

Welcome to Worship

at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

a reconciling in Christ congregation



Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 6, 2024

10:30 am

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Mike Button

Guest Leader: Steven Moyer

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 “*With Trusting Faith*” by Jad Wolm

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

L: 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.

L: 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 # 641 *“All Are Welcome”*

***Greeting**

- page 147

L: 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 have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Word

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

First Reading

Genesis 2:18-24

¹⁸The Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” ¹⁹So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.”

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 8

¹ O Lord our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

⁷all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

⁹O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as

much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, ⁸subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason, Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation** *“Alleluia”* - page 151

*** Gospel** **Mark 10:13-16**

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — Steven Moyer

***Hymn of the Day —**

ELW # 781 *“Children of the Heavenly Father”*

***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. God of our ancestors, we give thanks for the church in all times. May we listen for the prophets of this age who bear messages that stir the church toward renewal and justice. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Creator of every creature on earth, direct our lives toward the renewal and sustaining of cattle, birds of the air, animals of the field, and those who share our homes. Reveal the ways we can work alongside creation for the health and well-being of all. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Sovereign God, we give thanks that you are mindful and benevolent to even us, mere mortals. Accompany us when hardness of heart gets in the way of justice between people and nations. Endow leaders with minds for justice and hearts for compassion. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Restoring Lord, grant healing and wholeness to those who are sick and suffering, lost or alone, or are in need or impoverished including *those we mention on our prayer list . . . and those we name aloud or silently in our hearts . . .* ease pain and give peace to all who seek it. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Unifying God, humans were created for relationship with the earth, its creatures, and one another. Forgive us when division threatens companionship, mutual support, and unity among us. May your love inspire us to build supportive communities of faith where all are cherished. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God of resurrection, you prepare a place in the kingdom through Christ's death and resurrection. We give thanks for the saints who have taken their place at your heavenly banquet. 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.

*** 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 “*Little Ones Like Me*” by M.Ramsay/G. Holsinger
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 # 644 *“Although I Speak with Angel’s Tongue”*

ELW # 466 *“In the Singing”*

ELW # 474 *“Bread of Life from Heaven”*

***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 - joi-ce 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

ACS # 1049 *“Before the Waters Nourished Earth”*

*Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant–Jim Heck

Ushers – Nancy Ducey / Connie Garr

Reader – Lynn Kutch

Altar Guild – Joyce Petty / Connie Garr

Video Team – Brad Thomas

This Week at St. John's October 6th – October 13th

Today (10/6/24) – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30 am

Today (10/6/24) – Gallery Open, 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Today (10/6/24) – Garlic Fest – Parking Volunteers Needed

Monday (10/7/24) – No Choir Rehearsal Today

Wednesday (10/9/24) – Council Reports Due

Wednesday (10/9/24) – Prayer Group, 11:00 am – Hospitality Room

Sunday (10/13/24) – Sunday School / Adult Forum – 9:00 am

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

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

Week 39, 9/30/24 - Attendance: 52

Last Sunday's Envelope / Plate Offering	\$1,723.00
Weekly amount needed to reach our Budget:	\$2,126.00
Year to Date Envelope / Plate Offering:	\$78,371.00
Behind Budget	(\$4,543.00)

**Altar flowers today are dedicated in celebration of the
birthday of Bob Black and for blessings received . . .**

By Bob & Cindy Black



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

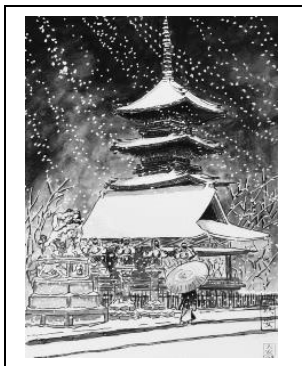
**Thank you, Steve Moyer, for leading us
during worship today!**

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*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*

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*The Gallery is also sponsoring a
"Book Sale" in the Narthex.*

Come find some treasures to get you through the winter!



*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*

Hurricane Response



The situation:

In late September, Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a Category 4 hurricane, dropping heavy rains on the southeastern United States and leaving millions of people without power. As the storm has moved inland, it has caused dangerous flooding and landslides, as well as downed trees and power lines.

Our response:

Lutheran Disaster Response works with its partners to provide immediate relief, such as water, food, clothing, and other needs. Since many hurricanes also require a long-term response, Lutheran Disaster Response provides support on the long road to recovery with disaster case management, construction management, attention to unmet needs, and emotional and spiritual care.

What you can do: Pray

Please pray for the safety of communities impacted by hurricanes, including people in their paths and any emergency services personnel who are responding. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. Pray that God will deliver comfort to those who mourn and strength to those working diligently to rescue survivors.

Give

Your gifts will support disaster-impacted communities. Gifts to "Hurricane Response" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete.

Mail your donation

Make checks payable to: Lutheran Disaster Response
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Or put your donation in the offering plate marked "Hurricane"

Return Survey to Basket in the Narthex, or Church Office.

Bible Study Interest Survey



Are you interested in attending a bible study? Yes No

Weekly / Seasonally

What days times work best?

Mon / Tues / Wed / Thur / Fri / Sat

Morning / Afternoon / Evening

What interests you most?

OLD TESTAMENT

- Torah
- History of Israel
- The Prophets
- Psalms

NEW TESTAMENT

- The Gospels :
(Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
- Letters of Paul
- The Book of Revelation

THE CHURCH

- The Early Church
- The Reformation
- The Modern Church

ETHICS AND SOCIAL ISSUES

- Immigration
- Climate Change
- Racism
- Sexuality

YOUR SUGGESTIONS . . .
