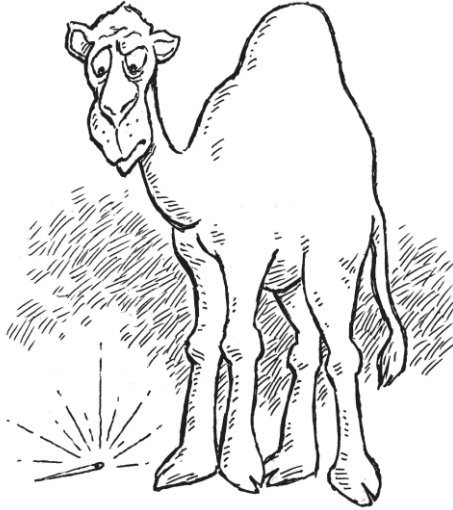


Welcome to Worship

at

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



Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 13, 2024

10:30 am

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Mike Button

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.

Service Notes:

- (asterisk) indicates, please stand as you are able.
- Page # indicates the front of the hymnal is used . . .
- Hymn # indicates the back of the Hymnal is used . . .

Hymn Book Abbreviations:

ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book
WOV – With One Voice
ACS – All Creation Sings

Gathering

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

Welcome

Prelude

Children's Chat

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.
(silent reflection . . .) Gracious God,

C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

ELW # 669 *“Rise Up, O Saints of God!”*

***Greeting**

- page 147

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.

***Kyrie**

- page 147

***Canticle of Praise**

“Glory to God . . .”

- page 148

***Prayer of the Day**

A: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Word

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

First Reading

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

⁶Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground!

¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate.

¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said.

¹⁵Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 90:12-17

¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

¹³**Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry?
Be gracious to your servants.**

¹⁴Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁵**Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us
and as many years as we suffered adversity.**

¹⁶Show your servants your works,
and your splendor to their children.

¹⁷**May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.**

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:12-16

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

- page 151

*** Gospel**

Mark 10:17-31

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit

adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’”²⁰ He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.”²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?”²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

²⁸ Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.”²⁹ Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — The Reverend Mike Button

***Hymn of the Day —**

ACS # 1036 ***“Commonwealth is God’s Commandment”***

* Reception of New Members

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *these people*, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as *new members* into the life and ministry of this congregation.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

Betsy and Bob and Jim and Lynn have come to our congregation from their previous churches. Let us welcome them.

*Apostles' Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Profession of Faith

P: In baptism, we are welcomed into the Body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Welcome

P: Let us welcome these Sisters and Brothers in Christ to this community of faith.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of Baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the Good News to all the world.

Hymn

(following page)

ELW #215 “Blessed Be God Who Chose You”

Bless - ed be God, who chose you in Christ.

Live in love as Christ loved us.

***Prayers of Intercession**

A: Let us pray. Compassionate God, embolden the church to seek all who are lost. Clothe those who are naked, and mend what is broken. May we be generous bearers of your eternal love. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Sustaining God, as we approach harvest time, we pray for farmers, field workers, and those who process crops. Keep us mindful of environmental threats to the nourishing food that feeds the world. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Steadfast God, inspire world leaders to share resources and work collectively to end global poverty, starvation, and preventable disease. Direct us to seek justice and equity, that all may live in peace. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, we pray for those who are afflicted, tormented, grieving, oppressed, and lonely including *those we mention on our prayer list . . . and those we name aloud or silently in our hearts . . .* Deliver the strength of your love and compassion to all who need it today. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Generous God, we give thanks for the first nations and tribes who inhabited this. We lament the harm done by colonization. Call us to deeper appreciation and care for the languages, rituals, and history of all Indigenous people. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Ever-living God, we rejoice to be heirs of the eternal life made real in Jesus' death and resurrection. We give thanks for saints of all times and places, first and last, who still inspire us to faithful living. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Renewing God, We give you thanks for our new members, Betsy and Bob and Jim and Lynn, whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we have welcomed into this household of faith. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of the bread and the prayers, and in service to others. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

C: Amen

*** The Sharing of the Peace**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

(Ushers now proceed to the Altar to receive the offering plates...)

Offertory *“Gathered in God’s Name”* by Michael Burkhardt
Sung by the Wittenberg Choir

***Presentation of Gifts** *(Ushers now bring the offering plates forward.)*

***Offertory Hymn** *(following page)*

ELW# 531 ***“The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing”***

1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
 read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
 and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.

Refrain
 Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.
 Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.
 Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.
 The feast is read - y to be - gin;
 the feast is read - y to be - gin.

***Offertory Prayer**

A: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

***Great Thanksgiving** - page 152

***Preface** (*Leader continues . . .*)

***Holy, Holy, Holy** - page 153

***Thanksgiving at the Table** (*Leader continues . . .*)

***Lord's Prayer** - page 154

***Lamb of God** - page 154

***Invitation to Communion** - page 154

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.*

**At the invitation of the usher, please proceed to the front to receive communion. Communion is also available in your pew, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.*

Communion Hymns

ELW # 479 ***"We Come to the Hungry Feast"***

ELW # 589 ***"All Depends on Our Possessing"***

ELW # 678 ***"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"***

*Table Blessing

*Post Communion Hymn

ELW# 207 *“Thankful Hearts . . .”*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

*Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending

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

Announcements

*Blessing

L: God all mighty, God most merciful † bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

C: Amen.

*Sending Hymn

ELW # 713 *“O God of Every Nation”*

*Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant—Steve Moyer

Ushers – Nancy Ducey / Connie Garr

Reader – Monica Weiss-Nolen

Altar Guild – Joyce Petty / Connie Garr

Video Team – Monica Weiss-Nolen

This Week at St. John's October 13th – October 20th

Today (10/13/24) – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30 am

Today (10/13/24) – Gallery Open, 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Today (10/13/24) – Following Worship: Finance – Office,
Membership – Chapel
Mutual Ministry – Pastor's Office

Monday (10/14/24) – Choir Rehearsal, 1:00 pm

Monday (10/14/24) – Council Meeting, 7:00 pm - Chapel

Friday (10/18/24) – Newsletter Deadline

Sunday (10/20/24) – Sunday School / Adult Forum – 9:00 am

Sunday (10/20/24) – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30 am
"Blessing of the Animals"

Sunday (10/20/24) – Following Worship: Property - Office,
Outreach - Chapel

Sunday (10/20/24) – Gallery Open, 12:00 – 3:00 pm

*Altar Flowers today are dedicated to our
New Members - God Bless-*



Week 40, 10/6/24 - **Attendance: 46**

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Last Sunday's Envelope / Plate Offering | \$1,453.00 |
| Weekly amount needed to reach our Budget: | \$2,126.00 |
| Year to Date Envelope / Plate Offering: | \$79,824.00 |
| Behind Budget | (\$5,216.00) |

Prayer Concerns: Chuck, Clark, Don, Joe, Kara, Christine, Bill, Michael, Shelley, Jan, Matt, Carolyn, Lois Anne, John, Donald, Lenny, Jim, Shirley, Jeff, Karla, Debbie, Charlie, Peggy, Tony, Geroge, Joan, Our Homebound Family and Friends, the St. John's Call Committee, and our Future Pastor.

Reminder:

Next Sunday – October 20th

"Blessing of the Animals"

Please bring a photo or memento of a loved pet.

(past or present)

to be Blessed during Worship.



The Gallery at St. John's presents . . . the pastel works of

~ Diane Horoschock ~ "Attention to Details"

September 29th—October 27th

The Gallery is open: Sundays, 12:00-3:00 pm

~~

The Gallery is also sponsoring a "Book Sale" in the Narthex. Come check it out !



Every year for Thanksgiving, The Outreach committee helps those in need by giving out \$25 gift cards from a local grocery store.

This year is no different.

If you would like to help someone from the congregation and community this thanksgiving, Outreach is accepting monetary donations.

(please place donations in the offering plate marked "Thanksgiving".)

We thank you for your support. - The Outreach Committee



Adult Forum: For All the Saints!

Come explore some of the exceptional believers who have shaped our life together in Christ. Sunday mornings, 9:00 a.m. - in the Chapel.



Worship liturgy and song usage in this service has been obtained with a subscription to sundaysandseasons.com © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted and streamed by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies, Annual License #SAS003368. All rights reserved.

Permission to stream/reprint the following music has been obtained from OneLicense, license #A722086. All rights reserved.

1. "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" (ELW #668, Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress.)
2. "Commonwealth is God's Commandment" (ACS #1036, Text: Mary Louise Bringle © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc.)
3. "Gathered in God's Name" (Text & Music: Michael Burkhardt © 2021 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers.)
4. "The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing", (ELW #531, Text & Music: Graham Kendrick © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere.)
5. "We Come to the Hungry Feast" (ELW #479, Text & Music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.)
6. "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" (ELW #678, Text: Robert Edwards © 1961, Ren. 1989 by The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company.)
7. "O God of Every Nation" (ELW #713, Text: William Reid Jr. © 1958, Ren. 1986 by The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company.)

Remaining music is from the public domain