

Welcome to Worship

at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

a reconciling in Christ congregation



Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

October 20, 2024

10:30 am

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Mike Button

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

330 Ferry Street; Easton, PA 18042-4500

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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.

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

***Blessing of Altar Vases in Memory of Mrs. Hilda Kalapay**

P: Friends in Christ, today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing as we gather to dedicate these altar vases to the praise and glory of God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 145:1-8

¹I will exalt you, my God and king,

And bless your name forever and ever.

²Every day will I bless you,

And praise your name forever and ever.

³Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

There is no end to your greatness.

⁴One generation shall praise your works to another,

And shall declare your power.

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty,

And all your marvelous works.

⁶They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,

And I will recount your greatness.

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;

They shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You made the whole earth for your glory; all creation praises you. We lift our voices to join the songs of heaven and earth, of things seen and unseen. You stretched out the heavens like a tent; you divided the day from the night; you appointed times and seasons for work and rest, for tearing down and building up. You blessed your people through all generations and guided them in life and death: Abraham and Sarah; Moses and Miriam; Isaiah and all the prophets; Mary, mother of our Lord; Peter, James, John, and all the apostles; and all the saints and witnesses in your church of ages past, in whom your Spirit spoke and moved.

We give you thanks, O God, as we dedicate these altar vases to your glory and praise. Grant us faith to know your gracious purpose in all things, give us joy in them, and lead us to the building up of your kingdom; 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.

*Gathering Hymn

ELW # 825 *“You Servants 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. Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

Children’s Chat

Word

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

First Reading

Isaiah 53:4-12

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to

death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 91:9-16

⁹Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰**no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.

¹²**Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴**I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶**With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:1-10

¹Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. ⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

- page 151

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — *The Reverend Mike Button*

*Hymn of the Day –

ELW # 729 *“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”*

* Blessing of the Animals

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Source and sustainer of life, we cherish the myriad works of your hands. Water, earth, and sky are yours, as are all their inhabitants, wild and tame. We thank you for creatures that nourish and serve us, befriend, enrich, entertain, and protect us. May we, who are made in your image, care for them well. And may Your groaning yet wondrous creation rally and thrive, revealing to all who come after us your wise, redemptive, transfiguring love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Responsive Reading:

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky!

**Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night!**

Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain!

**Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear!**

Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong,
drive far the shadows, join the throng!

**Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare!**

O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart!

**All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in
One: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. composite

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P: Let us pray. Gracious God, in your love you created us in your image and made us stewards of the animals that live in the skies, the earth, and the sea. Bless us in our care for our pets and animals. Help us recognize your power and wisdom in the variety of creatures that live in our world, and hear our prayer for all that suffer overwork, hunger, and ill-treatment. Protect your creatures, and guard them from all evil, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

A: Let us pray. Holy One, we give thanks for all servant leaders of the church. Bless bishops, pastors, and with humble wisdom and ground them in your love. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Creative One, we give thanks for the delicate balance of the natural world. Kindle in us a spirit of caring strength in the preservation of habitats, food availability, and centers of refuge, that all wildlife may thrive. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Empowering One, fill the leaders of governments with a spirit of service that prioritizes those on the margins due to job loss, underemployment, unsafe working conditions, and immigration status. May economic equity be achieved for all people. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Restoring One, send your angels to watch over, rescue, and protect those who are injured or ill. Nurse those who suffer from hardship, disease, injury, or difficulty; with your comfort and peace 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.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Saving One, we give thanks for the disciples James and John and all saints who have faithfully served you. We rejoice in a promised place at the feast of victory that we receive by your grace alone. 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**

P: 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 **“As Saints of Old”** (ELW #695)
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 # 708 ***“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”***

ELW # 787 ***“On Eagle's Wings”***

ELW # 604 ***“O Christ, Our Hope”***

*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

P: God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

C: Amen.

*Sending Hymn

ELW # 551 *“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”*

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant–Chris Orem

Ushers – Nancy Ducey / Connie Garr

Reader – Mike Thompson

Altar Guild – Joyce Petty / Connie Garr

Video Team – Bill Iacovone

This Week at St. John's October 20th – October 27th

Today (10/20/24) – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30 am

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

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

Monday (10/21/24) – Choir Rehearsal, 1:00 pm

Wednesday (10/23/24) – Prayer Group, 11:00 am – Hospitality Room

Friday (10/25/24) – Newsletter Folding, 9:30 am - Gallery

Sunday (10/27/24) – Sunday School / Adult Forum – 9:00 am

Sunday (10/27/24) – Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30 am

Sunday (10/27/24) – Following Worship: Congregational Meeting
Reformation Lunch - Gallery

Sunday (10/27/24) – Gallery Open, 12:00 – 3:00 pm (Show Closing)

*Altar Flowers today are dedicated today
in Thankfulness for Family by the Kalapays*



Week 41, 10/13/24 - **Attendance:** 47

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Last Sunday's Envelope / Plate Offering | \$3,878.00 |
| Weekly amount needed to reach our Budget: | \$2,126.00 |
| Year to Date Envelope / Plate Offering: | \$85,040.00 |
| Behind Budget | (1,338.00) |

**NOTE: Special Congregational Meeting
Sunday - October 27th, Following Worship
(To discuss the Plans for the Project Porch . . .)**

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.

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.

Please find the Christmas Ingathering Envelopes in today's bulletin. This year Outreach is collecting funds instead of items to donate to the Bethlehem / Easton Mission District Ingathering in December.

Thank you - Outreach



Reformation Lunch – Sunday October 27th, following Worship.

(Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex
to bring side dishes or desserts.)



Every year for Thanksgiving, The Outreach committee helps those in need by giving out gift cards. 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



The Gallery at St. John’s presents . .

~ Diane Horoschock ~ “Attention to Details”

September 29th—October 27th

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

**Volunteers are needed to help with parking cars for
BaconFest – November 2nd & 3rd,
see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.**

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