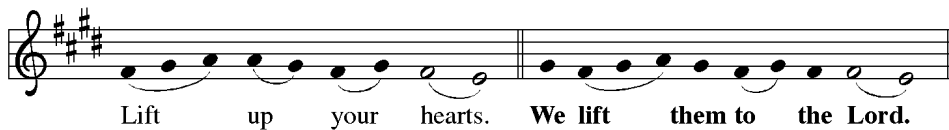
Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

*Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray. Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

***Great Thanksgiving** (*congregation sing responses in bold*)

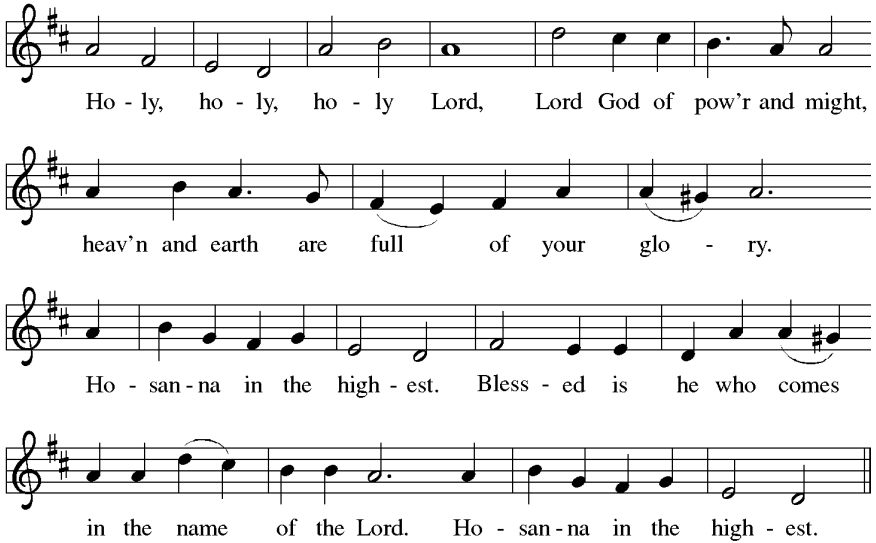


***Preface** (*Pastor continues . . .*)

Holy, Holy, Holy

C:

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

*Communion Form

(*Pastor continues ...*)

*Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Lamb of God

C:

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Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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.*

**Please remain seated, communion
will be offered to you in your pew.
(Please ask for gluten free or grape juice if necessary.)*

Communion Hymns *(Please use your hymnal, and sing quietly.)*

ELW # 471 ***“Let Us Break Bread Together”***

ELW # 466 ***“In the Singing”***

ELW #477 ***“I Received the Living God”***

***Prayer after Communion**

A: Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

Sending

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

***Blessing**

P: Let us pray. God, the Author of life, Christ the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn** (Please use your hymnals, sing quietly)

ELW #374 **“Day of Arising”**

- verses 2 & 4

***Dismissal**

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen,

C: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

A: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude “*Alles is an Gottes Segen*” by Johann Lohner

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Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant – Jim Heck
Ushers – Joyce Petty / Connie Garr
Reader – Lynn Kutch
Altar Guild – Sue Glenn / Carolyn Moyer

This Week at St. John's: May 15th – May 22nd

Today (5/15/22) – Sunday School Breakfast – 8:15 am
Sunday School Classes /

Today (5/15/22) –Fifth Sunday of Easter Worship, 10:30 am

Today (5/15/22) –Following Worship: Committee Meetings
Membership – Hospitality Rm.
Property – Office
Outreach - Chapel

Today (5/15/22) –The Gallery is OPEN – 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Sunday (5/22/22) – Sunday School Breakfast – 8:15 am
Sunday School Classes / Adult Forum, 9:00 am

Sunday (5/22/22) –Sixth Sunday of Easter Worship, 10:30 am
~Confirmation During Worship

Sunday (5/22/22) – Following Worship: Committee Meetings
Spiritual Life - Chapel

*Flowers today are dedicated to my mom, Nancy Hazen
Weiss and Grandma Thelma Hazen
by Monica Weiss-Nolen*



Attendance: 5/8/22 – 53 people

Last Sunday's Envelope / Plate Offering:	\$1,694.00
Weekly amount needed to reach our Budget:	\$2,270.00
Year to Date Envelope / Plate Offering:	\$37,806.00
Year to Date amount needed to reach our Budget:	\$43,130.00

(These totals do not include special envelopes.)

The Gallery at St. John's

Art for your Appreciation & Purchase...

*The Gallery is OPEN every Sunday,
Noon to 3:00 pm*

**Come visit the current show featuring the work and stories of
incarcerated women called "Then There is the Woman"
- by The Journey Home*



Outreach for May is collecting dollars to contribute to the Crisis in Ukraine. Please see the table in the Narthex for forms and envelopes to contribute.

We are a Praying Church !

Prayer Concerns: Maggie, Alyssa & Family, Chuck, Marge, Deanna, Jack, Nancy, Rebecca, Sheila, Eleanor, Carol, David, Bob, David, Michelle, Kara, Barbara, Joan, Pastor Steve, Walter, Betty, Dr. Parker, Joseph, Gail, Karen, Tom, our Homebound Family and Friends, and the Family and Friends of Pam Brewer, La'mel Ross, and Barbara Robinson.

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.)

Pastor Sue would like to thank everyone for planning & joining us to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of her Ordainment last Sunday . . .

