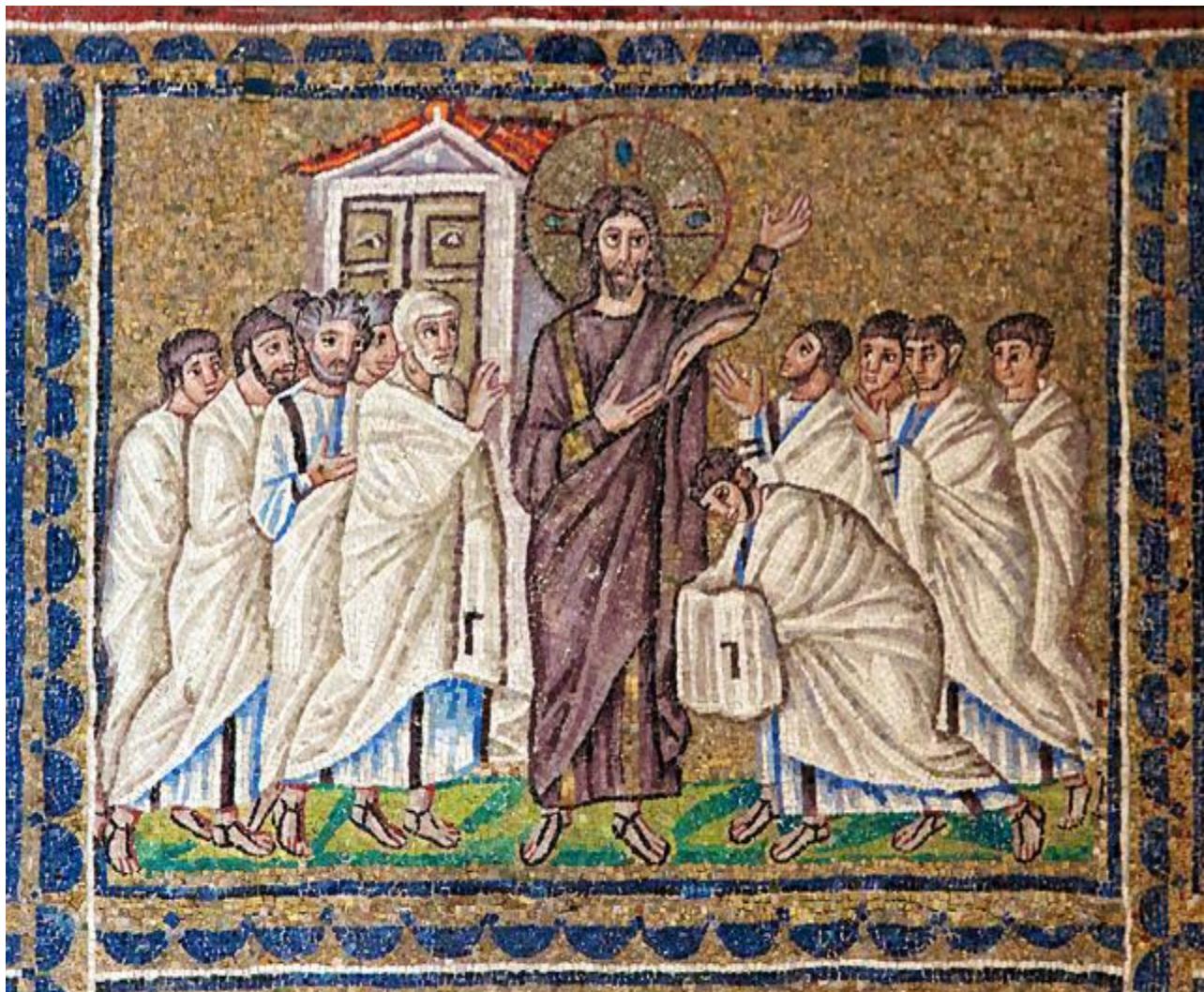


ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Belleville, PA



**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2020**

PRELUDE**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS*****GREETING**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

***HYMN ~ "America the Beautiful"**

verses 1 and 4

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America, the Beautiful

KATHERINE LEE BATES

SAMUEL A. WARD

1. O beau - ti - ful for spa-cious skies, For am - ber waves of grain,
 2. O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, Whose stern, im-pas-sioned stress
 3. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved In lib - er - at - ing strife,
 4. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream That sees be - yond the years

For pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 A thor-ough-fare for free - dom beat A - cross the wil - der - ness!
 Who more than self their coun - try loved, And mer - cy more than life!
 Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, Undimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed His grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed His grace on thee,

And crown thy good with broth - er-hood From sea to shin - ing sea!
 Con - firm thy soul in self - con-trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law!
 Till all suc-cess be no - ble-ness, And ev - 'ry gain di - vine!
 And crown thy good with broth - er-hood From sea to shin - ing sea!

***CONFESSiON and FORGIVENESS**

P 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.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage 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**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

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

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A 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.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. C Amen.

***HYMN of PRAISE**



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



C 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 ~ *in unison *Prayers and Lessons are found in Celebrate*

P The Lord be with you. C And also with you.

P Let us pray...

LESSONS

*First Lesson ~ A reading from Ezekiel 33:7-11

after the reading

R The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 119:33-40 ~ *with response*

*Second Lesson ~ A reading from Romans 13:8-14

after the reading

R The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL READING**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter.

C Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

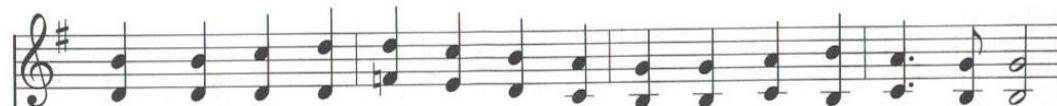
MESSAGE ~ *How Do We Do It?*

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

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1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, Prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, All who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
 Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in thee.
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the joy di-vine!



*APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 the PEOPLE ~ See *Celebrate*

*PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. C And also with you.
The peace is shared

OFFERING (please leave your gifts in one of the offering plates **at the end of the front and back pews** (Mechanic St. side) on your way out)

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G clef, common time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff contains the text "P The Lord be with you. C And al - so with you." The second staff contains "P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord." The third staff contains "P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff contains "C It is right to give him thanks and praise."

P The Preface

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are integrated into the music:

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,

and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you refresh us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

***DISMISSAL**

P Come forth to take the sacrament. Then go forth in peace and fellowship to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father and + Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

***COMMUNION** and sending Christ's gifts and love into the world.

Observing distancing markers, we will come up for communion by the center aisle and depart by the side aisle (Mechanic St. side) or elevator and leave by the front doors downstairs.

POSTLUDE

Pastor: Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123

Church Office: 935-2032 Email us at stjohnco@embarqmail.com

St. John's Christian Day Care: 935-2959

Our Mission Statement

We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share the good news of Jesus Christ, to worship and to love one another in our homes, church, community and the world.

Our Vision Statement

To be people who are welcoming and encourage God's love in our community through our prayer, devotion, benevolence and deeds.

Today

Greeter: Ralph Murphy; **Lay Reader:** John Boring

Next Sunday, September 13

Greeter: Joe Kanagy; **Lay Reader:** John Boring

The Altar Flowers in St. John's are given to the Glory of God
by Ed and Lori Kirchoff and family in loving memory of
Mike and Jane Wagner and Tom and Gladys Mahady.

Please remember in prayer ~ Emma Stevens (sister of Miriam Williamson), Kim Aumiller, Ev Young, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Betty Harmon (Elmcroft), Carol Yoder, Diddy Cleck, Betty Smith; Memory Lane ~ Nancy Aumiller and sister, Sally Shingler.

Notes from the Pastor:

The council will be meeting this Thursday, September 10 at 6:30pm.

BISHOP'S OPEN GOLF CLASSIC SEPTEMBER 21 @ 11:30 AM - 6:00 PM

The annual Bishop's Open Golf Classic scheduled for May 11, 2020, has been postponed until September 21, 2020, with the same schedule. Registration starts at 11 with lunch following and a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club in Shamokin Dam. Snacks and prizes after golfing. The tournament benefits Camp Mount Luther's annual fund. A flyer/bulletin insert containing information and registration form is available here: <https://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2020-Sept-Golf-Tournament-Flyer.pdf>. The camp's golf tournament committee is currently looking for hole sponsors, silent auction items, and golfers. If you can help, please contact the camp office at 570-922-1587 or cml@campmountluther.org. Congregations are also encouraged to become hole sponsors. Get involved and help our synod's outdoor ministry!

Creatures of our God and King - Praying Mantis



A special "thank you" to our church family for the prayers, phone calls, and cards during our illness.

*Blessings,
Bob and Susan Keller*

January thru September 3
Last week's attendance ~ 24
Offering ~ \$ 1,135.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 161,791.68 Expense \$ 153,306.74
Net Income \$ 8,484.94

Parking Lot Donations YTD ~ \$ 16,828.72 Boiler Donations ~ \$2,350.00

Daycare ~ YTD Income ~ \$ 132,849.26 YTD Expense ~ \$ 120,028.47
Net Income \$ 12,820.79