# St. John's Lutheran Church Belleville, PA 17004



Easter Day/Resurrection of Our Lord April 4, 2021

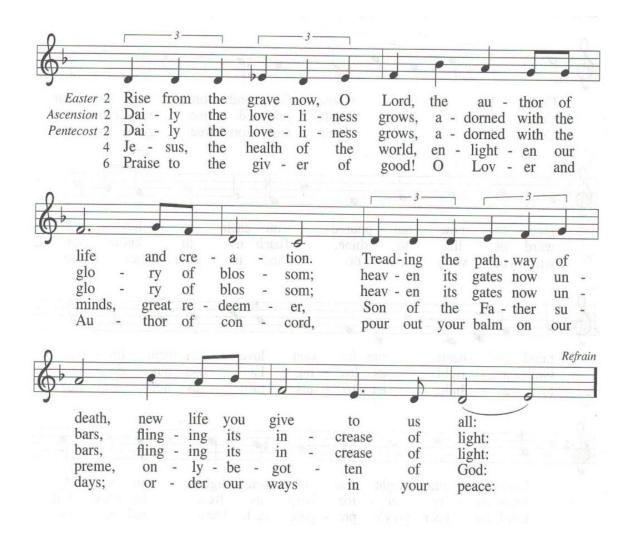
## PRELUDE \*PROCESSION

**\*INTROIT:** Hail Thee Festival Day

Organ plays refrain1x, congregation sings refrain, pastor recites Verse 1 and 2, Congregation sings refrain 1x

Hail Thee, Festival Day! 394 Refrain Blest day to be hal-lowed for - ev er; Hail thee, fes - ti-val day! 0 death. raised, break-ing the king - dom of day when our Lord was 0' earth from the of Easter 1 All the fair beau - ty is . . nailed to the cross He who was Ascension 1 of fire, on . . like - ness in Bright and Pentecost 1 the . . might - y, Lord, Al the God the 3 now. . it of life and of pow'r, 5 Spir 6 good Ev ry a - ris ing! of the death win ter peo things cre All Lord of all ple. rul er and the pear he whom those who wait his ap ing, a us from the heav - ens, guard rul - er of earth and ing, light that en be flow fount of our in us, Refrain 0 re - turns: now with its mas - ter of the gift year of God: the glo - ry to earth sing ed on at · de - scends: den - ly, swift - ly sud told Lord had fore with - in: from e - vil harm with out; cleanse us a - bide: all, life that in all may light - ens us

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## WELCOME

We gather on this Easter Sunday 2021 eager to worship together, while continuing to respect safety precautions for those vulnerable ones in our congregation. Please social distance and continue to wear masks throughout the service except when taking communion and speaking at the mic.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## ALLELUIA

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
P: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad it it. Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C: Christ is risen, indeed! Allelluia!

**SPECIAL MUSIC** ~ *This Little Light of Mine, Jesus Loves Me* 

**Children's Choir** 

## **\*CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen
- P Jesus' rising from the dead assures us that we, too, have been given new life. Let us repent of our sin before God and one another, certain of God's mercy. 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. Jesus' rising from the dead assures us that we, too, have been given new life. Let us repent of our sin before God and one another, certain of God's mercy.

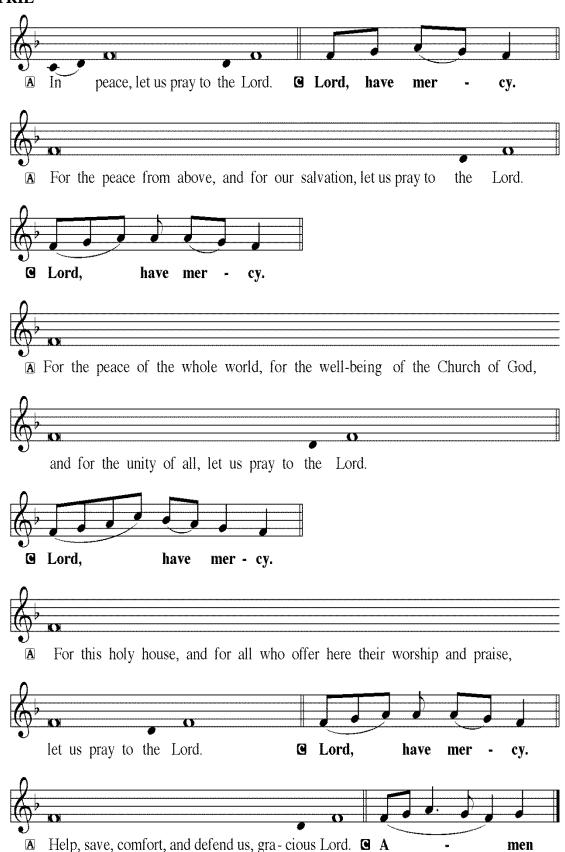
## C Amen

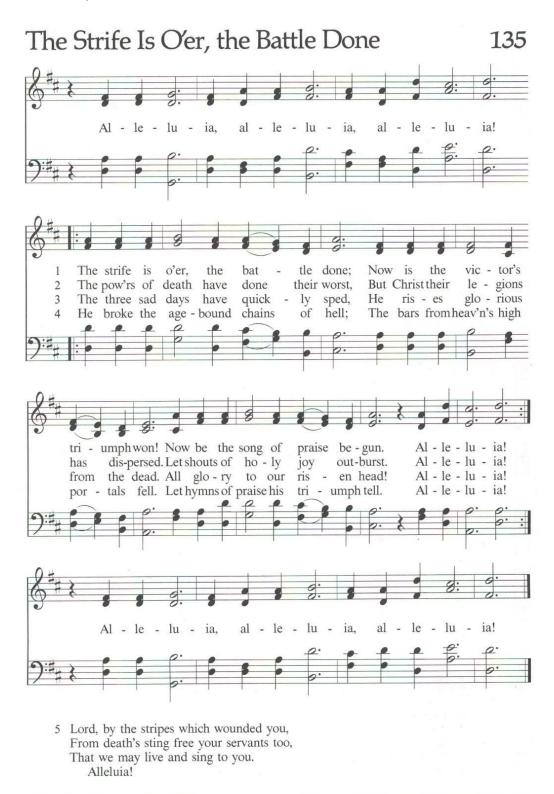
P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that, even on this most holy day, we are unable to believe in the victory over death shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. We confess our utter dependence on you not only for life but also for faith, hope, and love. Without your astonishing appearance to our ancestors and your presence throughout the ages, we would be lost. Forgive us and transform us, that in every way our work and prayer will make whole what is broken and give peace on earth. Amen.
- P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. By the grace of God and the witness of our ancestors, the good news of Jesus' resurrection is our rock and our salvation. You shall not die but live. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- 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.







Text: Symphonia Sirenum, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909 Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, 1525–1594, adapt. VICTORY 888 with alleluias



*Continued on next page* 



\*PRAYER of the DAY ~ (in unison) Prayers and Lessons if not printed, are found in Celebrate



# LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Isaiah 25:6-9 R The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.** 

6 On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. 7 And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; 8 he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. 9 It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

# \*Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 ~ with response

The psalm is announced, organ plays response 1x, cantor or pastor sings 1x, people join to sing response, then as psalm is read, congregation sings response at each R.

\*Second Lesson ~ A reading from 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 after the reading

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

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



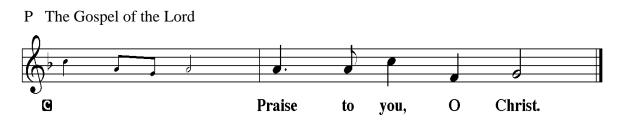
\*Gospel Reading ~ P The Holy Gospel according to John the 20th chapter:



#### The Gospel is read. John 20:1-18

1Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." 3Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). 17Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" 18Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.



MESSAGE ~ Lifted Up

Rev. Ela J. Robertson

**HYMN** ~ Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing



#### **\*NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God of God, Light of Light, true God from true God, Begotten, not made, of one being with the Father, through him all things were made; Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; and He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He shall come again in glory to judge both the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come. Amen.

\***THE PEACE** ~ Let us extend the Peace that Christ brings to us today with the greeting: 'Christ is Risen!' and responding 'Christ is Risen indeed!'

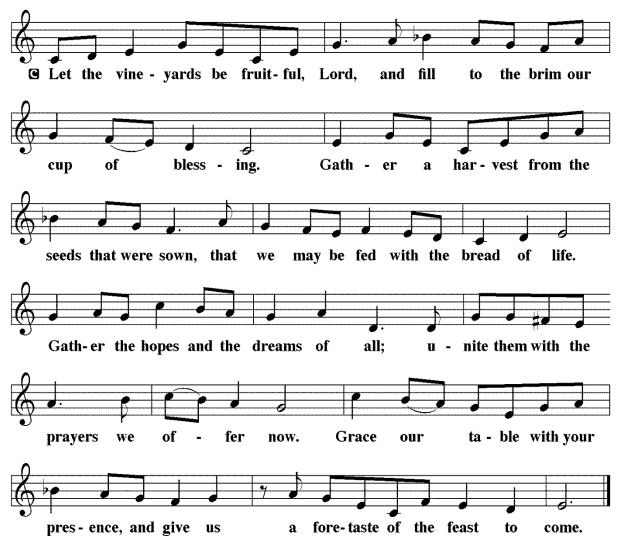
- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.
- P The Peace of Christ be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Christ is Risen!
- C 'Christ is Risen indeed!'

#### ALL Hallelujah! Blessed is the Resurrection of Christ! Hallelujah!

Please extend the Peace to those in the sanctuary and beyond our walls

**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, or if you are worshipping from the back parking lot you may leave them - in the box by the outside basement steps)

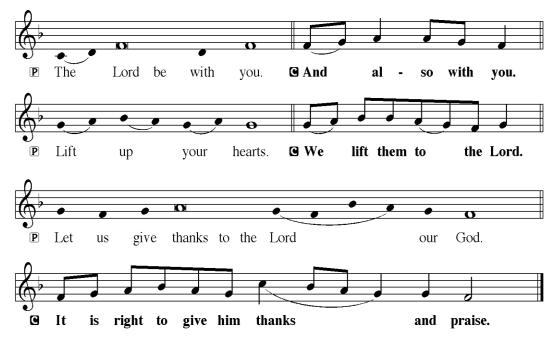
**\*OFFERTORY** 



## **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

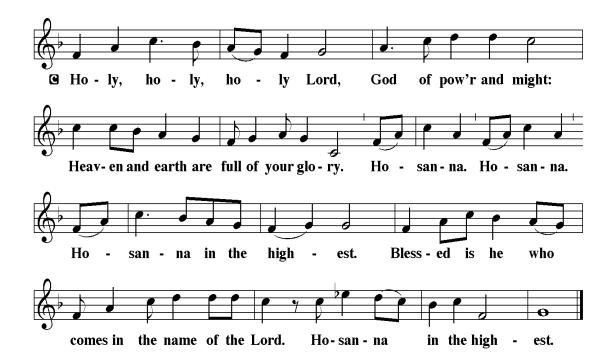
- P Let us pray. Merciful Father,
- C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us--ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING



## **\*PREFACE for EASTER**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness; while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing forever the hymn of your glory:



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:

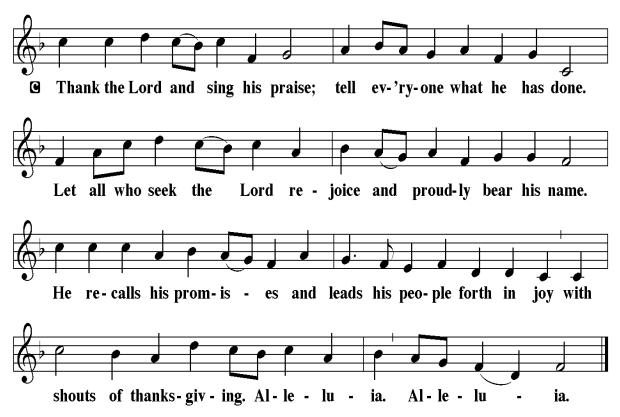
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

# COMMUNION

## **Invitation to Communion:**

- P Partake of the banquet, for all is now ready, taste and see that the Lord is good.
- P The Bread of Life: the body of Christ, given for you;
- **C** Amen. [Please open and take the wafer]
- P The Cup of the Covenant: the blood of Christ, shed for you.
- C Amen. [Please open and take the juice]
- P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C Amen.

**\*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE** 



## P Let us pray.

P As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us from this table to be the body of Christ in all the world. Send us with a spirit of courage, a spirit of power and love, that we may be witnesses in all creation to the unending story of your word breathing life into the dust. Keep us faithful, and fruitful, and hopeful, and peaceful, until we come at last to the one table of your Kingdom, to feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm, with you and with your Word, through Christ and in Christ, the one who came for us, died for us, and rose for us. **Amen.** 

## **\*THE BLESSING**

- P Now may the truth of the empty tomb—the astonishing reality of Jesus' resurrection—keep you fearless and sure that you will see the Resurrected One again and again in this life. May the power of God's endless love surround you and guide you, this day and always.
- P The Lord bless you and keep you.The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
- C Amen



#### \*DISMISSAL

P Go from here renewed and strong, knowing that the Lord is alive, almighty, and present. Look for the blessings that await you this week. Weep with those who weep. Rejoice with those who celebrate. Tell the story of hope. Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

#### **R** Thanks be to God

#### POSTLUDE

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Ron and Carol Fultz in memory of his father, Lawrence "Bud" Fultz and their grandson, Gage Fultz, and in honor of their children and grandchildren, Zach, Jenny and Vance, Ryan, Ashley Nicole, Kayden, Owen and Colton, Ashley Ann, Scott and Alexa.

The Candelabra greens are given to the Glory of God in honor of the Lawrence "Linz" and Susanne "Toot" Stroup Family.

The Easter Flowers in St. John's are given to the Glory of God by...

Edna Chester in memory of her loved ones, and in honor of her family.

Jami Zook and Mike Boring in honor of their children and grandchildren.

Jami Zook and family in memory of James L. Harmon and John P. Zook.

Mike Boring in honor of his parents, Jim and Pat Boring.

Buck and Sandra Metz in honor of their family. and in memory of their loved ones.

Ralph and Charlie Murphy in memory of Esther Murphy, Herman Sr., and Pearl Murphy, Herman Murphy, Jr., Charles Murphy, Kathy Murphy, and family and friends who have passed.

Ralph Murphy in honor of his sons, David and Charles, his grandchildren, great grandchildren, friends and neighbors. Ruth Baker in memory of husband, Charles Baker, and their parents. and in honor of their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Eleanore Rachau in loving memory of Dick Rachau.

Bob and Susan Keller in honor of their children and grandchildren.

Sue Lynch in memory of Bob and Verna Morris, George and Katheryn Morris and Tom Glick, and in honor of her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Ron and Carol Fultz in memory of their grandparents, Jerry and Elsie, Knepp, Roy and Ruby Fultz, Joe and Hilda Anastasi, Harold and Helen Treaster, his father, Lawrence "Bud" Fultz, and their grandson, Gage.

Ron and Carol Fultz in honor of their parents, Jane Fultz, John and Jane McKinley and Bob Treaster, and their children and grandchildren, Zach, Jenny and Vance, Ryan, Ashley Nicole, Kayden, Owen and Colton, Ashley Ann, Scott and Alexa.

Don and Rosalie Smith in memory of their parents, Bud and Elsie Smith, George and Henrietta Naylor, sisters, Jackie Naylor, Bibie Morton, Lynn Watkins and Evelyn Irwin.

Don and Rosalie Smith in honor of their sons and families, Don and Benita Smith, Jed and Alice Smith, Eric and Cynthia Hileman, Sarah Smith, Samantha Smith and Alexandra Smith.

Carolyn Conner and family in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Clay Boring, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Conner, and Russell Lee Conner.

Jane Fultz in loving memory of her husband, Bud, and in honor of their children, grandchildren and families.

The Himes Family in loving memory of Pam Himes.

Pastor: Reverend Ela J. Robertson
Children's Choir: Harmon, Zook, Reed and Smoker children Thank you to Jami and Reba for coaching the children
Organist: Seulki Susie Yoo
Reader: Jami Zook
Sound Techs: Joe Kanagy, Jay and Joy Byler, Ed Bilich
Video: Bill Cullingford
Church Office: 935-2032 Email us at secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org
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.* 

#### **Recalling EASTER 2020**

We thank God that we are able to worship together this Easter with masks, social distancing and safety precautions in place. We did not 'miss' or 'skip' Easter last year though. Do you remember?

To keep the presence of the church alive and to glorify God through Easter Joe Kanagy walked from his house to initiate bell ringing at St. Johns the first week we could not meet. Teams joined him through the season to keep the bells ringing no less than 15 minutes continuously on Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter and every Sunday until we resumed in-Sanctuary worship. No small task. Ringing that bell is a workout and teams took it on in 3 minute shifts.

Mike Harshbarger recalls carrying the cross on Easter and ringing the bells in his youth. He passed down the technique 'give it all you got on the down pull and let up on the upswing' to Anne and Kyle.

With help from Randy Harshbarger, John Boring and others the Passion week cross was brought outside and secured from the wind in front of the front entrance. On Good Friday a 'corona crown' made from corona like sweet gum tree seed balls was hung on the cross, a 'crown of thorns' also memorializing those lost to Covid. A purple ribbon was added for Easter and a coach horn fanfare proclaimed 'Christ is risen' as the bells rang down the Valley.

#### Announcements

The April newsletter can be found in the mailboxes of those persons who do not receive it by email.

In the narthex are Committee and Sunday morning duty sign-up sheets (May and June). Volunteers are needed to help lay read, greet and delivers altar flowers. We are also looking for someone to help lead the congregational singing during worship.

Please prayerfully consider serving, if you are able. Jesus came to serve and we serve God by following His example.

St. John's has Meals on Wheel in May. Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex for anyone willing to help provide a dessert, or donate money to purchase pies.

January 1 thru March 31, 2021 Last week's attendance ~ 26 Offering ~ \$ 1,930.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 48,686.04\* Expense \$ 38,056.98 Net Income \$ 10,629.06 \*St. John's received \$5,000.00 as a gift from the Diddy Cleck Estate

Daycare ~ Income \$ 56,733.45 Expense \$ 72,307.10 Net Income \$ -15,573.65