

Welcome to Worship

at

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



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 11, 2024

9:30 am

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Mike Button

Guest Leader: Steve Moyer

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

***Confession and Forgiveness**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

L: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin . . . God, our provider,

C: Help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

L: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

ELW # 522 *“As We Gather at Your Table”*

***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**

“This is the Feast . . .”

- page 149

***Prayer of the Day**

A: Let us pray. Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Word

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

First Reading

1 Kings 19:4-8

⁴[Elijah] went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."⁵ Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat."⁶ He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again. ⁷The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you."⁸ He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 34:1-8

¹I will bless the Lord at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²I will glory in the Lord;
let the lowly hear and rejoice.

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt God's name together.

⁴I sought the Lord, who answered me
and delivered me from all my terrors.

⁵Look upon the Lord and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

⁶I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.

⁷The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord
and delivers them.

⁸Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:25—5:2

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*** Gospel**

John 6:35, 41-51

L: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵Jesus said to [the crowd,] “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴²They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” ⁴³Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily – Steve Moyer

*Hymn of the Day –

ELW # 488 *“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”*

*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. Reignite the prayer of the church. By your Spirit, root your church around the globe in prayer and spiritual practices. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: We rely on the goodness of your creation in everything we do. We pray for trees that offer shade and for our fellow creatures that depend on the trees for shelter and food. Sustain the work of all who advocate for forests and wilderness areas. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Guide our leaders and nations with a spirit of justice and mercy. Let no evil come out of our mouths, but rather let us extend grace. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Sustain feeding ministries and organizations such as ELCA World Hunger and our local food pantries (especially). We work and pray for a day when hunger is no more. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this congregation and for all who are gathered. Be present among anyone who cannot be with us today. Be with all who are hurting, grieving, or ill including *those we mention on our prayer list . . . and those we name aloud or in our hearts . . .* Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: We remember the saints who have gone before us in faith. Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we find hope in your communion of saints of all times and all places. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.

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

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

*Offertory Hymn

ELW# 185

“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 to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

*Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

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 # 472 *“Eat This Bread”*

ELW # 494 *“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”*

ELW # 487 *“What Feast of Love”*

*Table Blessing

***Post Communion Hymn** “Now Lord . . .” - Page 113

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. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

Sending

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

Announcements

*Blessing

L: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Sending Hymn

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

*Dismissal

L: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant– Chris Orem

Ushers – Nancy Ducey / Connie Garr

Reader – Monica Weiss-Nolen

Altar Guild – Barbara Horinko / Sylvia Orem

Video Team – Bill Iacovone

This Week at St. John's August 11th - August 18th

Today (8/11/24) – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 am

Today (8/11/24) – Following Worship: Rachel's Circle Tea - Gallery

Today (8/11/24) – Gallery Open – 11:00 -2:00 pm

Today (8/11/24) – Following Worship: Membership– Office

Monday (8/12/24) – Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Gallery

Tuesday (8/13/24) – Bible Study, 11:00 am - Hospitality Rm.

Wednesday (8/14/24) – Prayer Group, 11:00 am - Hospitality Rm.

Friday (8/16/24) – Newsletter Deadline

Sunday (8/18/24) – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 am

Sunday (8/18/24) – Following Worship: Property – Office,
Outreach - Chapel

Sunday (8/18/24) – Gallery Open, 11:00 – 2:00 pm



Altar Flowers are sponsored today by

The Rachel's Circle, honoring our community . . .

May God's Blessings be with our Neighbors always !