

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Belleville, PA



The Pharisees Question Jesus
Painting by James Tissot

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 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 ~ "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"



1 Ye watch-ers and ye ho - ly ones, Bright ser - a - phs, cher - u -
2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, More glo - rious than the
3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, Ye pa - tri - archs and
4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, Su - per - nal an - thems

bim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain: "Al - le - lu - ia!"
ser - a - phim, Lead their prais - es; "Al - le - lu - ia!"
proph-ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"
ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"

Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms, pow'rs, Arch - an - gels, vir -
Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, Most gra - cious, mag -
Ye ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, All saints tri - um -
To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Spir -

tues, an - gel choirs:
ni - fy the Lord: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"
phant, raise the song:
it, Three in One:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***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.

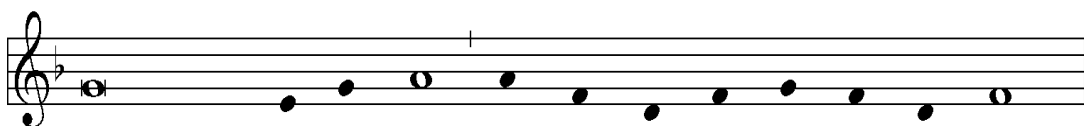
C Lord, have mer - cy.

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, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

***HYMN of PRAISE**



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



B 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

*PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The peace is shared

*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 18:1-4, 25-32

after the reading

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

*Psalm 25:1-9 ~ *with response*

*Second Lesson ~ A reading from Philippians 2:1-13

after the reading

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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 21st chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

***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**

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)

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given
us--ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your
gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered
himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ *Found in Celebrate

P Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world,
and all those in need

A brief silence.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
C **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**

Spirit of Gentleness

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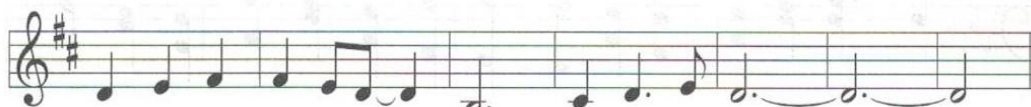
Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



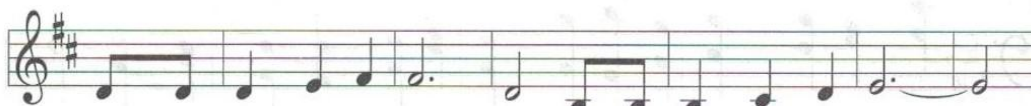
call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



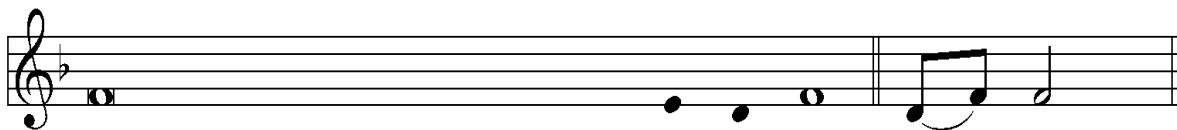
and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Refrain

*THE BLESSING



☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.

☐ A - men

The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

*DISMISSAL

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

R Thanks be to God

*POSTLUDE ~ *please exit the church using the aisle and staircase on the left
(Mechanic St. side, remembering to keep a safe distance from others)*

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

Organist: Seulki Susie Yoo

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

Greeters: Jami Zook and Mike Boring; **Lay Reader:** Ed Bilich

Next Sunday, October 4

Greeters: Jami Zook and Mike Boring; **Lay Reader:** Jami Zook

The Altar Flowers in St. John's are given to the Glory of God
by Jami Zook in memory of John P. Zook and James L. Harmon.

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.

Notes from the Pastor:

We welcome Rev. Sarah Sedgewick who has been approved to preach at St. Johns this morning. Pastor Robertson is taking time off through this Saturday, October 3. Pastor Sedgewick is available for emergency pastoral care. She may be reached at: 814-771-1891.

Recordings of the Presbyterian worship service from last Sunday, which included Lisa Griffith will be made available. Please let Pastor Ela know if you would like one. The service is also available to view with the following link: <https://vimeo.com/46116305>

Announcements ~

Blanket Sunday is next week. Included this morning's bulletin are envelopes for anyone who would like to contribute. Extras are located in the narthex. Donations can be made through Sunday, October 11.

Also needed is a volunteer(s) to take the boxes of comforts into St. John's, Lewistown. Please contact the office if you would be willing to do this.

A volunteer(s) is needed to take over the Altar Care for the month of October. Please contact the church office if you are willing to help in this way.

Join the Belleville Mennonite School community as we celebrate 75 years of God's faithfulness to the school at the Faith Promise Banquet on Friday, October 2. The evening will begin with a time of fellowship at 6:00 and feature a walk through 75 years of history, a dinner at 6:30, keynote address, an update on BMS today, a concert choir selection, and the recognition of two special alumni. The homemade dinner is free of charge; however an invitation to give to the Faith Promise Annual Fund, which supports the school's operating budget, will be presented. Seating is limited so please reserve your seat soon by calling the office, 717.935.2184.

The Sky Family will present Celtic Revival at the Allensville Community Church on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, October 2-4 at 7:00 PM. The program will also be given on Sunday morning, Oct. 4 at 9:00 and 10:15 AM. All are welcome. There is no admission charge, but a free will offering will be collected.

January thru September 24

Last week's attendance ~ 18

Offering ~ \$ 1,040.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 166,957.20 Expense \$ 156,651.70

Net Income \$ 10,305.50

Parking Lot Donations YTD ~ \$ 17,228.72 Boiler Donations ~ \$2,550.00

Daycare ~ YTD Income ~ \$ 151,956.13 YTD Expense ~ \$ 137,058.50

Net Income \$ 14,897.63