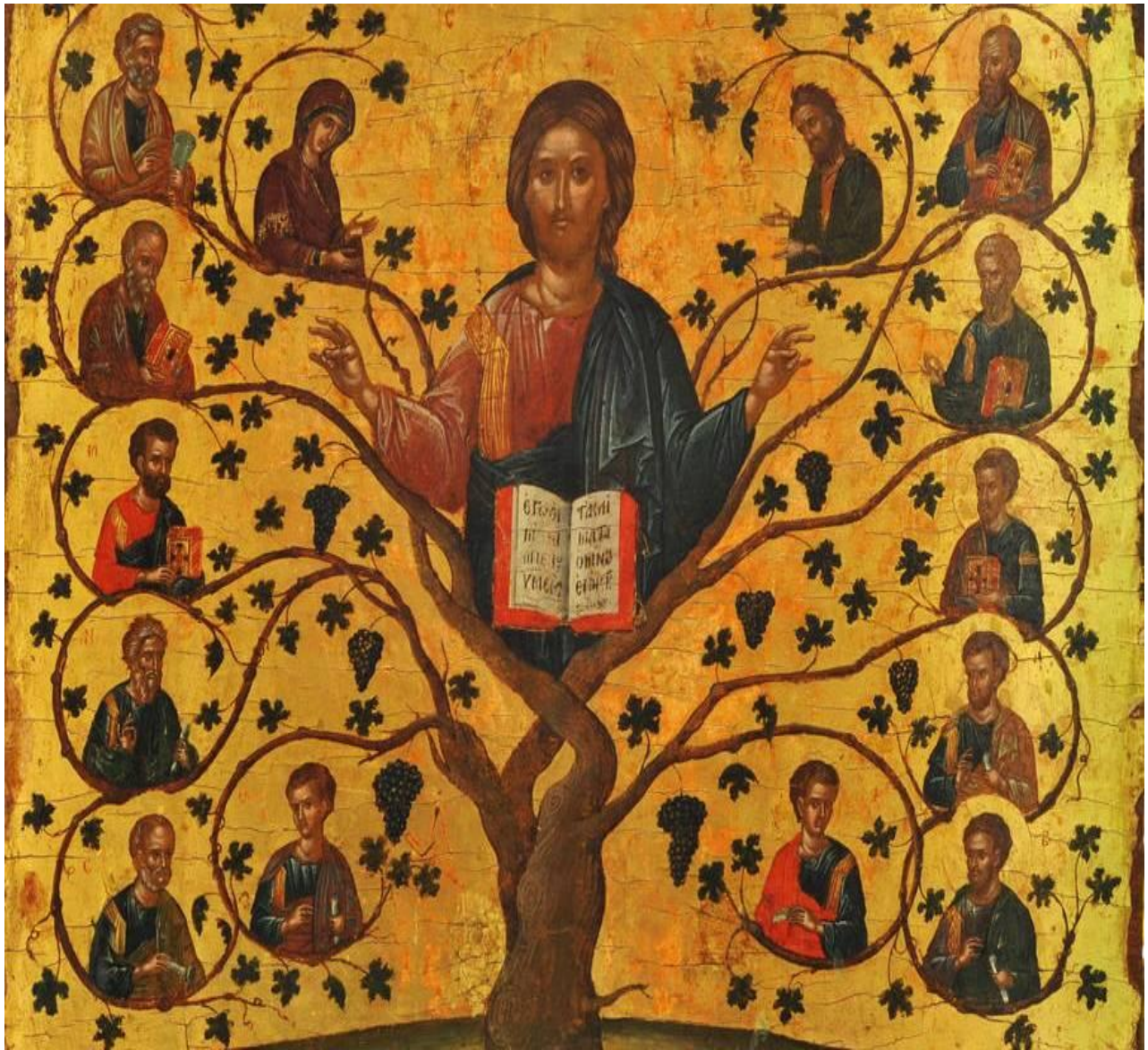


**St. John's Lutheran Church  
Belleville, PA 17004**



**Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 2, 2021**

**PRELUDE****WELCOME**

Welcome. On this 5th Sunday of the Easter season, as well-pruned grape vines around Big Valley are beginning to bud, we celebrate the living Christ in the image of the vine. As the intro to our celebrate today reminds us: *“Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John.”*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*HYMN**

CHRIST THE KING / ASCENSION

Revelation 1:18

155

# Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL'S 148TH 6.6.6.6.8.8

Charles Wesley, 1746  
*Descant*

John Darwall, 1770  
Desc. Sidney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

3. Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

1. Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!  
2. God's king - dom can - not fail, Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;  
3. Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

To glo - ri - fy the saints For their e - ter - nal home:

Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing, And tri - umph ev - er - more:  
The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus given:  
To glo - ri - fy the saints For their e - ter - nal home:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

This tune in a higher key and without descant, 430

Music: Descant © 1990 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**\*CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

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

C **Amen**

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 The One who calls us to repent, hears us. In trust that our Creator knows us through and through, let us open our hearts to the healing of God's forgiveness. 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 are creatures of dust, ignorant of your revelation, misunderstanding your life, death, and resurrection among us, needing forgiveness. We repent of our failure to give as you have given to us. We beg your mercy for our fallen world. We seek your Word that we may live with the faith of Jesus. Be our solace in this life and always. We ask this as your own children, holy and incomplete. 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**

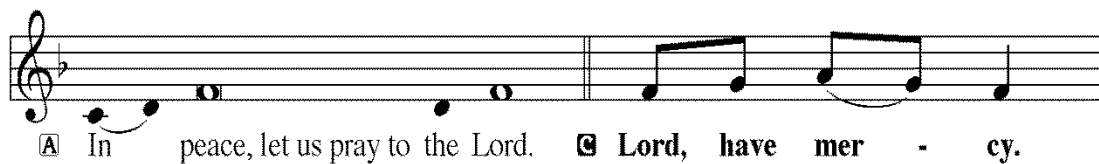
P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by Christ's authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +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

C **Amen**

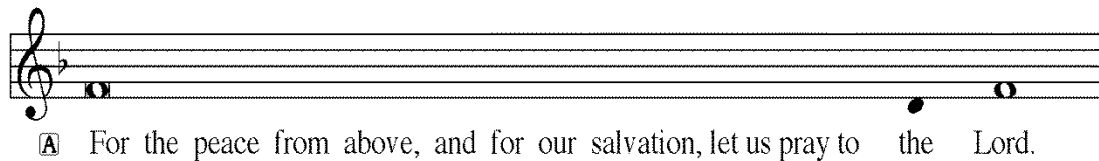
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

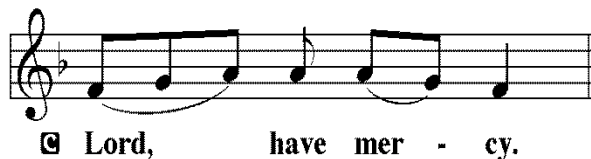
**\*KYRIE**



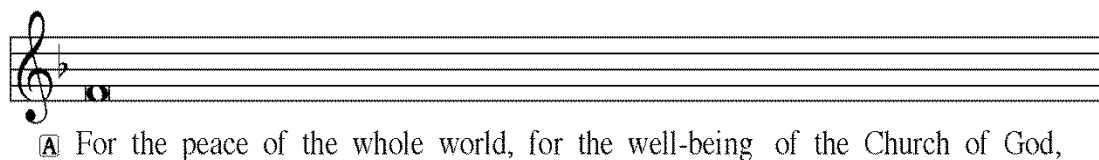
[A] In peace, let us pray to the Lord. [C] Lord, have mer - cy.



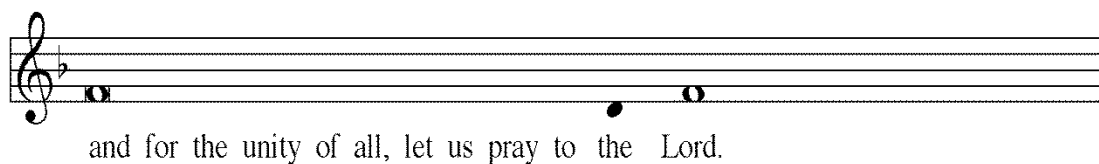
[A] For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



[C] Lord, have mer - cy.



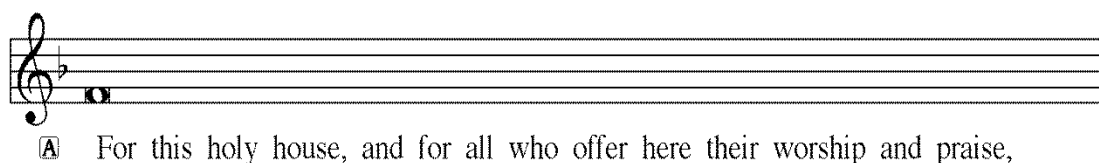
[A] For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



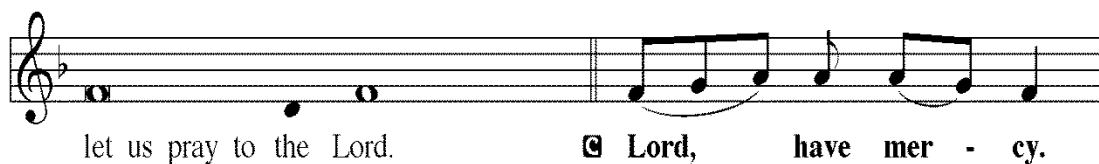
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



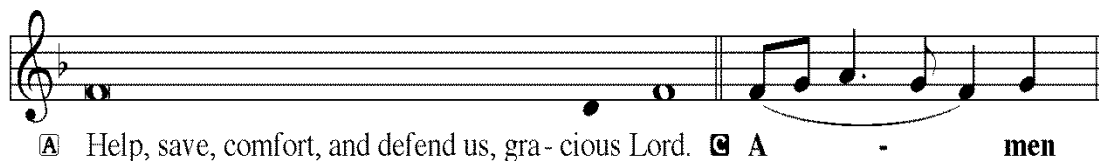
[C] Lord, have mer - cy.



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

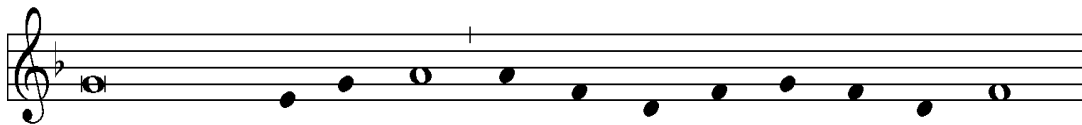


let us pray to the Lord. [C] Lord, have mer - cy.



[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,

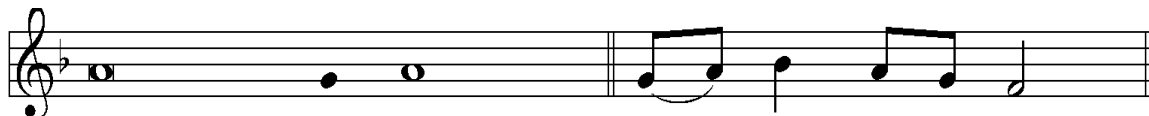


you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

**\*PRAYER of the DAY ~ (in unison)**      *Prayers and lessons found in Celebrate*



☐ The Lord be with you.      ☑ And al - so with you.

**LESSONS**

First Lesson ~ A reading from Acts 8:26-40

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

Psalm 22:25-31~ *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 John 4:7-21

*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 Luke the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter:



☑ Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

*After the reading*

P The Gospel of the Lord



☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

**MESSAGE**

Special Music *O Love* by Elaine Hagenberg

Lisa Griffith - soprano

**\*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**

P Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers  
before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence*

**\*PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*Please extend the sign of peace to those here and beyond the walls of our  
sanctuary with a wave and the words "Peace of Christ or Peace be with you!"*

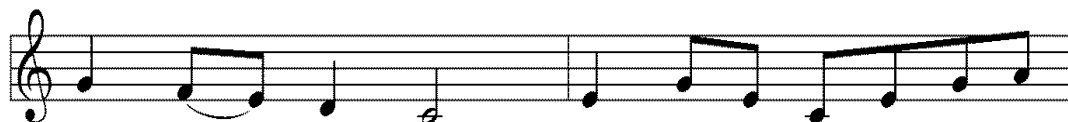
**OFFERING** ~ please leave your gifts in one of the offering plates **at the end  
of the front or back** pews on your way out. If you are worshipping from the back  
parking lot you may leave them in the box by the outside basement steps.



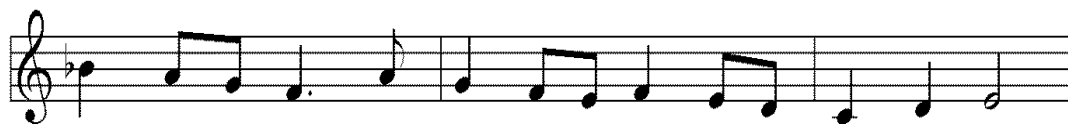
**\*OFFERTORY**



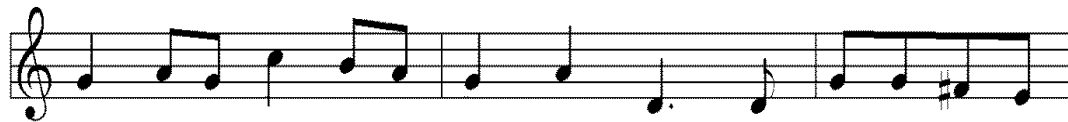
**C** Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**\*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

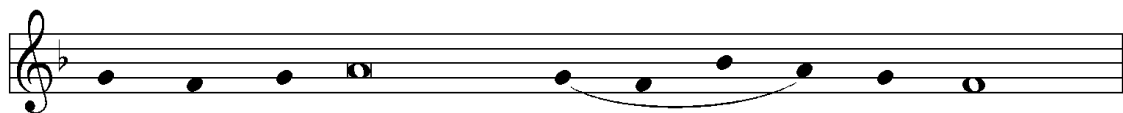
## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING



☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.



☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.



☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## \*PREFACE for EASTER and Sundays after 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:



☑ 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**

## COMMUNION

*Maintaining social distancing we will each come forward to take the bread and wine from the plates. Remaining standing you may pause for blessing and prayer before returning to your seats. A receptacle for the cups will be at the end of the front pew.*

### **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.**

P The Cup of the Covenant: the blood of Christ, shed for you.

**C Amen.**

*(After all are seated)*

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

**C Amen.**

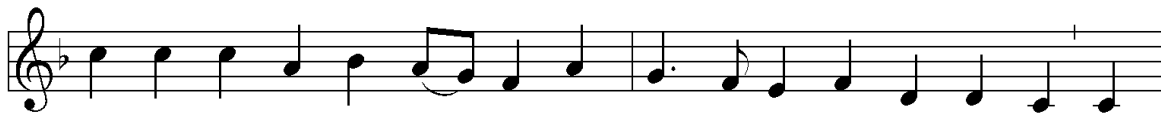
**\*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**P** Let us pray.

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**

**\*THE BLESSING**

**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**

**\*HYMN ~ Holy, Holy, Holy**

LBW #165

**\*DISMISSAL**

**P** The word of God assures us: What we will be has not yet been revealed. Live, therefore, with hope, share your joy, withhold your anger, shed your disappointments, turn to all people with gentleness. Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

**R Thanks be to God**

**POSTLUDE**

**Pastor:** Reverend Ela J. Robertson  
**Organist:** Seulki Susie Yoo  
**Congregational Song Leaders:** Reba Harmon  
**Church Office:** 935-2032 **Email us at** [secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org)  
**St. John's Christian Day Care:** 935-2959

**Today**

**Greeter:** Susan Keller; **Lay Reader:** Jim Buchanan

**Next Sunday, May 9**

**Greeter:** Carol Fultz; **Lay Reader:** Joe Kanagy

***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.*

The Altar Flowers in St. John's are given to the glory of God by Rosalie Smith in honor of husband, Don L. Smith's birthday.

Please remember in prayer ~ Nancy Glick, Zachary Fultz, Ron Fultz, Vivian Plank, Kim Aumiller, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Betty Harmon (Elmcroft), Ev Young (Zion Home, Lititz), Carol Yoder and Don Wolfe (now residing in the haven) (VVH).

**FROM the PASTOR**

May 9 we honor 'new' returning members, as we all re-commit to our unity and reconciling mission as the body of Christ.

**CVIM has vaccine appointments available!**

Use the link below to sign up for a **Pfizer vaccine**.

You must be **16 or older** to sign up.

This link will **also schedule your second dose** appointment.

If you need assistance or lack computer access please call **814-231-4043** to get an appointment.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/cvim1stdosecovidvaccination>

## Announcements

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

May is here and a **volunteer is still needed for Flower Delivery, along with a few other responsibilities for June.** Please sign-up in the narthex or contact the church office, if you can help in this way.

January 1 thru April 28, 2021

Last week's attendance ~ 30      Offering ~ \$ 2,470.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 58,060.93    Expense \$ 49,049.73  
Net Income \$ 9,011.20

Daycare ~ Income \$ 73,460.95    Expense \$ 94,022.41  
Net Income \$ -20,561.46\*

\* Please see newsletter for detailed explanation of net income figure